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

9645

I N A S S E M B L Y

March 22, 2012

Introduced by M. of A. MORELLE -- read once and referred to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to requiring arbitration for no fault claims under the comprehensive motor vehicle reparations act

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

Section 1. Subsection (b) of section 5106 of the insurance law, as amended by chapter 452 of the laws of 2005, is amended to read as follows:

(b) [Every insurer shall provide a claimant with the option of submitting any dispute] ALL DISPUTES involving the insurer's liability to pay first party benefits, or additional first party benefits, the amount thereof or any other matter which may arise pursuant to subsection (a) of this section SHALL BE SUBMITTED to arbitration pursuant to simplified procedures to be promulgated or approved by the superintendent. Such simplified procedures shall include an expedited eligibility hearing option, when required, to designate the insurer for first party benefits pursuant to subsection (d) of this section. The expedited eligibility hearing option shall be a forum for eligibility disputes only, and shall not include the submission of any particular bill, payment or claim for any specific benefit for adjudication, nor shall it consider any other defense to payment.

S 2. This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to all actions and proceedings commenced on or after such date; and shall also apply to any action or proceeding which was commenced prior to such effective date where, as of such date, a trial of the issues has not yet commenced.

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

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