

## CHAPTER 260—H.F.No. 1283

*An act relating to insurance; property and casualty; regulating policy provisions, forms, nonrenewals, coverages; regulating trade practices in these and other lines; regulating the Minnesota joint underwriting association; making certain technical changes; amending Minnesota Statutes 1988, sections 60A.02, by adding a subdivision; 60A.08, subdivision 12, and by adding a subdivision; 60A.09, subdivision 1; 60A.17, subdivision 6c; 60A.198, subdivision 3; 62I.02, subdivision 2; 62I.16, subdivision 3; 65A.29, subdivision 8, and by adding subdivisions; 65A.33, subdivision 3; 65B.15, subdivision 1; 65B.44, subdivision 3; 65B.49, subdivision 5a; 65B.525, subdivision 1; 72A.20, subdivision 17, and by adding subdivisions; 72A.201, subdivision 5, and by adding subdivisions; and 79.251, by adding a subdivision; repealing Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 62I.12; and Minnesota Rules, part 2780.2700.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.02, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 2a. CONTINUED. An insurance policy that is issued for a term in excess of one year or that has no specified term or that is designated as being continuous is "continued" each year on the anniversary date of the issuance of the policy.

Sec. 2. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.08, subdivision 12, is amended to read:

Subd. 12. EXCLUSIONS RENTED VEHICLES. All commercial automobile liability policies must provide coverage for rented vehicles as required in chapter 65B.

~~This subdivision does not apply to liability policies that the commissioner has exempted by order.~~

This coverage can be excess over any and all specific motor vehicle coverage that is applicable.

Sec. 3. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.08, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 13. REDUCTION OF LIMITS BY COSTS OF DEFENSE PROHIBITED. (a) No insurer shall issue or renew a policy of liability insurance in this state that reduces the limits of liability stated in the policy by the costs of legal defense.

(b) This subdivision does not apply to:

(1) professional liability insurance with limits of liability greater than \$100,000, including directors' and officers' and errors and omissions liability insurance;

(2) environmental impairment liability insurance;

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(3) insurance policies issued to large commercial risks; or

(4) coverages that the commissioner determines to be appropriate which will be published in the manner prescribed for surplus lines insurance in section 60A.201, subdivision 4.

(c) For purposes of this subdivision, "large commercial risks" means an insured whose gross annual revenues in the fiscal year preceding issuance of the policy were at least \$10,000,000.

Sec. 4. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.09, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. **MAXIMUM RISK.** No company other than a company authorized to transact the kind of business specified in section 60A.06, subdivision 1, clause (7), shall insure or reinsure in a single risk a larger sum than one-tenth of its net assets, and no company authorized to transact the kind of business specified in section 60A.06, subdivision 1, clause (7), shall insure or reinsure in a single risk a larger sum than ~~one-half~~ two-thirds of its net assets; provided, that in the case of a company with net assets of more than \$50,000, any portion of the risk which has been reinsured, as authorized by the laws of this state, shall be deducted before determining the limitation of risk prescribed by this subdivision; and, provided, that a mutual insurance company organized under clause (2)(a) of section 66A.08, subdivision 2, may insure in a single risk, consisting of a creamery or a cheese factory, a sum equal to one percent of its insurance in force.

Sec. 5. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.17, subdivision 6c, is amended to read:

Subd. 6c. **REVOCATION OR SUSPENSION OF LICENSE.** (a) The commissioner may by order suspend or revoke an insurance agent's or agency's license issued to a natural person or impose a civil penalty appropriate to the offense, not to exceed \$5,000 upon that licensee, or both, if, after notice and hearing, the commissioner finds as to that licensee any one or more of the following conditions:

(1) any materially untrue statement in the license application;

(2) any cause for which issuance of the license could have been refused had it then existed and been known to the commissioner at the time of issuance;

(3) violation of, or noncompliance with, any insurance law or violation of any rule or order of the commissioner or of a commissioner of insurance of another state or jurisdiction;

(4) obtaining or attempting to obtain any license through misrepresentation or fraud;

(5) improperly withholding, misappropriating, or converting to the licens-

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ee's own use any money belonging to a policyholder, insurer, beneficiary, or other person, received by the licensee in the course of the licensee's insurance business;

(6) misrepresentation of the terms of any actual or proposed insurance contract;

(7) conviction of a felony or of a gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor involving moral turpitude;

(8) that the licensee has been found guilty of any unfair trade practice, as defined in chapters 60A to 72A, or of fraud;

(9) that in the conduct of the agent's affairs under the license, the licensee has used fraudulent, coercive, or dishonest practices, or the licensee has been shown to be incompetent, untrustworthy, or financially irresponsible;

(10) that the agent's license has been suspended or revoked in any other state, province, district, territory, or foreign country;

(11) that the licensee has forged another's name to an application for insurance; or

(12) that the licensee has violated subdivision 6b.

(b) The commissioner may by order suspend or revoke an insurance agent's or insurance agency's license issued to a partnership or corporation or impose a civil penalty ~~not to exceed \$5,000~~ as provided for in section 45.027, subdivision 6, upon that licensee, or both, if, after notice and hearing, the commissioner finds as to that licensee, or as to any partner, director, shareholder, officer, or employee of that licensee, any one or more of the conditions set forth in paragraph (a).

(c) A revocation of a license shall prohibit the licensee from making a new application for a license for at least one year. Further, the commissioner may, as a condition of relicensure, require the applicant to file a reasonable bond for the protection of the citizens of this state, which bond shall be maintained by the licensee in full force for a period of five years immediately following issuance of the license, unless the commissioner at the commissioner's discretion shall after two years permit the licensee to sooner terminate the maintenance filing of the bond.

(d) The commissioner may, in the manner prescribed by chapter 14, impose a civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 upon a person whose license has lapsed, or been suspended, revoked, or otherwise terminated, for engaging in conduct prohibited by paragraph (a) before, during, or after the period of licensure.

Sec. 6. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 60A.198, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

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Subd. 3. **PROCEDURE FOR OBTAINING LICENSE.** A person licensed as an agent in this state pursuant to other law may obtain a surplus lines license by doing the following:

(a) filing an application in the form and with the information the commissioner may reasonably require to determine the ability of the applicant to act in accordance with sections 60A.195 to 60A.209;

(b) maintaining an agent's license in this state;

(c) delivering to the commissioner a financial guarantee bond from a surety acceptable to the commissioner for the greater of the following:

(1) \$5,000; or

(2) the largest semiannual surplus lines premium tax liability incurred by the applicant in the immediately preceding five years; and

(d) agreeing to file with the commissioner of revenue no later than February 15 and August 15 annually, a sworn statement of the charges for insurance procured or placed and the amounts returned on the insurance canceled under the license for the preceding six-month period ending December 31 and June 30 respectively, and at the time of the filing of this statement, paying the commissioner a tax on premiums equal to three percent of the total written premiums less cancellations; and

(e) annually paying a fee as prescribed by section 60A.14, subdivision 1, paragraph (c), clause ~~(H)~~ (I).

Sec. 7. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 62I.02, subdivision 2, is amended to read:

Subd. 2. **DIRECTOR.** The association shall have a board of directors composed of 11 persons chosen ~~annually~~ as follows: five persons elected by members of the association at a meeting called by the commissioner; three public members, as defined in section 214.02, appointed by the commissioner; and three members, appointed by the commissioner representing groups to whom coverage has been extended by the association. The terms of the members shall be four years. Terms may be staggered so that no more than six members are appointed or elected every two years. Members may serve until their successors are appointed or elected. If at any time no coverage is currently extended by the association, then either additional public members may be appointed to fill these three positions or, at the option of the commissioner, representatives from groups who had previously been covered by the association may serve as directors.

Sec. 8. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 62I.16, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **SUPERVISION.** All money paid into the fund shall be held in

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~~trust escrow~~ by the ~~corporate trustee escrow administrator~~ selected by the board of directors. The ~~corporate trustee escrow administrator~~ may invest the money held in ~~trust escrow~~ subject to the approval of the board. All investment income shall be credited to the fund. All expenses of the administration of the fund shall be charged against the fund. The money held in ~~trust escrow~~ shall be used solely for the purpose of discharging when due any retrospective premium charges payable by policyholders and any retrospective premium refunds payable to policyholders under the group retrospective rating plan. Payment of retrospective premium charges shall be made upon certification of the amount due. If all money accruing to the fund is exhausted in payment of retrospective premium charges, all liability and obligations of the association's policyholders with respect to the payment of retrospective premium charges shall terminate and shall be conclusively presumed to have been discharged. Any stabilization reserve fund charges from a particular policy year not used to pay retrospective premiums must be returned to policyholders after all claims and expense obligations from that particular policy year are satisfied.

Sec. 9. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65A.29, subdivision 8, is amended to read:

Subd. 8. **RULES.** (a) The commissioner may adopt rules pursuant to chapter 14, to specify the grounds for nonrenewal, reduction in limits of coverage, or elimination of coverage of a homeowner's policy. The rules must limit the grounds to the following factors:

- (a) (1) reasons stated for cancellation in section 65A.01, subdivision 3a;
- (b) (2) reasons stated in section 72A.20, subdivision 13;
- (c) (3) insured's loss experience, not to include natural causes; and
- (d) (4) other factors deemed reasonable by the commissioner.

The rules may give consideration to the form and content of the termination notice to the insured, a statement as to what constitutes receipt of the termination notice, and the procedure by which the insured may appeal a termination notice.

The rules adopted under this subdivision may provide for imposition of a monetary penalty not greater than \$500 per occurrence upon insurers who are found to be in violation of the law or the rules.

(b) In addition to any rules adopted under this subdivision, an insured may appeal any nonrenewal under this section to the commissioner of commerce. If the commissioner finds that the nonrenewal is unjustified, arbitrary, or capricious, the commissioner shall order the insurer to reinstate the insured's policy. The commissioner's order may be appealed pursuant to chapter 14. The insured's policy shall continue in force pending the conclusion of the appeal to the commissioner. The insurer must notify the insured of the insured's right to appeal

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the nonrenewal to the commissioner in the notice of nonrenewal required under subdivision 7.

Sec. 10. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65A.29, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. NONRENEWAL PLAN. Every insurer shall establish a plan that sets out the minimum number and amount of claims during an experience period that may result in a nonrenewal. A clear and concise written statement of this plan must be provided to the insured at the time claim forms and instructions are provided to the insured or a claimant under section 72A.201, subdivision 4.

The plan must, at a minimum, comply with the requirements of subdivision 8 and the rules adopted by the commissioner.

Sec. 11. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65A.29, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12. DEFINITION. For purposes of this section, "homeowner's insurance" includes mobile home insurance.

Sec. 12. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65A.33, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. "Property or liability insurance" means the coverage against direct loss to real or tangible personal property at a fixed location that is provided in the standard fire policy, extended coverage endorsement, homeowners insurance, as defined in section 65A.27, subdivision 4, cooperative housing insurance, condominium insurance, builders risk, and such vandalism and malicious mischief insurance and such other classes of insurance as may be added to the program with respect to said property by amendment as hereinafter provided. Property or liability insurance does not include automobile, ~~farm~~, commercial liability, or such manufacturing risks as may be excluded by the commissioner.

Sec. 13. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65B.15, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. No cancellation or reduction in the limits of liability of coverage during the policy period of any policy shall be effective unless notice thereof is given and unless based on one or more reasons stated in the policy which shall be limited to the following:

1. Nonpayment of premium; or
2. The policy was obtained through a material misrepresentation; or
3. Any insured made a false or fraudulent claim or knowingly aided or abetted another in the presentation of such a claim; or

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4. The named insured failed to disclose fully motor vehicle accidents and moving traffic violations of the named insured for the preceding 36 months if called for in the written application; or

5. The named insured failed to disclose in the written application any requested information necessary for the acceptance or proper rating of the risk; or

6. The named insured knowingly failed to give any required written notice of loss or notice of lawsuit commenced against the named insured, or, when requested, refused to cooperate in the investigation of a claim or defense of a lawsuit; or

7. The named insured or any other operator who either resides in the same household, ~~unless the other operator is identified by name in any other policy as an insured;~~ or customarily operates an automobile insured under such policy, unless the other operator is identified as a named insured in another policy as an insured:

(a) has, within the 36 months prior to the notice of cancellation, had that person's driver's license under suspension or revocation; or

(b) is or becomes subject to epilepsy or heart attacks, and such individual does not produce a written opinion from a physician testifying to that person's medical ability to operate a motor vehicle safely, such opinion to be based upon a reasonable medical probability; or

(c) has an accident record, conviction record (criminal or traffic), physical condition or mental condition, any one or all of which are such that the person's operation of an automobile might endanger the public safety; or

(d) has been convicted, or forfeited bail, during the 24 months immediately preceding the notice of cancellation for criminal negligence in the use or operation of an automobile, or assault arising out of the operation of a motor vehicle, or operating a motor vehicle while in an intoxicated condition or while under the influence of drugs; or leaving the scene of an accident without stopping to report; or making false statements in an application for a driver's license, or theft or unlawful taking of a motor vehicle; or

(e) has been convicted of, or forfeited bail for, one or more violations within the 18 months immediately preceding the notice of cancellation, of any law, ordinance, or rule which justify a revocation of a driver's license.

8. The insured automobile is:

(1) so mechanically defective that its operation might endanger public safety; or

(2) used in carrying passengers for hire or compensation, provided however that the use of an automobile for a car pool shall not be considered use of an automobile for hire or compensation; or

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(3) used in the business of transportation of flammables or explosives; or

(4) an authorized emergency vehicle; or

(5) subject to an inspection law and has not been inspected or, if inspected, has failed to qualify within the period specified under such inspection law; or

(6) substantially changed in type or condition during the policy period, increasing the risk substantially, such as conversion to a commercial type vehicle, a dragster, sports car or so as to give clear evidence of a use other than the original use.

Sec. 14. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65B.44, subdivision 3, is amended to read:

Subd. 3. **DISABILITY AND INCOME LOSS BENEFITS.** Disability and income loss benefits shall provide compensation for 85 percent of the injured person's loss of present and future gross income from inability to work proximately caused by the nonfatal injury subject to a maximum of \$250 per week. Loss of income includes the costs incurred by a self-employed person to hire substitute employees to perform tasks which are necessary to maintain the income of the injured person, which are normally performed by the injured person, and which cannot be performed because of the injury.

If the injured person is unemployed at the time of injury and is receiving or is eligible to receive unemployment benefits under chapter 268, but the injured person loses eligibility for those benefits because of inability to work caused by the injury, disability and income loss benefits shall provide compensation for the lost benefits in an amount equal to the unemployment benefits which otherwise would have been payable, subject to a maximum of \$250 per week.

Compensation under this subdivision shall be reduced by any income from substitute work actually performed by the injured person or by income the injured person would have earned in available appropriate substitute work which the injured person was capable of performing but unreasonably failed to undertake.

For the purposes of this section "inability to work" means disability which prevents the injured person from engaging in any substantial gainful occupation or employment on a regular basis, for wage or profit, for which the injured person is or may by training become reasonably qualified. If the injured person returns to employment and is unable by reason of the injury to work continuously, compensation for lost income shall be reduced by the income received while the injured person is actually able to work. The weekly maximums may not be prorated to arrive at a daily maximum, even if the injured person does not incur loss of income for a full week.

For the purposes of this section, an injured person who is "unable by reason of the injury to work continuously" includes, but is not limited to, a person who misses time from work, including reasonable travel time, and loses income.

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vacation, or sick leave benefits, to obtain medical treatment for an injury arising out of the maintenance or use of a motor vehicle.

Sec. 15. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65B.49, subdivision 5a, is amended to read:

Subd. 5a. **RENTAL VEHICLES.** (a) Every plan of reparation security insuring a natural person as named insured, covering private passenger vehicles as defined under section 65B.001, subdivision 3, and pickup trucks and vans as defined under section 168.011 must provide that all of the obligation for damage and loss of use to a rented private passenger vehicle, including pickup trucks and vans as defined under section 168.011, would be covered by the property damage liability portion of the plan. The obligation of the plan must not be contingent on fault or negligence. In all cases where the plan's property damage liability coverage is less than \$25,000, the coverage available under the subdivision must be \$25,000. Other than as described in this paragraph, nothing in this section amends or alters the provisions of the plan of reparation security as to primacy of the coverages in this section.

(b) A vehicle is rented for purposes of this subdivision if the rate for the use of the vehicle is determined on a weekly or daily basis. A vehicle is not rented for purposes of this subdivision if the rate for the vehicle's use is determined on a monthly or longer period.

(c) The policy or certificate issued by the plan must inform the insured of the application of the plan to private passenger rental vehicles, including pickup trucks and vans as defined under section 168.011, and that the insured may not need to purchase additional coverage from the rental company.

(d) Where an insured has two or more vehicles covered by a plan or plans of reparation security containing the rented motor vehicle coverage required under paragraph (a), the insured may select the plan the insured wishes to collect from and that plan is entitled to a pro rata contribution from the other plan or plans based upon the property damage limits of liability. If the person renting the motor vehicle is also covered by the person's employer's insurance policy or the employer's automobile self-insurance plan, the reparation obligor under the employer's policy or self-insurance plan has primary responsibility to pay claims arising from use of the rented vehicle.

(e) A notice advising the insured of rental vehicle coverage must be given by the reparation obligor to each current insured with the first renewal notice after January 1, 1989. The notice must be approved by the commissioner of commerce. The commissioner may specify the form of the notice.

(f) When a motor vehicle is rented or leased in this state on a weekly or daily basis, there must be attached to the rental contract a separate form containing a written notice in at least 10-point bold type, if printed, or in capital letters, if typewritten, which states:

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Under Minnesota law, a personal automobile insurance policy issued in Minnesota must cover the rental of this motor vehicle against damage to the vehicle and against loss of use of the vehicle. Therefore, purchase of any collision damage waiver or similar insurance affected in this rental contract is not necessary if your policy was issued in Minnesota.

No collision damage waiver or other insurance offered as part of or in conjunction with a rental of a motor vehicle may be sold unless the person renting the vehicle provides a written acknowledgment that the above consumer protection notice has been read and understood.

(g) When damage to a rented vehicle is covered by a plan of reparation security as provided under paragraph (a), the rental contract must state that payment by the reparation obligor within the time limits of section 72A.201 is acceptable, and prior payment by the renter is not required.

(h) To be compensated for the loss of use of a damaged rented motor vehicle, the car rental company must prove:

(1) that had the vehicle been available, it would have been rented; and

(2) that no other vehicle was available for rental in place of the damaged vehicle.

The standard of proof set forth in this paragraph does not limit the responsibility of a reparation obligor to provide an insured with coverage for any loss of use for which the reparation obligor is otherwise responsible. A car rental company may be compensated for loss of use of a damaged rental motor vehicle only for the period when the damaged car actually would have been rented.

Sec. 16. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 65B.525, subdivision 1, is amended to read:

Subdivision 1. The supreme court and the several courts of general trial jurisdiction of this state shall by rules of court or other constitutionally allowable device, provide for the mandatory submission to binding arbitration of all cases at issue where the claim at the commencement of arbitration is in an amount of \$5,000 or less against any insured's reparation obligor for no-fault benefits or comprehensive or collision damage coverage.

Sec. 17. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.20, subdivision 17, is amended to read:

Subd. 17. **RETURN OF PREMIUMS.** (a) Refusing, upon surrender of an individual policy of life insurance in the case of the insured's death, or in the case of a surrender prior to death, of an individual insurance policy not covered by the standard nonforfeiture laws under section 61A.24, to refund to the estate of the insured owner all unearned premiums paid on the policy covering the insured as of the time of the insured's death or surrender if the unearned premium is for a period of more than one month.

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The insurer may deduct from the premium any previously accrued claim for loss or damage under the policy.

For the purposes of this section, a premium is unearned during the period of time the insurer has not been exposed to any risk of loss.

(b) Refusing, upon termination or cancellation of a policy of automobile insurance under section 65B.14, subdivision 2, or a policy of homeowner's insurance under section 65A.27, subdivision 4, or a policy of accident and sickness insurance under section 62A.01, or a policy of comprehensive health insurance under chapter 62E, to refund to the insured all unearned premiums paid on the policy covering the insured as of the time of the termination or cancellation if the unearned premium is for a period of more than one month.

The insurer may deduct from the premium any previously accrued claim for loss or damage under the policy

(c) This subdivision does not apply to policies of insurance providing coverage only for motorcycles or other seasonally rated or limited use vehicles where the rate is reduced to reflect seasonal or limited use.

(d) For purposes of this section, a premium is unearned during the period of time the insurer has not been exposed to any risk of loss. Except for premiums for motorcycle coverage or other seasonally rated or limited use vehicles where the rate is reduced to reflect seasonal or limited use, the unearned premium is determined by multiplying the premium by the fraction that results from dividing the period of time from the date of termination to the date the next scheduled premium is due by the period of time for which the premium was paid.

(e) The owner may cancel a policy referred to in this section at any time during the policy period. This provision supersedes any inconsistent provision of law or any inconsistent policy provision.

Sec. 18. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.20, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 21. No insurance company doing business in this state shall engage in any selection or underwriting practice that is arbitrary, capricious, or unfairly discriminatory.

Sec. 19. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.20, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 22. LIMITATIONS ON HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. (a) No insurer providing benefits under the Minnesota no-fault automobile insurance act or a plan authorized by sections 471.617 or 471.98 to 471.982 may limit the type of licensed health care provider who may provide treatment for covered conditions under a policy so long as the services provided are within the scope of licensure for the provider. The insurer may not exclude a specific method of treatment for a covered condition if that exclusion has the effect of excluding a specific type of licensed health care provider from treating a covered condition.

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(b) This subdivision does not limit the right of an insurer to contract with individual members of any type of licensed health care provider to the exclusion of other members of the group, nor shall it limit the right to the insurer to exclude coverage for a type of treatment if the insurer can show the treatment is not medically necessary or is not medically appropriate.

Sec. 20. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.20, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

**Subd. 23. DISCRIMINATION IN AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICIES.** (a) No insurer that offers an automobile insurance policy in this state shall:

(1) use the employment status of the applicant as an underwriting standard or guideline; or

(2) deny coverage to a policyholder for the same reason.

(b) No insurer that offers an automobile insurance policy in this state shall:

(1) use the applicant's status as a tenant, as the term is defined in section 566.18, subdivision 2, as an underwriting standard or guideline; or

(2) deny coverage to a policyholder for the same reason.

(c) No insurer that offers an automobile insurance policy in this state shall:

(1) use the failure of the applicant to have an automobile policy in force during any period of time before the application is made as an underwriting standard or guideline; or

(2) deny coverage to a policyholder for the same reason.

This provision does not apply if the applicant was required by law to maintain automobile insurance coverage and failed to do so.

An insurer may require reasonable proof that the applicant did not fail to maintain this coverage. The insurer is not required to accept the mere lack of a conviction or citation for failure to maintain this coverage as proof of failure to maintain coverage.

Sec. 21. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.201, subdivision 5, is amended to read:

**Subd. 5. STANDARDS FOR FAIR SETTLEMENT OFFERS AND AGREEMENTS.** The following acts by an insurer, an adjuster, a self-insured, or a self-insurance administrator constitute unfair settlement practices:

(1) making any partial or final payment, settlement, or offer of settlement, which does not include an explanation of what the payment, settlement, or offer of settlement is for;

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(2) making an offer to an insured of partial or total settlement of one part of a claim contingent upon agreement to settle another part of the claim;

(3) refusing to pay one or more elements of a claim by an insured for which there is no good faith dispute;

(4) threatening cancellation, rescission, or nonrenewal of a policy as an inducement to settlement of a claim;

(5) notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of section 65A.01, subdivision 3, failing to issue payment for any amount finally agreed upon in settlement of all or part of any claim within five business days from the receipt of the agreement by the insurer or from the date of the performance by the claimant of any conditions set by such agreement, whichever is later;

(6) failing to inform the insured of the policy provision or provisions under which payment is made;

(7) settling or attempting to settle a claim or part of a claim with an insured under actual cash value provisions for less than the value of the property immediately preceding the loss, including all applicable taxes and license fees. In no case may an insurer be required to pay an amount greater than the amount of insurance;

(8) except where limited by policy provisions, settling or offering to settle a claim or part of a claim with an insured under replacement value provisions for less than the sum necessary to replace the damaged item with one of like kind and quality, including all applicable taxes, license, and transfer fees;

(9) reducing or attempting to reduce for depreciation any settlement or any offer of settlement for items not adversely affected by age, use, or obsolescence;

(10) reducing or attempting to reduce for betterment any settlement or any offer of settlement unless the resale value of the item has increased over the preloss value by the repair of the damage.

Sec. 22. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.201, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 11. DISCLOSURE MANDATORY. An insurer must disclose the coverage and limits of an insurance policy within 30 days after the information is requested in writing by a claimant.

Sec. 23. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 72A.201, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 12. PREJUDGMENT INTEREST. If a judgment is entered against an insured, the principal amount of which is within the applicable policy limits, the insurer is responsible for their insured's share of the costs, disbursements, and prejudgment interest, as determined under section 549.09, included in the

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judgment even if the total amount of the judgment is in excess of the applicable policy limits.

Sec. 24. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 79.251, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

Subd. 6. AGENTS. A person licensed under section 60A.17 may submit an application for coverage to the assigned risk plan and receive a fee from the assigned risk plan for submitting the application. However, the licensee is not an agent of the assigned risk plan for purposes of state law. All checks or similar instruments submitted in payment of assigned risk plan premiums must be made payable to the assigned risk plan and not the agent.

Sec. 25. **REPEALER.**

(a) Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 62I.12, is repealed.

(b) Minnesota Rules, part 2780.2700, is repealed.

Sec. 26. **EFFECTIVE DATES.**

Sections 1, 4 to 9, 12 to 14, and 16 to 25 are effective the day following final enactment.

Sections 2, 3, 11, and 15 are effective for policies issued or renewed on or after August 1, 1989.

Presented to the governor May 23, 1989

Signed by the governor May 25, 1989, 6:33 p.m.

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## CHAPTER 261—H.F.No. 700

*An act relating to crimes; increasing penalties for certain crimes when committed because of the victim's or another's actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, or national origin; increasing penalties for using the mail or making telephone calls and falsely impersonating another for the purpose of harassing, abusing, or threatening another person; authorizing the commissioner of public safety to report on additional bias-motivated criminal activity not covered by the bias crime reporting law; amending Minnesota Statutes 1988, sections 609.2231, by adding a subdivision; 609.595, subdivisions 2, 3, and by adding a subdivision; 609.605, by adding a subdivision; 609.746, by adding a subdivision; 609.79, by adding a subdivision; 609.795; and 626.5531, subdivision 2.*

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

Section 1. Minnesota Statutes 1988, section 609.2231, is amended by adding a subdivision to read:

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