S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

3309

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N S E N A T E

March 16, 2009

Introduced by Sen. OPPENHEIMER -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Investigations and Government Operations

AN ACT to amend the executive law, in relation to the powers and duties of the attorney general with respect to consumers of health insurance

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Section 63 of the executive law is amended by adding four new subdivisions 16, 17, 18 and 19 to read as follows:

16. ADVOCATE FOR HEALTH INSURANCE CONSUMERS BY MONITORING CONSUMERS' ACCESS TO COMPREHENSIVE, ACCURATE INFORMATION ON HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OPTIONS AND RESPONDING TO CONSUMERS' COMPLAINTS ABOUT COVERAGE AND CLAIMS SETTLEMENT DETERMINATIONS BY HEALTH INSURERS.

17. ASSIST CONSUMERS IN THE STATE IN CHOOSING AMONG HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE OPTIONS.

18. PROVIDE COUNSELING AND ASSISTANCE TO ENROLLEES DISSATISFIED WITH THEIR TREATMENT BY HEALTH INSURERS IN REGARD TO THEIR COVERAGE AND IN THE FILING OF COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS REGARDING DETERMINATIONS UNDER SUCH COVERAGE.

19. INVESTIGATE INSTANCES OF POOR QUALITY OR IMPROPER TREATMENT OF ENROLLEES BY HEALTH INSURERS IN REGARD TO COVERAGE AND TO BRING SUCH INSTANCES TO THE ATTENTION OF THE APPLICABLE STATE AUTHORITY.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

LBD09275-01-9