



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 195

January Session, 2003

Substitute Senate Bill No. 1015

Senate, April 7, 2003

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. CRISCO of the 17th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING NOTICE TO PERSONAL RISK POLICYHOLDERS AND CLAIMANTS REGARDING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2003*) Each insurer, or designee
2 of an insurer, that denies a claim under a personal risk insurance
3 policy issued in this state shall provide the insured and any other
4 claimant with written notice of the denial. The written notice shall
5 include the following statement, which shall appear in the final
6 paragraph of the notice in not less than twelve point type: "If you do
7 not agree with this decision, you may contact the Division of
8 Consumer Affairs within the Insurance Department". The notice shall
9 include the address and toll-free telephone number for the division
10 and information on how to contact the division using electronic mail
11 and the Internet. As used in this section, "personal risk insurance"
12 means personal risk insurance, as defined in section 38a-663 of the
13 general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows:	
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2003</i>

INS *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Type	FY 04 \$	FY 05 \$
Insurance Dept.	IF - None	None	None

Note: IF=Insurance Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires insurers that deny claims under a personal risk insurance policy to do so in writing in a certain format. This may increase the number of telephone calls to the Consumer Affairs Division of the Department of Insurance but would not result in a fiscal impact.

OLR Bill Analysis

SB 1015

AN ACT REQUIRING NOTICE TO PERSONAL RISK POLICYHOLDERS AND CLAIMANTS REGARDING SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

SUMMARY:

This bill requires personal risk insurers or their designees who deny a claim to provide the insured and any other claimant with written notice of the denial. The last paragraph of the notice must include the following statement in at least 12-point type:

IF YOU DO NOT AGREE WITH THIS DECISION, YOU MAY CONTACT THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS WITHIN THE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT.

The notice must also include the address and toll-free telephone for the division and information on how to contact the division by using electronic mail and the Internet.

Personal risk insurance is homeowner, tenant, private passenger automobile, mobile manufactured home and other property and casualty insurance for personal, family, or household needs.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2003

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable Report

Yea 17 Nay 1