

SHB 1492 - H AMD 295

By Representative Roach

1 Strike all material after the enacting clause and insert the
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. Sec 1. The insurance commissioner shall convene
4 a task force to study the appropriateness and timeliness of
5 payments under the personal injury protection coverage of
6 automobile liability insurance policies. The insurance
7 commissioner shall include representatives from the following
8 groups in the task force: (1) Insurers that sell automobile
9 liability policies; (2) insurance agents and brokers; (3) the
10 Washington state trial lawyers' association; and the Washington
11 defense trial lawyers. The task force must consider the impacts of
12 allowing arbitration of all personal injury protection coverage
13 claims. Among the impacts that must be considered are possible
14 changes in: (1) The average amount to settle a claim; (2) the
15 average time to settle a claim; (3) automobile liability insurance
16 premiums; and (4) the rate of uninsured motorists due to any
17 increase in premiums. The task force may compare the claims
18 payment regulatory framework in Washington with systems used in
19 other states. The task force may make recommendations to the
20 legislature. The commissioner shall compile the findings of the
21 task force in a report to the house insurance financial services,
22 and consumer protection committee and the senate financial
23 institutions and insurance committee by December 1, 2007."

24 Correct the title

EFFECT: A task force is created to study the appropriateness and timeliness of payments under the personal injury protection coverage of an auto insurance policy. The task force must consider the impacts of allowing arbitration of all personal injury protection coverage claims. The insurance commissioner must report the findings of the task force by December 1, 2007.