

# HOUSE BILL REPORT

## SHB 2846

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**As Passed House:**

February 9, 2000

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

**Brief Description:** Providing certain notices to agents or brokers.

**Sponsors:** By House Committee on Financial Institutions & Insurance (originally sponsored by 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].

**Floor Activity:**

Passed House: 2/9/00, 97-0.

**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.

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### 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.

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**Summary of 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.

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**Appropriation:** None.

**Fiscal Note:** Not requested.

**Effective Date:** 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.