

HOUSE BILL REPORT

HB 2846

As Reported By House Committee On:
Financial Institutions & Insurance

Title: An act relating to certain notices to agents or brokers.

Brief Description: Providing certain notices to agents or brokers.

Sponsors: Representatives Benson, Hatfield, Sullivan, DeBolt, Barlean, Cairnes, Quall, McIntire and Delvin.

Brief History:

Committee Activity:

Financial Institutions & Insurance: 2/1/00, 2/4/00 [DPS].

Brief Summary of Substitute Bill

- The copy of the notice that must be provided to the agent or broker regarding cancellation, renewal or non-renewal of an insurance policy can be sent electronically.

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS & INSURANCE

Majority Report: The substitute bill be substituted therefor and the substitute bill do pass. Signed by 12 members: Representatives Benson, Republican Co-Chair; Hatfield, Democratic Co-Chair; Bush, Republican Vice Chair; McIntire, Democratic Vice Chair; Barlean; Cairnes; DeBolt; Keiser; Quall; Santos; Sullivan and Talcott.

Staff: Charlie Gavigan (786-7340).

Background:

Whenever a cancellation notice or a notice regarding the renewal or non-renewal of an insurance policy is provided to an insured person, a copy of the notice must be provided at the same time to the agent or broker.

Summary of Substitute Bill:

The copy of the notice that must be provided to the agent or broker regarding cancellation, renewal or non-renewal of an insurance policy must be sent within five days of the notice going to the policyholder and can be sent electronically.

Substitute Bill Compared to Original Bill: Allows the notice to be sent to the agent/broker within five working days, allows use of electronic notice when possible, and removes bulk mail as a means of notification.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Not requested.

Effective Date of Substitute Bill: Ninety days after adjournment of session in which bill is passed.

Testimony For: This bill updates an old statute by allowing electronic mailing of certain notices to agents and brokers. A concern is that some agents, particularly in rural areas, may not be proficient in new technology.

Testimony Against: None.

Testified: (In support) Clark Sitzes, Allstate.

(In support with concerns) Bill Stauffacher, Independent Insurance Agents and Brokers.