STATE OF NEW YORK

5806

2017-2018 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

May 1, 2017

Introduced by Sen. SEWARD -- (at request of the Department of Financial Services) -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Insurance

AN ACT to amend the insurance law in relation to extending provisions of the property/casualty insurance availability act

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Section 2342 of the insurance law, as amended by section 6 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

§ 2342. Expiration of certain provisions. The provisions of subsection (c) of section two thousand three hundred seven, section two thousand three hundred eight, subsection (a) of section two thousand three hundred ten, sections two thousand three hundred sixteen, two thousand three hundred twenty, two thousand three hundred twenty-three, two thousand three hundred twenty-six, and two thousand three hundred thirty-five, and subsection (b) of section two thousand three hundred thirty-six of this article shall cease to be of any force or effect during the period August third, two thousand one through the day before the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty.

§ 2. Subsection (f) of section 2305 of the insurance law, as amended by section 4 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

(f) Subsection (a) of this section shall be of no force or effect during the period August third, two thousand one through the day before the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty. During the period August third, two thousand one through the day before the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and again commencing on July first, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty, all rates

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

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previously subject to subsection (a) of this section, other than rates that are not required to be filed pursuant to subsection (b) of section two thousand three hundred ten of this article or that have been suspended from the filing requirement pursuant to section two thousand three hundred eleven of this article, shall become subject to subsections (b), (c) and (d) of this section. All other provisions of this article applicable to kinds of insurance or insurance activities the rates for which are subject to prior approval under subsection (b) of this section shall apply to kinds of insurance the rates for which were previously subject to subsection (a) of this section or the rates for which are not required to be filed pursuant to subsection (b) of section two thousand three hundred ten of this article or the rates for which have been suspended from the filing requirement pursuant to section two thousand three hundred eleven of this article.

§ 3. Subsection (h) of section 2344 of the insurance law, as amended by section 7 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

(h) This section shall cease to be of any force or effect during the period August third, two thousand one through the day before the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] **twenty**, except that rates shall reflect the likely reductive cost effects reasonably attributable to the statutory provisions specified in paragraph one of subsection (g) of this section.

§ 4. Paragraphs 1 and 2 and the opening paragraph of paragraph 3 of subsection (m) of section 3425 of the insurance law, as amended by section 3 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, are amended to read as follows:

(1) Paragraphs eight and nine of subsection (a), subsection (f) and subparagraphs (B) and (E) of paragraph one of subsection (j) of this section shall not apply to any new covered policy of automobile insurance voluntarily written on or after August first, nineteen hundred eighty-five and prior to January first, nineteen hundred eighty-six, and on or after August second, two thousand one and prior to the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and on or after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] **twenty**, but the legal rights granted to insurers or policyholders under such provisions shall not be extinguished or impaired thereby.

(2) In lieu of such provisions, paragraph seven of subsection (a), subparagraph (A) of paragraph one of subsection (j) **of this section** and paragraph three of this subsection shall apply to such automobile insurance policies that are newly and voluntarily written to have an effective date on or after August first, nineteen hundred eighty-five and prior to January first, nineteen hundred eighty-six, and on or after August second, two thousand one and prior to the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and on or after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] **twenty**.

On and after August first, nineteen hundred eighty-five and prior to January first, nineteen hundred eighty-six, and on or after August second, two thousand one and prior to the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act, and on or after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] **twenty**, no notice of nonrenewal or conditional renewal of such covered automobile insurance policies referred to in this subsection shall be issued to become effective during the required policy period unless it is based upon a ground for which the policy could have been cancelled or unless it is based upon

one or more of the following grounds that occurred during the thirty-six month period ending on the last day of the fourth month preceding the month of the effective date of such notice of nonrenewal or conditional renewal:

§ 5. Sections 2328 and 2329 of the insurance law, as amended by section 1 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, are amended to read as follows:

§ 2328. Certain motor vehicle insurance rates; prior approval. For the periods February first, nineteen hundred seventy-four through August second, two thousand one, and the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act through June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty, no changes in rates, rating plans, rating rules and rate manuals applicable to motor vehicle insurance, including no-fault coverages under article fifty-one of this chapter, shall be made effective until approved by the superintendent, notwithstanding any inconsistent provisions of this article; provided, however, that changes in such rates, rating plans, rating rules and rate manuals may be made effective without such approval if the rates that result from such changes are no higher than the insurer's rates last approved by the superintendent. This section shall apply only to policies covering losses or liabilities arising out of ownership of a motor vehicle used principally for the transportation of persons for hire, including a bus or a school bus as defined in sections one hundred four and one hundred forty-two of the vehicle and traffic law.

§ 2329. Motor vehicle insurance rates; excess profits. In accordance with regulations prescribed by the superintendent, each insurer issuing policies that are subject to article fifty-one of this chapter, including policies of motor vehicle personal injury liability insurance or policies of motor vehicle property damage liability insurance or insurance for loss or damage to a motor vehicle, shall establish a fair, practicable, and nondiscriminatory plan for refunding or otherwise crediting to those purchasing such policies their share of the insurer's excess profit, if any, on such policies. An excess profit shall be a profit beyond a percentage rate of return on net worth attributable to such policies, computed in accordance with the regulation required by section two thousand three hundred twenty-three of this article, and determined by the superintendent to be so far above a reasonable average profit as to amount to an excess profit, taking into consideration the fact that losses or profits below a reasonable average profit will not be recouped from such policyholders. Each plan shall apply to policy periods for the periods January first, nineteen hundred seventy-four through August second, two thousand one, and the effective date of the property/casualty insurance availability act through June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty. In prescribing such regulations the superintendent may limit the duration of such plans, waive any requirement for refund or credit that he or she determines to be de minimis or impracticable, adopt forms of returns that shall be made to him or her in order to establish the amount of any refund or credit due, establish periods and times for the determination and distribution of refunds and credits, and shall provide that insurers receive appropriate credit against any refunds or credits required by any such plan for policyholder dividends and for return premiums that may be due under rate credit or retrospective rating plans based on experience.

§ 6. Subsection (g) of section 5412 of the insurance law, as amended by section 8 of part B of chapter 78 of the laws of 2014, is amended to read as follows:

(g) The provisions of this section shall cease to be of any force or effect on or after June thirtieth, two thousand [~~seventeen~~] twenty, except that policies issued or other obligations incurred by the association shall not be impaired by the expiration of this section and the association shall continue for the purpose of servicing such policies and performing such obligations.

§ 7. This act shall take effect immediately.