

INSURANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

April 22, 2003

Committee Members Present: Jim Davis, Steve Dixon, Krista Fischer, Dean Kortge;

Committee Members Absent: Justin Delaney, Richard Kingsley, Ellen Lowe, John Powell, Lisa Trussell, Wendy VanElverdinghe;

Insurance Division Staff Present: Joel Ario, Jann Goodpaster, Lewis Littlehailes, Carmen Mendiola, Michael Morter, Carol Simila;

Others Present: Jack Burns, Matt Kish, Brenda Noble;

1. Division Update

Organizational update - Joel Ario reported that due to PERS early retirements we are in the process of filling the Senior Policy Advisor, the Casualty Actuary, and the Rates and Forms Manager positions. Maxi McKibben will be retiring at the end of May.

We are now sending e-mail notifications for Bulletins, Rules and announcements instead of hard copies. The Department is looking at streamlining as a priority issue, but not to change the overall objective of regulation.

Publication update – On behalf of John Piper - Carol S. reported that we have several publications out in Spanish. One is the “Basic Help for Auto Insurance” brochure. We also updated our SHIBA Long-Term-Care and the Medigap Guides. All of our publications will be featured in black and white as a cost saving measure. The Homeowner Insurance Guide is at the printer’s and we are also updating the Health Insurance Guide. If anyone has ideas or changes for the Health Guide let Carol know. The Regulator was published in March; the next issue will be published in June.

Administrative Rules update – Lewis reported that we have adopted the following rules:

- ID02 – Standards for safeguarding consumer information
- ID03 - Prescription drug identification cards.

Upcoming rules in respect to Health Insurance are:

- HB2306 – Standard requirements for HIPPA
- Suitability
- Health Insurance relating to discretionary clauses.

Legislature update – Joel reported that three out of four bills that the Insurance Division is sponsoring are out of the Senate.

- SB235 – Banking and Insurance Bill
- SB252 – General Purpose Bill
- SB253 - Agent licensing and compensation Bill

The SB236 - Contraceptive Parity Bill did not get out of Senate - it did get a hearing.

Other Insurance-related legislation:

- HB2021 - health care service contractors – still in committee- to go to floor
- HB2836 – insurance surcharges - still in committee- to go to floor
- SB1- mental health parity - still in committee- to go to floor
- HB2043 – pay-as-you-drive auto insurance - is up for vote in House.
- HB2987 – health benefits plans
- SB3431- individual health insurance

2. Life and Health Issues

Patient Protection Act – Jim Davis reported that he introduced five PPA bills. They are dead and never had a hearing in Legislature but his goal is to reintroduce them:

- HB3294 – medical informed consent
- The right to sue –a managed care insurer
- HB3182 – volunteer Ombudsman /Long-Term-Care ombudsman outreach program.
- HB3321 – Ban on incentives to deny medical care.
- Choice of providers Bill – Jim rewrote this Bill.

He would like to have a consumer outreach program in regards to HB3182. Also public access to rate-making information. The Division has been open to this idea in the past; Industry may want to participate in this project.

3. Property and Casualty Issues

Credit scoring – Steve Dixon reported three bills on credit scoring introduced this session:

- SB260 – use of consumer credit information
- SB280 – use of credit history for personal insurance
- SB314 – use of consumer credit information by insurers – this bill never got a hearing OSPIRG supports the ban, as do The Christian Coalition of Oregon and the Oregon Law Center.

4. Future Topics

Consumer-friendly on-line access to rate-making – Jim Davis
Legislative update.

5. Meeting Adjourned at 11AM