

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2003 and 2004

Introduced 2/6/2004, by John J. Cullerton

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

215 ILCS 5/143.11	0				
215 ILCS 5/143.14	from	Ch.	73,	par.	755.14
215 ILCS 5/143.15	from	Ch.	73,	par.	755.15
215 ILCS 5/143.16	from	Ch.	73,	par.	755.16
215 ILCS 5/143.17	from	Ch.	73,	par.	755.17
215 ILCS 5/143.17	a from	Ch.	73,	par.	755.17a

Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. In provisions requiring notices of assignment, transfer, renewal, or cancellation of a policy, provides the respective parties with the option to accept notification electronically. Effective immediately.

LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

SB3006

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AN ACT concerning insurance.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by 5 changing Sections 143.11b, 143.14, 143.15, 143.16, 143.17, and 6 143.17a as follows:

7 (215 ILCS 5/143.11b)

Sec. 143.11b. Assignment or transfer of property and 8 casualty policies. An assignment or transfer of a policy of 9 insurance to which Section 143.11 applies among or between 10 insurers within an insurance holding company system or insurers 11 under common management or control, or as a result of a merger, 12 13 acquisition, or restructuring of an insurance company, is not a 14 nonrenewal for purposes of the notification requirements under 15 Sections 143.12 through 143.24. However, in the event of an increase in the renewal premium of 30% or more, change in 16 17 deductibles or change in coverage that materially alters any policy to which subsection b of Section 143.17a applies, the 18 19 company shall adhere to the provisions set forth in subsection 20 b of Section 143.17a. A company making an assignment or transfer of a policy among or between insurers within an 21 22 insurance holding company system or insurers under common 23 management or control, or as a result of a merger, acquisition, or restructuring of an insurance company, shall have delivered 24 25 to the named insured notice of such assignment or transfer at 26 least 60 days prior to the renewal date. An exact and unaltered copy of the notice shall also be sent to the insured's 27 28 producer, if known, and agent of record. The assignment or 29 transfer of a policy or policies of insurance among or between 30 insurers shall not occur without the producer or agent of record, or both, having a signed agency contract with the 31 32 entity to which the policy or policies are to be assigned or SB3006 - 2 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

transferred. If there is not a signed agency contract, all of the notice requirements of Sections 143.17 and 143.17a shall apply. Nothing in this Section shall contravene any existing producer and company contract rights. For purposes of this Section, the insured's producer, if known, and agent of record may opt to accept notification of assignment or transfer of policies electronically.

8 (Source: P.A. 91-800, eff. 6-13-00.)

9 10 (215 ILCS 5/143.14) (from Ch. 73, par. 755.14) Sec. 143.14. Notice of cancellation.

(a) No notice of cancellation of any policy of insurance, 11 to which Section 143.11 applies, shall be effective unless 12 mailed by the company to the named insured and the mortgage or 13 14 lien holder, at the last mailing address known by the company. 15 The company shall maintain proof of mailing of such notice on a 16 recognized U.S. Post Office form or a form acceptable to the U. S. Post Office or other commercial mail delivery service. A 17 18 copy of all such notices shall be sent to the insured's broker 19 if known, or the agent of record, and to the mortgagee or lienholder, if known, at the last mailing address known to the 20 company. For purposes of this Section, the mortgage or lien 21 22 holder, insured's broker, if known, or the agent of record may 23 opt to accept notification electronically.

24 (b) Whenever a financed insurance contract is cancelled, 25 the insurer shall return whatever gross unearned premiums are 26 due under the insurance contract or contracts not to exceed the 27 unpaid balance due the premium finance company directly to the premium finance company effecting the cancellation for the 28 29 account of the named insured. The return premium must be mailed 30 to the premium finance company within 60 days. The request for 31 the unearned premium by the premium finance company shall be in the manner of a monthly account, current accounting by 32 producer, policy number, unpaid balance and name of insured for 33 each cancelled amount. In the event the insurance contract or 34 contracts are subject to audit, the insurer shall retain the 35

- 3 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

SB3006

1 right to withhold the return of the portion of premium that can 2 be identified to the contract or contracts until the audit is 3 completed. Within 30 days of the completion of the audit, if a 4 premium retained by the insurer after crediting the earned 5 premium would result in a surplus, the insurer shall return the 6 surplus directly to the premium finance company. If the audit should result in an additional premium due the insurer, the 7 8 obligation for the collection of this premium shall fall upon 9 the insurer and not affect any other contract or contracts 10 currently being financed by the premium finance company for the 11 named insured.

12 (c) Whenever a premium finance agreement contains a power 13 of attorney enabling the premium finance company to cancel any insurance contract or contracts in the agreement, the insurer 14 15 shall honor the date of cancellation as set forth in the 16 request from the premium finance company without requiring the 17 return of the insurance contract or contracts. The insurer may mail to the named insured an acknowledgment of the notice of 18 19 cancellation from the premium finance company but the named 20 insured shall not incur any additional premium charge for any extension of coverage. The insurer need not maintain proof of 21 mailing of this notice. 22

(d) All statutory regulatory and contractual restrictions providing that the insurance contract may not be cancelled unless the required notice is mailed to a governmental agency, mortgagee, lienholder, or other third party shall apply where cancellation is effected under a power of attorney under a premium finance agreement. The insurer shall have the right for a premium charge for this extension of coverage.

30 (Source: P.A. 86-370; 86-437; 86-1028; 87-811; 87-1123.)

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(215 ILCS 5/143.15) (from Ch. 73, par. 755.15)

32 Sec. 143.15. Mailing of cancellation notice. All notices of 33 cancellation of insurance as defined in subsections (a), (b) 34 and (c) of Section 143.13 must be mailed at least 30 days prior 35 to the effective date of cancellation to the named insured and - 4 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

1 mortgagee or lien holder, if known, at the last mailing address 2 known to the company. All notices of cancellation shall include 3 specific explanation of the reason or reasons for а cancellation. However, where cancellation is for nonpayment of 4 5 premium, the notice of cancellation must be mailed at least 10 6 days before the effective date of the cancellation. For purposes of this Section, the mortgagee or lien holder, if 7 known, may opt to accept notification electronically. 8

9 (Source: P.A. 89-669, eff. 1-1-97.)

SB3006

(215 ILCS 5/143.16) (from Ch. 73, par. 755.16)

11 Sec. 143.16. Mailing of cancellation notice. All notices of cancellation of insurance to which Section 143.11 applies, 12 except for those defined in subsections (a), (b) and (c) of 13 14 Section 143.13 must be mailed at least 30 days prior to the 15 effective date of cancellation during the first 60 days of 16 coverage. After the coverage has been effective for 61 days or more, all notices must be mailed at least 60 days prior to the 17 18 effective date of cancellation. All such notices shall include 19 specific explanation of the reason or reasons а for cancellation and shall be mailed to the named insured and 20 mortgagee or lien holder, if known, at the last mailing address 21 22 known to the company. However, where cancellation is for 23 nonpayment of premium, the notice of cancellation must be mailed at least 10 days before the effective date of the 24 cancellation. For purposes of this Section, the mortgagee or 25 26 lien holder, if known, may opt to accept notification 27 electronically.

28 (Source: P.A. 89-669, eff. 1-1-97.)

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(215 ILCS 5/143.17) (from Ch. 73, par. 755.17)

Sec. 143.17. Notice of intention not to renew.

a. No company shall fail to renew any policy of insurance, as defined in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (h) of Section 143.13, to which Section 143.11 applies, unless it shall send by mail to the named insured at least 30 days advance notice of - 5 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

1 its intention not to renew. The company shall maintain proof of 2 mailing of such notice on a recognized U.S. Post Office form or a form acceptable to the U. S. Post Office or other commercial 3 4 mail delivery service. An exact and unaltered copy of such 5 notice shall also be sent to the insured's broker, if known, or 6 the agent of record and to the mortgagee or lien holder at the last mailing address known by the company. However, where 7 8 cancellation is for nonpayment of premium, the notice of 9 cancellation must be mailed at least 10 days before the effective date of the cancellation. 10

11 b. This Section does not apply if the company has 12 manifested its willingness to renew directly to the named 13 insured. Such written notice shall specify the premium amount payable, including any premium payment plan available, and the 14 15 name of any person or persons, if any, authorized to receive 16 payment on behalf of the company. If no person is so 17 authorized, the premium notice shall so state. The notice of nonrenewal and the proof of mailing shall be effected on the 18 19 same date.

20 b-5. This Section does not apply if the company manifested its willingness to renew directly to the named insured. 21 However, no company may impose changes in deductibles or 22 23 coverage for any policy forms applicable to an entire line of 24 business enumerated in subsections (a), (b), (c), and (h) of 25 Section 143.13 to which Section 143.11 applies unless the 26 company mails to the named insured written notice of the change 27 in deductible or coverage at least 60 days prior to the renewal 28 or anniversary date. An exact and unaltered copy of the notice 29 shall also be sent to the insured's broker, if known, or the 30 agent of record.

31 c. Should a company fail to comply with (a) or (b) of this 32 Section, the policy shall terminate only on the effective date 33 of any similar insurance procured by the insured with respect 34 to the same subject or location designated in both policies.

35 d. Renewal of a policy does not constitute a waiver or36 estoppel with respect to grounds for cancellation which existed

SB3006

SB3006 - 6 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

1 before the effective date of such renewal.

e. In all notices of intention not to renew any policy of
insurance, as defined in Section 143.11 the company shall
provide a specific explanation of the reasons for nonrenewal.

5 <u>f. For purposes of this Section, the insured's broker, if</u> 6 <u>known, or the agent of record and the mortgagee or lien holder</u> 7 <u>may opt to accept notification electronically.</u>

8 (Source: P.A. 91-597, eff. 1-1-00.)

9 10 (215 ILCS 5/143.17a) (from Ch. 73, par. 755.17a)

Sec. 143.17a. Notice of intention not to renew.

11 a. No company shall fail to renew any policy of insurance, to which Section 143.11 applies, except for those defined in 12 subsections (a), (b), (c), and (h) of Section 143.13, unless it 13 14 shall send by mail to the named insured at least 60 days 15 advance notice of its intention not to renew. The company shall 16 maintain proof of mailing of such notice on one of the following forms: a recognized U.S. Post Office form or a form 17 18 acceptable to the U.S. Post Office or other commercial mail 19 delivery service. An exact and unaltered copy of such notice shall also be sent to the insured's broker, if known, or the 20 agent of record and to the mortgagee or lien holder at the last 21 22 mailing address known by the company. However, where 23 cancellation is for nonpayment of premium, the notice of cancellation must be mailed at least 10 days before the 24 25 effective date of the cancellation.

26 b. This Section does not apply if the company has 27 manifested its willingness to renew directly to the named 28 insured. Provided, however, that no company may increase the 29 renewal premium on any policy of insurance to which Section 143.11 applies, except for those defined in subsections (a), 30 31 (b), (c), and (h) of Section 143.13, by 30% or more, nor impose changes in deductibles or coverage that materially alter the 32 policy, unless the company shall have mailed or delivered to 33 the named insured written notice of such increase or change in 34 35 deductible or coverage at least 60 days prior to the renewal or - 7 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

1 anniversary date. The increase in premium shall be the renewal 2 premium based on the known exposure as of the date of the 3 quotation compared to the premium as of the last day of coverage for the current year's policy, annualized. The premium 4 5 on the renewal policy may be subsequently amended to reflect any change in exposure or reinsurance costs not considered in 6 the quotation. An exact and unaltered copy of such notice shall 7 8 also be sent to the insured's broker, if known, or the agent of 9 record. If an insurer fails to provide the notice required by 10 this subsection, then the company must extend the current 11 policy under the same terms, conditions, and premium to allow 12 60 days notice of renewal and provide the actual renewal premium quotation and any change in coverage or deductible on 13 the policy. Proof of mailing or proof of receipt may be proven 14 15 by a sworn affidavit by the insurer as to the usual and 16 customary business practices of mailing notice pursuant to this 17 Section or may be proven consistent with Illinois Supreme Court Rule 236. 18

19 c. Should a company fail to comply with the non-renewal 20 notice requirements of subsection a., the policy shall be extended for an additional year or until the effective date of 21 any similar insurance procured by the insured, whichever is 22 23 less, on the same terms and conditions as the policy sought to be terminated, unless the insurer has manifested its intention 24 to renew at a different premium that represents an increase not 25 26 exceeding 30%.

d. Renewal of a policy does not constitute a waiver or
estoppel with respect to grounds for cancellation which existed
before the effective date of such renewal.

e. In all notices of intention not to renew any policy of
 insurance, as defined in Section 143.11 the company shall
 provide a specific explanation of the reasons for nonrenewal.

33 <u>f. For purposes of this Section, the insured's broker, if</u> 34 <u>known, or the agent of record and the mortgagee or lien holder</u> 35 <u>may opt to accept notification electronically.</u>

36 (Source: P.A. 93-477, eff. 8-8-03.)

SB3006

SB3006 - 8 - LRB093 20992 SAS 46991 b

Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
 becoming law.