



AUTO BULLETIN NO. 26

TO: ALL INSURERS WRITING AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COVERAGE IN DELAWARE

RE: Option to Make Consolidated Filings to Comply with HB 114 and HS1 to HB 80

DATED: August 2, 2017

The Delaware General Assembly recently passed two bills that will have an impact on upcoming auto insurers' rate filings, each of which has a different effective date. The Commissioner does not have the discretion to waive or otherwise modify the effective dates of any legislation.

HB 114: House Bill 114 amends Section 2902 of the Motor Vehicle Code (Title 21) to raise the minimum bodily injury and property damage liability limits in all automobile insurance policies newly written or renewed after December 13, 2017. Details concerning these amendments may be found in Auto Bulletin 25. A General Notice updating Regulation 603 to conform Form A with the new limits was filed with the Delaware Register of Regulations on July 17, 2017 for publication in the August 1, 2017 Delaware Register of Regulations.

HS 1 for HB 80: House Substitute 1 for House Bill 80 addresses the underwriting of automobile insurance policies. The bill is tentatively scheduled to be signed into law by the Governor on August 1, 2017, and becomes effective nine months thereafter. The Department will be filing proposed regulations to implement HS 1 for HB 80 in the near future.

Insurers are required to file changes to their policies not less than 30 days in advance of any delivery of such policy in Delaware (see 18 Del. C. § 2712), and to submit proposed rate changes to the Department no later than 30 days prior to the effective date of the new rates (see 18 Del. C. Chapter 25). The Department of Insurance recognizes that both pieces of new legislation will likely impact auto insurers' upcoming rate filings.

The **purpose of this Bulletin** is to help insurers avoid multiple filings within a short period of time by allowing an auto insurer to make a single, consolidated filing to cover the requirements contained in both pieces of legislation. Because of the 30 day submission deadlines described above, those filings that are submitted to comply with HB 114 must be submitted 30 days prior to HB 114's effective date of December 13, 2017; therefore, the filing must be submitted to the Department no later than November 13, 2017.

Questions concerning Auto Bulletin No. 26 should be emailed to consumer@state.de.us.

This Bulletin shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect unless withdrawn or superseded by subsequent law, regulation or bulletin.



Trinidad Navarro
Delaware Insurance Commissioner