

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY State of Illinois 2003 and 2004 HB4473

Introduced 02/03/04, by Frank J. Mautino

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

215 ILCS 5/412

from Ch. 73, par. 1024

Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Provides that, except to the extent that the Director determines that the amount retained in the Illinois Premium Tax Refund Fund exceeds the anticipated amount of certain refunds to be made, the Department shall deposit a percentage of specified amounts collected into the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund. Effective immediately.

LRB093 16597 SAS 42246 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT MAY APPLY

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1 AN ACT concerning insurance.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, represented in the General Assembly:

- Section 5. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by changing Section 412 as follows:
- 6 (215 ILCS 5/412) (from Ch. 73, par. 1024)
- 7 Sec. 412. Refunds; penalties; collection.
 - (1) (a) Whenever it appears to the satisfaction of the Director that because of some mistake of fact, error in calculation, or erroneous interpretation of a statute of this or any other state, any authorized company has paid to him, pursuant to any provision of law, taxes, fees, or other charges in excess of the amount legally chargeable against it, during the 6 year period immediately preceding the discovery of such overpayment, he shall have power to refund to such company the amount of the excess or excesses by applying the amount or amounts thereof toward the payment of taxes, fees, or other charges already due, or which may thereafter become due from that company until such excess or excesses have been fully refunded, or upon a written request from the authorized company, the Director shall provide a cash refund within 120 days after receipt of the written request if all necessary information has been filed with the Department in order for it to perform an audit of the annual return for the year in which the overpayment occurred or within 120 days after the date the Department receives all the necessary information to perform such audit. The Director shall not provide a cash refund if there are insufficient funds in the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund to provide a cash refund, if the amount of the overpayment is less than \$100, or if the amount of the overpayment can be fully offset against the

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taxpayer's estimated liability for the year following the year of the cash refund request. Any cash refund shall be paid from the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund, a special fund hereby created in the State treasury.

(b) Except to the extent that the Director, in his discretion, determines that the amount retained in the Illinois Premium Tax Refund Fund exceeds the anticipated amount of refunds to be made pursuant to this Section Beginning January 1, 2000 and thereafter, the Department shall deposit a percentage of the amounts collected under Sections 409, 444, and 444.1 of this Code into the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund. The percentage deposited into the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund shall be the annual percentage. The annual percentage shall be calculated as a fraction, the numerator of which shall be the amount of cash refunds approved by the Director for payment and paid during the preceding calendar year as a result of overpayment of tax liability under Sections 409, 444, and 444.1 of this Code and the denominator of which shall be the amounts collected pursuant to Sections 409, 444, and 444.1 of this Code during the preceding calendar year. However, if there were no cash refunds paid in a preceding calendar year, the Department shall deposit 5% of the amount collected in that preceding calendar year pursuant to Sections 409, 444, and 444.1 of this Code into the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund instead of an amount calculated by using the annual percentage.

(c) Beginning July 1, 1999, moneys in the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund shall be expended exclusively for the purpose of paying cash refunds resulting from overpayment of tax liability under Sections 409, 444, and 444.1 of this Code as determined by the Director pursuant to subsection 1(a) of this Section. Cash refunds made in accordance with this Section may be made from the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund only to the extent that amounts have been deposited and retained in the Insurance Premium

Tax Refund Fund.

- (d) This Section shall constitute an irrevocable and continuing appropriation from the Insurance Premium Tax Refund Fund for the purpose of paying cash refunds pursuant to the provisions of this Section.
- (2) When any insurance company or any surplus line producer fails to file any tax return required under Sections 408.1, 409, 444, 444.1 and 445 of this Code or Section 12 of the Fire Investigation Act on the date prescribed, including any extensions, there shall be added as a penalty \$400 or 10% of the amount of such tax, whichever is greater, for each month or part of a month of failure to file, the entire penalty not to exceed \$2,000 or 50% of the tax due, whichever is greater.
 - (3) (a) When any insurance company or any surplus line producer fails to pay the full amount due under the provisions of this Section, Sections 408.1, 409, 444, 444.1 or 445 of this Code, or Section 12 of the Fire Investigation Act, there shall be added to the amount due as a penalty an amount equal to 10% of the deficiency.
 - (b) If such failure to pay is determined by the Director to be wilful, after a hearing under Sections 402 and 403, there shall be added to the tax as a penalty an amount equal to the greater of 50% of the deficiency or 10% of the amount due and unpaid for each month or part of a month that the deficiency remains unpaid commencing with the date that the amount becomes due. Such amount shall be in lieu of any determined under paragraph (a).
- (4) Any insurance company or any surplus line producer which fails to pay the full amount due under this Section or Sections 408.1, 409, 444, 444.1 or 445 of this Code, or Section 12 of the Fire Investigation Act is liable, in addition to the tax and any penalties, for interest on such deficiency at the rate of 12% per annum, or at such higher adjusted rates as are or may be established under subsection (b) of Section 6621 of the Internal Revenue Code, from the date that payment of any such tax was due, determined without regard to any extensions,

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- 1 to the date of payment of such amount.
- 2 (5) The Director, through the Attorney General, may 3 institute an action in the name of the People of the State of 4 Illinois, in any court of competent jurisdiction, for the 5 recovery of the amount of such taxes, fees, and penalties due, 6 and prosecute the same to final judgment, and take such steps 7 as are necessary to collect the same.
 - (6) In the event that the certificate of authority of a foreign or alien company is revoked for any cause or the company withdraws from this State prior to the renewal date of the certificate of authority as provided in Section 114, the company may recover the amount of any such tax paid in advance. Except as provided in this subsection, no revocation or withdrawal excuses payment of or constitutes grounds for the recovery of any taxes or penalties imposed by this Code.
- (7) When an insurance company or domestic affiliated group fails to pay the full amount of any fee of \$200 or more due under Section 408 of this Code, there shall be added to the amount due as a penalty the greater of \$100 or an amount equal to 10% of the deficiency for each month or part of a month that the deficiency remains unpaid.
- 22 (Source: P.A. 93-32, eff. 7-1-03.)
- 23 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon 24 becoming law.