Session of 2011

HOUSE BILL No. 2074

By Committee on Insurance

1-24

1 AN ACT concerning insurance rate filings; pertaining to the disclosure of 2 certain information; amending K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 40-955 and 3 repealing the existing section.

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Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:

Section 1. K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 40-955 is hereby amended to read as 6 follows: 40-955. (a) Every insurer shall file with the commissioner, 7 except as to inland marine risks where general custom of the industry is 8 not to use manual rates or rating plans, every manual of classifications. 9 10 rules and rates, every rating plan, policy form and every modification of any of the foregoing which it proposes to use. Every such filing shall 11 12 indicate the proposed effective date and the character and extent of the coverage contemplated and shall be accompanied by the information 13 upon which the insurer supports the filings. A filing and any supporting 14 15 information shall be open to public inspection after it is filed with the commissioner, except that disclosure shall not be required for any 16 17 information contained in a filing or in any supporting documentation for the filing when such information is either a trade secret or copyrighted. 18 For the purposes of this section, the term "trade secret" shall have the 19 meaning ascribed to it in K.S.A. 60-3320, and amendments thereto. An 20 21 insurer may satisfy its obligations to make such filings by authorizing the 22 commissioner to accept on its behalf the filings made by a licensed rating 23 organization or another insurer. Nothing contained in this act shall be 24 construed to require any insurer to become a member or subscriber of any 25 rating organization.

26 (b) Certificate of insurance forms must be filed with the 27 commissioner of insurance and approved prior to use. Notwithstanding the "large risk" filing exemption in subsection (j), a certificate of 28 insurance cannot be used to modify, alter or amend the insurance policy it 29 describes. The certificate of insurance shall contain the following or 30 similar language: The certificate of insurance neither affirmatively nor 31 negatively amends, extends or alters the coverage afforded by the policies 32 listed thereon. An industry standard setting organization may be 33 authorized by the commissioner of insurance to file certificate of 34 35 insurance forms on behalf of authorized insurers.

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(c) Any rate filing for the basic coverage required by K.S.A. 40-

1 3401 et seq. and amendments thereto, loss costs filings for workers 2 compensation, and rates for assigned risk plans established by article 21 3 of chapter 40 of the Kansas Statutes Annotated or rules and regulations 4 established by the commissioner shall require approval by the 5 commissioner before its use by the insurer in this state. As soon as reasonably possible after such filing has been made, the commissioner 6 7 shall in writing approve or disapprove the same, except that any filing 8 shall be deemed approved unless disapproved within 30 days of receipt of 9 the filing.

10 (d) Any other rate filing, except personal lines filings, shall become effective on filing or any prospective date selected by the insurer, subject 11 to the commissioner disapproving the same if the rates are determined to 12 be inadequate, excessive, unfairly discriminatory or otherwise fails to 13 meet the requirements of this act. Personal lines rate filings shall be on 14 file for a waiting period of 30 days before becoming effective, subject to 15 the commissioner disapproving the same if the rates are determined to be 16 17 inadequate, excessive, unfairly discriminatory or otherwise fail to meet 18 requirements of this act. The term "personal lines" shall mean insurance 19 for noncommercial automobile, homeowners, dwelling fire-and-renters insurance policies, as defined by the commissioner by rules and 20 regulations. A filing complies with this act unless it is disapproved by the 21 22 commissioner within the waiting period or pursuant to subsection (f).

(e) In reviewing any rate filing the commissioner may require the
insurer or rating organization to provide, at the insurer's or rating
organization's expense, all information necessary to evaluate the
reasonableness of the filing, to include payment of the cost of an actuary
selected by the commissioner to review any rate filing, if the department
of insurance does not have a staff actuary in its employ.

(f) (1) (A) If a filing is not accompanied by the information required by this act, the commissioner shall promptly inform the company or organization making the filing. The filing shall be deemed to be complete when the required information is received by the commissioner or the company or organization certifies to the commissioner the information requested is not maintained by the company or organization and cannot be obtained.

36 (B) If the commissioner finds a filing does not meet the 37 requirements of this act, the commissioner shall send to the insurer or 38 rating organization that made the filing, written notice of disapproval of 39 the filing, specifying in what respects the filing fails to comply and 40 stating the filing shall not become effective.

41 (C) If at any time after a filing becomes effective, the commissioner 42 finds a filing does not comply with this act, the commissioner shall after a 43 hearing held on not less than 10 days' written notice to every insurer and 1 rating organization that made the filing issue an order specifying in what 2 respects the filing failed to comply with the act, and stating when, within

a reasonable period thereafter, the filing shall be no longer effective.
Copies of the order shall be sent to such insurer or rating organization.
The order shall not affect any contract or policy made or issued prior to
the expiration of the period set forth in the order.

7 (2) (A) In the event an insurer or organization has no legally 8 effective rate because of an order disapproving rates, the commissioner 9 shall specify an interim rate at the time the order is issued. The interim 10 rate may be modified by the commissioner on the commissioner's own 11 motion or upon motion of an insurer or organization.

(B) The interim rate or any modification thereof shall take effect
 prospectively in contracts of insurance written or renewed 15 days after
 the commissioner's decision setting interim rates.

15 (C) When the rates are finally determined, the commissioner shall 16 order any overcharge in the interim rates to be distributed appropriately, 17 except refunds to policyholders the commissioner determines are de 18 minimis may not be required.

(3) (A) Any person or organization aggrieved with respect to any
filing that is in effect may make written application to the commissioner
for a hearing thereon, except that the insurer or rating organization that
made the filing may not proceed under this subsection. The application
shall specify the grounds to be relied on by the applicant.

(B) If the commissioner finds the application is made in good faith, that the applicant would be so aggrieved if the applicant's grounds are established, and that such grounds otherwise justify holding such a hearing, the commissioner shall, within 30 days after receipt of the application, hold a hearing on not less than 10 days' written notice to the applicant and every insurer and rating organization that made such filing.

30 (C) Every rating organization receiving a notice of hearing or copy 31 of an order under this section, shall promptly notify all its members or 32 subscribers affected by the hearing or order. Notice to a rating 33 organization of a hearing or order shall be deemed notice to its members 34 or subscribers.

(g) No insurer shall make or issue a contract or policy except in
 accordance with filings which have been filed or approved for such
 insurer as provided in this act.

(1) On an application for personal motor vehicle insurance where the
 applicant has applied for collision or comprehensive coverage, the
 applicant shall be allowed to identify a lienholder listed on the certificate
 of title for the motor vehicle described in the application.

42 (2) On an application for property insurance on real property, the 43 applicant shall be allowed to identify a mortgagee listed on a mortgage 4

1 for the real property described in the application.

2 (h) The commissioner may adopt rules and regulations to allow suspension or modification of the requirement of filing and approval of 3 4 rates as to any kind of insurance, subdivision or combination thereof, or as to classes of risks, the rates for which cannot practicably be filed 5 before they are used. 6

7 (i) Except for workers compensation and employer's liability line, 8 the following categories of commercial lines risks are considered special risks which are exempt from the filing requirements in this section: (1) 9 Risks that are written on an excess or umbrella basis; (2) commercial 10 risks, or portions thereof, that are not rated according to manuals, rating 11 plans, or schedules including "a" rates; (3) large risks; and (4) special 12 risks designated by the commissioner, including but not limited to risks 13 insured under highly protected risks rating plans, commercial aviation, 14 credit insurance, boiler and machinery, inland marine, fidelity, surety and 15 guarantee bond insurance risks. 16

17 (i) For the purposes of this subsection, "large risk" means: (1) An 18 insured that has total insured property values of \$5,000,000 or more; (2) 19 an insured that has total annual gross revenues of \$10,000,000 or more; or (3) an insured that has in the preceding calendar year a total paid 20 premium of \$50,000 or more for property insurance, \$50,000 or more for 21 22 general liability insurance, or \$100,000 or more for multiple lines 23 policies.

24 (k) The exemption for any large risk contained in subsection (h) 25 shall not apply to workers compensation and employer's liability 26 insurance, insurance purchasing groups, and the basic coverage required 27 by K.S.A. 40-3401 et seq., and amendments thereto.

(1) Underwriting files, premium, loss and expense statistics, financial 28 29 and other records pertaining to special risks written by any insurer shall 30 be maintained by the insurer and shall be subject to examination by the 31 commissioner. 32

K.S.A. 2010 Supp. 40-955 is hereby repealed. Sec. 2.

33 This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its Sec. 3. publication in the statute book. 34