LINCOLN NATIONAL CORP Form S-3ASR April 28, 2015

As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on April 28, 2015

File No. 333-

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3 REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Lincoln National Corporation
(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Indiana
(State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation or Organization)

35-1140070 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

150 N. Radnor Chester Road
Radnor, PA 19087
(484) 583-1400
(Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including
Area Code, of Registrant's Principal Executive Offices)

Lincoln National Corporation 2009 Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan (Full Title of Plan)

Adam G. Ciongoli
Executive Vice President, General Counsel
Lincoln National Corporation
150 N. Radnor Chester Road
Radnor, PA 19087
(484) 583-1400

(Name, Address, Including Zip Code, and Telephone Number, Including Area Code, of Agent for Service)

Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: From time to time after the effective date of this registration statement.

If the only securities being regis	tered on this Form are b	being offered pursuant t	to dividend or interest	reinvestment
plans, please check the following	g box. [ ]			

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest reinvestment plans, check the following box. [X]

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an oplease check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement for the same offering. [ ]	
	o Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following per of the earlier effective registration statement for the same
If this Form is a registration statement pursuant to General shall become effective upon filing with the Commission pufollowing box. [X]	Instruction I.D. or a post-effective amendment thereto that ursuant to Rule 462(e) under the Securities Act, check the
*	n statement filed pursuant to General Instruction I.D. filed to ties pursuant to Rule 413(b) under the Securities Act, check
•	celerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, rge accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting e):
Large accelerated filer [X]  Non-accelerated filer [ ] (Do not check if a smaller reporting company).	Accelerated filer [ ] Smaller reporting company [ ]
CALCULATION OF REGISTR	ATION FEE

		Proposed	Proposed	
Title of		Maximum	maximum	
Securities to be	Amount to be	offering price	aggregate	Amount of
registered	registered	per share	offering price	registration fee
Common Stock	4,426,216 (1), (3)	\$57.19(2)	\$253,135,293	\$29,414
(no par value)				

- (1) Pursuant to Rule 416(a) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), there are being registered such additional shares as may be issuable pursuant to the anti-dilution provisions of the Lincoln National Corporation 2009 Amended and Restated Compensation Plan (the "Plan"), by reason of stock splits, stock dividends, recapitalizations or similar transactions. The shares of common stock to which this Registration Statement relates are to be issued upon exercise of options and in connection with certain other stock-related awards, all of which will be granted or awarded under the Plan for no consideration.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant to Rules 457(c) and 457(h)(1) under the Securities Act based upon the average of the high and low sale prices of Lincoln National Corporation's Common Stock on April 27, 2015 as reported on the New York Stock Exchange composite transactions tape. Pursuant to Rule 457(p), \$11,900 of the fee that has already been paid with respect to the initial offering price (\$127,857,000) for a portion of the securities that were previously registered pursuant to Lincoln National Corporation's Registration Statement Forms S-3 (Registration No. 333-181049) filed on April 30, 2012 respectively, and were not sold

thereunder, is being used to offset the registration fee due herewith.

(3) Pursuant to Rule 429 under the Securities Act, the prospectus included in this registration statement is a combined prospectus, which also relates to Lincoln National Corporation's Registration Statements on Form S-3, Registration No. 333-32667, 333-124976, 333-142871, 333-159290 and 333-181049 (the "Prior Registration Statements"). This Registration Statement also constitutes the fourth post-effective amendment to the Prior Registration Statements. Such post-effective amendment shall hereafter become effective concurrently with the effectiveness of this Registration Statement in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933. The aggregate amount of Common Stock eligible to be sold and not previously sold under the Prior Registration Statements prior to the effective date of this Registration Statement shall be carried forward to this Registration Statement. Lincoln National Corporation previously paid a registration fee to the SEC in connection with those securities. The amount of securities being registered, together with the remaining securities registered under the Prior Registration Statements, represents the maximum amount of securities that are expected to be offered for sale.

#### **PROSPECTUS**

44,126,512 Shares

# LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION COMMON STOCK (No Par Value)

Offered as set forth in this Prospectus pursuant to the

#### LINCOLN NATIONAL CORPORATION 2009 AMENDED AND RESTATED INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PLAN

This Prospectus relates to shares of our Common Stock to be issued under the Lincoln National Corporation 2009 Amended and Restated Incentive Compensation Plan, or the Plan, to executives, employees and other persons who provide services to us or our subsidiaries or to eligible persons holding either agents' or brokers' contracts with one of our subsidiaries.

Our Common Stock is listed on The New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "LNC." Last reported price on April 27, 2015 was \$57.19 per share.

Investing in our Common Stock involves risks. See "Risk Factors" beginning on page 3 of this prospectus.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the adequacy or accuracy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

You should rely only on the information contained in or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different. We are not making an offer of these securities in any state or jurisdiction where the offer is not permitted. The information contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus is accurate only as of the respective dates of such information. Our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects may have changed since those dates.

The date of this Prospectus is April 28, 2015.

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It is important for you to read and consider all information contained in this prospectus in making your investment decision. You should also read and consider the additional information under the caption "Where You Can Find More Information."

Unless otherwise indicated, all references in this prospectus to "LNC," "we," "our," "us," or similar terms refer to Lincoln National Corporation together with its subsidiaries.

#### REQUIRED DISCLOSURE FOR NORTH CAROLINA RESIDENTS

THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE OF THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA HAS NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THIS OFFERING NOR HAS THE COMMISSIONER PASSED UPON THE ACCURACY OR ADEQUACY OF THIS PROSPECTUS.

#### The Company

Lincoln National Corporation ("LNC," "we," "us" or "our") is a holding company, which operates multiple insurance and retirement businesses through subsidiary companies. Through our business segments, we sell a wide range of wealth protection, accumulation and retirement income products and solutions. These products include fixed and indexed annuities, variable annuities, universal life insurance ("UL"), variable universal life insurance ("VUL"), linked-benefit UL, term life insurance, indexed universal life insurance ("IUL"), employer-sponsored retirement plans and services, and group life, disability and dental. LNC was organized under the laws of the state of Indiana in 1968. We currently maintain our principal executive offices at 150 N. Radnor Chester Road, Radnor, Pennsylvania 19087, and our telephone number is (484) 583-1400. "Lincoln Financial Group" is the marketing name for LNC and its subsidiary companies. As of December 31, 2014, LNC had consolidated assets of \$253.4 billion and consolidated stockholders' equity of \$15.7 billion. For the year ended December 31, 2014, LNC had total revenue of \$13.6 billion and net income of \$1.5 billion.

We provide products and services and report results through the following four business segments: Annuities, Retirement Plan Services, Life Insurance and Group Protection.

We also have Other Operations, which includes the financial data for operations that are not directly related to the business segments.

#### FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS - CAUTIONARY LANGUAGE

Certain statements made in this report and in other written or oral statements made by us or on our behalf are "forward-looking statements" within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 "PSLRA"). A forward-looking statement is a statement that is not a historical fact and, without limitation, includes any statement that may predict, forecast, indicate or imply future results, performance or achievements, and may contain words like: "believe," "anticipate," "expect," "estimate," "project," "will," "shall" and other words or phrases with similar meaning i connection with a discussion of future operating or financial performance. In particular, these include statements relating to future actions, trends in our businesses, prospective services or products, future performance or financial results and the outcome of contingencies, such as legal proceedings. We claim the protection afforded by the safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by the PSLRA.

Forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially from the results contained in the forward-looking statements. Risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to vary materially, some of which are described within the forward-looking statements, include, among others:

- Deterioration in general economic and business conditions that may affect account values, investment results, guaranteed benefit liabilities, premium levels, claims experience and the level of pension benefit costs, funding and investment results;
- Adverse global capital and credit market conditions could affect our ability to raise capital, if necessary, and may cause us to realize impairments on investments and certain intangible assets, including goodwill and the valuation allowance against deferred tax assets, which may reduce future earnings and/or affect our financial condition and ability to raise additional capital or refinance existing debt as it matures;
- Because of our holding company structure, the inability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends to the holding company in sufficient amounts could harm the holding company's ability to meet its obligations;
- Legislative, regulatory or tax changes, both domestic and foreign, that affect: the cost of, or demand for, our subsidiaries' products, the required amount of reserves and/or surplus, our ability to conduct business and our captive

reinsurance arrangements as well as restrictions on revenue sharing and 12b -1 payments, and the potential for U.S. federal tax reform;

- Actions taken by reinsurers to raise rates on in-force business;
- Declines in or sustained low interest rates causing a reduction in investment income, the interest margins of our businesses, estimated gross profits ("EGPs") and demand for our products;
- Rapidly increasing interest rates causing contract holders to surrender life insurance and annuity policies, thereby causing realized investment losses, and reduced hedge performance related to variable annuities;

- Uncertainty about the effect of rules and regulations to be promulgated under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act ("Dodd-Frank Act") on us and the economy and financial services sector in particular;
- The initiation of legal or regulatory proceedings against us, and the outcome of any legal or regulatory proceedings, such as: adverse actions related to present or past business practices common in businesses in which we compete; adverse decisions in significant actions including, but not limited to, actions brought by federal and state authorities and class action cases; new decisions that result in changes in law; and unexpected trial court rulings;
- A decline in the equity markets causing a reduction in the sales of our subsidiaries' products, a reduction of asset-based fees that our subsidiaries charge on various investment and insurance products, an acceleration of the net amortization of deferred acquisition costs ("DAC"), value of business acquired ("VOBA"), deferred sales inducements ("DSI") and deferred front-end loads ("DFEL") and an increase in liabilities related to guaranteed benefit features of our subsidiaries' variable annuity products;
- Ineffectiveness of our risk management policies and procedures, including various hedging strategies used to offset the effect of changes in the value of liabilities due to changes in the level and volatility of the equity markets and interest rates;
- A deviation in actual experience regarding future persistency, mortality, morbidity, interest rates or equity market returns from the assumptions used in pricing our subsidiaries' products, in establishing related insurance reserves and in the net amortization of DAC, VOBA, DSI and DFEL, which may reduce future earnings;
- Changes in GAAP, including convergence with International Financial Reporting Standards ("IFRS"), that may result in unanticipated changes to our net income;
- •Lowering of one or more of our debt ratings issued by nationally recognized statistical rating organizations and the adverse effect such action may have on our ability to raise capital and on our liquidity and financial condition;
- •Lowering of one or more of the insurer financial strength ratings of our insurance subsidiaries and the adverse effect such action may have on the premium writings, policy retention, profitability of our insurance subsidiaries and liquidity;
- Significant credit, accounting, fraud, corporate governance or other issues that may adversely affect the value of certain investments in our portfolios, as well as counterparties to which we are exposed to credit risk, requiring that we realize losses on investments:
- Inability to protect our intellectual property rights or claims of infringement of the intellectual property rights of others;
- Interruption in telecommunication, information technology or other operational systems or failure to safeguard the confidentiality or privacy of sensitive data on such systems from cyberattacks or other breaches of our data security systems;
- The effect of acquisitions and divestitures, restructurings, product withdrawals and other unusual items;
- The adequacy and collectability of reinsurance that we have purchased;
- Acts of terrorism, a pandemic, war or other man-made and natural catastrophes that may adversely affect our businesses and the cost and availability of reinsurance;
- Competitive conditions, including pricing pressures, new product offerings and the emergence of new competitors, that may affect the level of premiums and fees that our subsidiaries can charge for their products;
- The unknown effect on our subsidiaries' businesses resulting from changes in the demographics of their client base, as aging baby-boomers move from the asset-accumulation stage to the asset-distribution stage of life; and
- Loss of key management, financial planners or wholesalers.

The risks included here are not exhaustive. Other sections of this prospectus, including "Risk Factors" beginning on page 3, our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and other documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC") include additional factors that could affect our businesses and financial performance. Moreover, we operate in a rapidly changing and competitive environment. New risk factors emerge from time to time, and it is not possible for management to predict all such risk factors. Further, it is not possible to assess the impact of all risk factors on our business or the extent to which any

factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements. Given these risks and uncertainties, investors should not place undue reliance on forward-looking statements as a prediction of actual results. In addition, we disclaim any obligation to update any forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances that occur after the date of this prospectus.

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#### RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risks described below and those incorporated by reference into this prospectus before making an investment decision regarding your benefits under the Plan. The risks and uncertainties described below and incorporated by reference into this prospectus are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we currently deem immaterial may also impair our business operations. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially affected. In that case, the value of our Common Stock could decline substantially. In addition, there are risks in investing your money in the investment choices offering under the Plan. These risks are discussed with the description of each investment option.

Legislative, Regulatory and Tax

Our businesses are heavily regulated and changes in regulation may affect our insurance subsidiary capital requirements or reduce our profitability.

Our insurance subsidiaries are subject to extensive supervision and regulation in the states in which we do business. The supervision and regulation relate to numerous aspects of our business and financial condition. The primary purpose of the supervision and regulation is the protection of our insurance contract holders, and not our investors. The extent of regulation varies, but generally is governed by state statutes. These statutes delegate regulatory, supervisory and administrative authority to state insurance departments. This system of supervision and regulation covers, among other things:

- · Standards of minimum capital requirements and solvency, including RBC measurements;
- · Restrictions on certain transactions, including, but not limited to, reinsurance between our insurance subsidiaries and their affiliates;
- · Restrictions on the nature, quality and concentration of investments;
- · Restrictions on the receipt of reinsurance credit;
- · Restrictions on the types of terms and conditions that we can include in the insurance policies offered by our primary insurance operations;
- · Limitations on the amount of dividends that insurance subsidiaries can pay;
- · Licensing status of the company;
- · Certain required methods of accounting pursuant to statutory accounting principles ("SAP");
- · Reserves for unearned premiums, losses and other purposes; and
- Assignment of residual market business and potential assessments for the provision of funds necessary for the settlement of covered claims under certain policies provided by impaired, insolvent or failed insurance companies.

State insurance regulators and the NAIC regularly re-examine existing laws and regulations applicable to insurance companies and their products. Changes in these laws and regulations, or in interpretations thereof, sometimes lead to additional expense for the insurer and, thus, could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. For example, the NAIC could enact additional regulations related to the reinsurance of variable annuity business that could limit or even eliminate our ability to reinsure such business in the future.

Although we endeavor to maintain all required licenses and approvals our businesses may not fully comply with the wide variety of applicable laws and regulations or the relevant authority's interpretation of the laws and regulations, which may change from time to time. Also, regulatory authorities have relatively broad discretion to grant, renew or revoke licenses and approvals. If we do not have the requisite licenses and approvals or do not comply with

applicable regulatory requirements, the insurance regulatory authorities could preclude or temporarily suspend us from carrying on some or all of our activities or impose substantial fines. Further, insurance regulatory authorities have relatively broad discretion to issue orders of supervision, which permit such authorities to supervise the business and operations of an insurance company. As of December 31, 2014, no state insurance regulatory authority had imposed on us any material fines or revoked or suspended any of our licenses to conduct insurance business in any state or issued an order of supervision with respect to our insurance subsidiaries, which would have a material adverse effect on our results of operations or financial condition.

In addition, our broker-dealer and investment advisor subsidiaries as well as our variable annuities and variable life insurance products, are subject to regulation and supervision by the SEC and FINRA. These laws and regulations generally grant supervisory agencies and self-regulatory organizations broad administrative powers, including the power to limit or restrict the subsidiaries from carrying on their businesses in the event that they fail to comply with such laws and regulations. The foregoing regulatory or governmental bodies, as well as the DOL and others, have the authority to review our products and business practices and those of our agents and employees. In recent years, there has been increased scrutiny of our businesses by these bodies, which has included more extensive examinations, regular sweep inquiries and more detailed review of disclosure documents. These regulatory or governmental bodies may bring regulatory or other legal actions against us if, in their view, our practices, or those of our agents or employees, are improper. These actions can result in substantial fines, penalties or prohibitions or restrictions on our business activities and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition.

Attempts to mitigate the impact of Regulation XXX and Actuarial Guideline 38 may fail in whole or in part resulting in an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

XXX requires insurers to establish additional statutory reserves for term life insurance policies with long-term premium guarantees and UL policies with secondary guarantees. In addition, AG38 clarifies the application of XXX with respect to certain UL insurance policies with secondary guarantees. Virtually all of our newly issued term and the majority of our newly issued UL insurance products are affected by XXX and AG38. The application of both AG38 and XXX involve numerous interpretations. If state insurance departments do not agree with our interpretations, we may have to increase reserves related to such policies. The NYDFS does not recognize the NAIC revisions to AG38 in applying the New York law governing the reserves to be held for UL and VUL products containing secondary guarantees. The change, which was effective as of December 31, 2013, impacts our New York-domiciled insurance subsidiary, Lincoln Life and Annuity Company of New York ("LLANY"). LLANY discontinued the sale of these products in early 2013, but the change affects those policies sold prior to that time. We began phasing in the increase in reserves over five years beginning in 2013. As of December 31, 2014, we have increased reserves by \$180 million. The additional increase in reserves over the next three years is subject to ongoing discussions with the NYDFS. However, we do not expect the amount for each of the remaining years to exceed \$90 million per year.

We have implemented, and plan to continue to implement, reinsurance and capital management transactions to mitigate the capital impact of XXX and AG38, including the use of captive reinsurance subsidiaries. Recently, the NAIC adopted AG 48 regulating the terms of these arrangements that are entered into or amended in certain ways after December 31, 2014. This new guideline imposes restrictions on the types of assets that can be used to support the reinsurance in these kinds of transactions. We cannot provide assurance that we will be able to continue to implement transactions or take other actions to mitigate the impact of XXX or AG38 on future sales of term and UL insurance products. If we are unable to continue to implement such solutions for any reason, we may have lower returns on such products sold than we currently anticipate and/or reduce our sales of these products.

Changes in U.S. federal income tax law could increase our tax costs and make the products that we sell less desirable.

Changes to the Internal Revenue Code, administrative rulings or court decisions could increase our effective tax rate, make our products less desirable and lower our net income on both a statutory accounting and GAAP basis. For example, the House Ways and Means Committee, led by Representative Dave Camp, released a draft of a tax reform act in early 2014. Some of the proposed changes include (i) changes to the calculation of the separate account dividends-received deduction that would largely eliminate the benefit insurance companies receive, (ii) changes to the calculation of deductible insurance reserves that would decrease the value of the reserve deduction available to

insurance companies and (iii) changes to the rules for DAC that would increase the amount of premiums received that a company would be required to capitalize.

Further, in early February 2015 the Obama Administration released its fiscal year 2016 budget proposal that included proposals which, if enacted, would affect the taxation of life insurance companies and certain life insurance products. If enacted into law, the statutory changes contemplated by the Administration's revenue proposals could, among other things, change the method used to determine the amount of dividend income received by a life insurance company on assets held in separate accounts used to support products, including variable life insurance and variable annuity contracts, that are eligible for the dividends-received deduction. The dividends-received deduction reduces the amount of dividend income subject to tax and is a significant component of the difference between our actual tax expense and expected amount determined using the federal statutory tax rate of 35%. Our income tax provision for the year ended December 31, 2014, included a separate account dividend s- received deduction benefit of \$ 163 million. In addition, the proposals could affect the treatment of COLI policies by limiting the availability of certain interest deductions for companies that purchase those policies.

If proposals of this type were enacted, our sale of COLI, variable annuities and variable life products could be adversely affected and our actual tax expense could increase, reducing earnings.

Legal and regulatory actions are inherent in our businesses and could result in financial losses or harm our businesses.

We are, and in the future may be, subject to legal and regulatory actions in the ordinary course of our insurance and retirement operations. Pending legal actions include proceedings relating to aspects of our businesses and operations that are specific to us and proceedings that are typical of the businesses in which we operate. Some of these proceedings have been brought on behalf of various alleged classes of complainants. In certain of these matters, the plaintiffs are seeking large and/or indeterminate amounts, including punitive or exemplary damages. Substantial legal liability in these or future legal or regulatory actions could have a material financial effect or cause significant harm to our reputation, which in turn could materially harm our business prospects. See Note 13 of our annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2014 (the "2014 Form 10-K") for a description of legal and regulatory proceedings and actions.

Implementation of the provisions of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act may subject us to substantial additional federal regulation, and we cannot predict the effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

Since it was enacted in 2010, the Dodd-Frank Act has brought wide-ranging changes to the financial services industry, including changes to the rules governing derivatives; restrictions on proprietary trading by certain entities; a study by the SEC of the rules governing broker-dealers and investment advisers with respect to individual investors and investment advice, followed potentially by rulemaking; the creation of a new Federal Insurance Office within the U.S. Treasury to gather information and make recommendations regarding regulation of the insurance industry; the creation of a resolution authority to unwind failing institutions; the creation of a new Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to protect consumers of certain financial products; and changes to executive compensation and certain corporate governance rules, among other things.

The Dodd-Frank Act requires significant rulemaking across numerous agencies within the federal government, some of which has been implemented. The implementation of newly-adopted rules will continue into 2015, as will the rulemaking process. The ultimate impact of these provisions on our businesses (including product offerings), results of operations, liquidity and capital resources is currently indeterminable.

Changes in accounting standards issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board or other standard-setting bodies may adversely affect our financial statements.

Our financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP as identified in the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Codification TM ("ASC"). From time to time, we are required to adopt new or revised accounting standards or guidance that are incorporated into the FASB ASC. It is possible that future accounting standards we are required to adopt could change the current accounting treatment that we apply to our consolidated financial statements and that such changes could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Specifically, the FASB is working on several key projects, including those which could result in significant changes to how we account for and report our insurance contracts, financial instruments and DAC. Depending on the magnitude of the changes ultimately adopted by the FASB, the proposed changes to GAAP may impose special demands on issuers in the areas of employee training, internal controls, contract fulfillment and disclosure and may affect how we manage our business, as it may affect other business processes such as design of compensation plans, product design,

etc. The effective dates and transition methods are not known; however, issuers may be required to or may choose to adopt the new standards retrospectively. In this case, the issuer will report results under the new accounting method as of the effective date, as well as for all periods presented. In addition, the SEC is considering whether and how to incorporate International Financial Reporting Standards into the U.S. financial reporting system.

Our domestic insurance subsidiaries are subject to SAP. Any changes in the method of calculating reserves for our life insurance and annuity products under SAP, such as the finalization of principles-based reserving, may result in increased reserve requirements.

Anti-takeover provisions could delay, deter or prevent our change in control, even if the change in control would be beneficial to LNC shareholders.

We are an Indiana corporation subject to Indiana state law. Certain provisions of Indiana law could interfere with or restrict takeover bids or other change in control events affecting us. Also, provisions in our articles of incorporation, bylaws and other agreements to which we are a party could delay, deter or prevent our change in control, even if a change in control would be beneficial to shareholders. In addition, under Indiana law, directors may, in considering the best interests of a corporation, consider the effects of any action on shareholders, employees, suppliers and customers of the corporation and the communities in which offices and other facilities are located, and other factors the directors consider pertinent. One statutory provision prohibits, except under specified circumstances, LNC from engaging in any business combination with any shareholder who owns 10% or more of our common stock (which shareholder, under the statute, would be considered an "interested shareholder") for a period of five years following the time that such shareholder became an interested shareholder, unless such business combination is approved by the board of directors prior to such person becoming an interested shareholder. In addition, our articles of incorporation contain a provision requiring holders of at least three-fourths of our voting shares then outstanding and entitled to vote at an election of directors, voting together, to approve a transaction with an interested shareholder rather than the simple majority required under Indiana law, unless certain price thresholds are met.

In addition to the anti-takeover provisions of Indiana law, there are other factors that may delay, deter or prevent our change in control. As an insurance holding company, we are regulated as an insurance holding company and are subject to the insurance holding company acts of the states in which our insurance company subsidiaries are domiciled. The insurance holding company acts and regulations restrict the ability of any person to obtain control of an insurance company without prior regulatory approval. Under those statutes and regulations, without such approval (or an exemption), no person may acquire any voting security of a domestic insurance company, or an insurance holding company which controls an insurance company, or merge with such a holding company, if as a result of such transaction such person would "control" the insurance holding company or insurance company. "Control" is generally defined as the direct or indirect power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person and is presumed to exist if a person directly or indirectly owns or controls 10% or more of the voting securities of another person.

Market Conditions