



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 326

January Session, 2021

Senate Bill No. 1050

Senate, April 7, 2021

The Committee on Insurance and Real Estate reported through SEN. LESSER of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICES PROVIDED BY LIFE INSURERS.

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

1 Section 1. Section 38a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective January 1, 2022*):

3 Terms used in this title and sections 2 and 3 of this act, unless it
4 appears from the context to the contrary, shall have a scope and
5 meaning as set forth in this section.

6 (1) "Affiliate" or "affiliated" means a person that directly, or indirectly
7 through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by or is
8 under common control with another person.

9 (2) "Alien insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or
10 organized or constituted within or under the laws of any jurisdiction or
11 country without the United States.

12 (3) "Annuities" means all agreements to make periodical payments
13 where the making or continuance of all or some of the series of the

14 payments, or the amount of the payment, is dependent upon the
15 continuance of human life or is for a specified term of years. This
16 definition does not apply to payments made under a policy of life
17 insurance.

18 (4) "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner.

19 (5) "Control", "controlled by" or "under common control with" means
20 the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the
21 direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through
22 the ownership of voting securities, by contract other than a commercial
23 contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the
24 power is the result of an official position with the person.

25 (6) "Domestic insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by,
26 incorporated, organized or constituted within or under the laws of this
27 state.

28 (7) "Domestic surplus lines insurer" means any domestic insurer that
29 has been authorized by the commissioner to write surplus lines
30 insurance.

31 (8) "Foreign country" means any jurisdiction not in any state, district
32 or territory of the United States.

33 (9) "Foreign insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or
34 organized or constituted within or under the laws of another state or a
35 territory of the United States.

36 (10) "Insolvency" or "insolvent" means, for any insurer, that it is
37 unable to pay its obligations when they are due, or when its admitted
38 assets do not exceed its liabilities plus the greater of: (A) Capital and
39 surplus required by law for its organization and continued operation;
40 or (B) the total par or stated value of its authorized and issued capital
41 stock. For purposes of this subdivision "liabilities" shall include but not
42 be limited to reserves required by statute or by regulations adopted by
43 the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 or
44 specific requirements imposed by the commissioner upon a subject

45 company at the time of admission or subsequent thereto.

46 (11) "Insurance" means any agreement to pay a sum of money,
47 provide services or any other thing of value on the happening of a
48 particular event or contingency or to provide indemnity for loss in
49 respect to a specified subject by specified perils in return for a
50 consideration. In any contract of insurance, an insured shall have an
51 interest which is subject to a risk of loss through destruction or
52 impairment of that interest, which risk is assumed by the insurer and
53 such assumption shall be part of a general scheme to distribute losses
54 among a large group of persons bearing similar risks in return for a
55 ratable contribution or other consideration.

56 (12) "Insurer" or "insurance company" includes any person or
57 combination of persons doing any kind or form of insurance business
58 other than a fraternal benefit society, and shall include a receiver of any
59 insurer when the context reasonably permits.

60 (13) "Insured" means a person to whom or for whose benefit an
61 insurer makes a promise in an insurance policy. The term includes
62 policyholders, subscribers, members and beneficiaries. This definition
63 applies only to the provisions of this title and does not define the
64 meaning of this word as used in insurance policies or certificates.

65 (14) "Life insurance" means insurance on human lives and insurances
66 pertaining to or connected with human life. The business of life
67 insurance includes granting endowment benefits, granting additional
68 benefits in the event of death by accident or accidental means, granting
69 additional benefits in the event of the total and permanent disability of
70 the insured, and providing optional methods of settlement of proceeds.
71 Life insurance includes burial contracts to the extent provided by
72 section 38a-464.

73 (15) "Mutual insurer" means any insurer without capital stock, the
74 managing directors or officers of which are elected by its members.

75 (16) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, a

76 limited liability company, an association, a joint stock company, a
77 business trust, an unincorporated organization or other legal entity.

78 (17) "Policy" means any document, including attached endorsements
79 and riders, purporting to be an enforceable contract, which
80 memorializes in writing some or all of the terms of an insurance
81 contract.

82 (18) "State" means any state, district, or territory of the United States.

83 (19) "Subsidiary" of a specified person means an affiliate controlled
84 by the person directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries.

85 (20) "Unauthorized insurer" or "nonadmitted insurer" means an
86 insurer that has not been granted a certificate of authority by the
87 commissioner to transact the business of insurance in this state or an
88 insurer transacting business not authorized by a valid certificate.

89 (21) "United States" means the United States of America, its territories
90 and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the District of
91 Columbia.

92 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2022*) (a) Each insurer that delivers
93 or issues for delivery an individual or group life insurance policy in this
94 state on or after January 1, 2022, shall, at least annually, give written
95 notice to each beneficiary and owner of, person whose life is insured
96 under and insurance producer who negotiated and sold such policy
97 disclosing the status of such policy.

98 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
99 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this
100 section.

101 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2022*) (a) Each insurer that delivers
102 or issues for delivery an individual or group life insurance policy in this
103 state on or after January 1, 2022, shall send any notice cancelling such
104 policy to each owner of such policy. The notice required under this
105 subsection shall be in addition to any notice required under section 38a-

106 436a or 38a-456 of the general statutes.

107 (b) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with
108 chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this
109 section.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	38a-1
Sec. 2	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	New section
Sec. 3	<i>January 1, 2022</i>	New section

INS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None**Explanation**

There is no fiscal impact to the state or municipalities under the bill, which requires life insurers to send certain notices and allows the Insurance Department to adopt implementing regulations, which they have the staff to do.

The Out Years**State Impact:** None**Municipal Impact:** None

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 1050*****AN ACT CONCERNING NOTICES PROVIDED BY LIFE INSURERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires, beginning January 1, 2022, that insurers delivering or issuing individual or group life insurance policies in Connecticut annually provide a written notice disclosing the policy's status to each (1) beneficiary and owner, (2) person insured under the policy, and (3) insurance producer who negotiated and sold the policy.

The bill also requires these insurers to send any cancellation notices to each policy owner. The cancellation notices are in addition to those required under existing law to notify (1) life insurance applicants of their right to designate a third party to receive policy cancellation notices due to premium nonpayment and (2) insured employees of a group life insurance policy's cancellation.

The bill authorizes the insurance commissioner to adopt implementing regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2022

COMMITTEE ACTION

Insurance and Real Estate Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 17 Nay 1 (03/22/2021)