SENATE BILL 6413

State of Washington 52nd Legislature 1992 Regular Session

By Senators McCaslin, Pelz and Moore; by request of Insurance Commissioner

Read first time 01/29/92. Referred to Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance.

- 1 AN ACT Relating to insurance fraud; adding a new section to chapter
- 2 48.30 RCW; making an appropriation; and providing an effective date.
- 3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:
- 4 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 1.** A new section is added to chapter 48.30 RCW
- 5 to read as follows:
- 6 (1) The insurance fraud advisory board is created, consisting of
- 7 the insurance commissioner or the commissioner's designee, as ex
- 8 officio member and eight members appointed by the insurance
- 9 commissioner on the basis of their experience and knowledge in matters
- 10 pertaining to insurance claims. In addition, three members
- 11 representing the general public are to be appointed by the insurance
- 12 commissioner to the board. The board shall include one person
- 13 representing each of the following interests:
- 14 (a) Property and casualty insurers;

- 1 (b) Health care service contractors and health maintenance
- 2 organizations;
- 3 (c) Life and disability insurers;
- 4 (d) Insurance agents and brokers;
- 5 (e) Health care providers;
- 6 (f) Public adjusters;
- 7 (g) County prosecutors; and
- 8 (h) Insurance claimants.
- 9 (2) The board shall assist the insurance commissioner in:
- 10 (a) Identifying and quantifying the nature and amount of insurance
- 11 fraud in Washington;
- 12 (b) Developing a plan for a statistical and informational data base
- 13 in the office of the insurance commissioner to assist in the
- 14 prosecution of insurance fraud;
- 15 (c) Developing any legislation necessary to permit the
- 16 establishment of the statistical and informational data base described
- 17 in (b) of this subsection;
- 18 (d) Recommending appropriate criminal penalties for insurance fraud
- 19 and developing any necessary legislation in that regard; and
- 20 (e) Reviewing the effectiveness of chapter 48.80 RCW and developing
- 21 any legislation required to improve the effectiveness of that chapter.
- 22 (3) The board shall annually elect a chair and a vice-chair from
- 23 its members. The board shall meet at least semiannually at such times
- 24 as it may fix. A person appointed to the board shall not receive a
- 25 salary or other compensation as a member of the board. Each member
- 26 shall receive travel expenses in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and
- 27 43.03.060 for each day spent in actual attendance at or traveling to
- 28 and from meetings of the board or special assignments for the board.
- 29 (4) A majority of the board constitutes a quorum for the
- 30 transaction of business.

- 1 (5) The board shall keep public records of its proceedings.
- 2 (6) The board shall cease to exist on January 1, 1996.
- 3 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 2.** The sum of forty-nine thousand dollars,
- 4 or as much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the
- 5 biennium ending June 30, 1993, from the insurance commissioner's
- 6 regulatory account to the insurance commissioner for the purposes of
- 7 section 1 of this act.
- 8 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> **Sec. 3.** This act shall take effect January 1,
- 9 1993.