A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1	SECTION 1. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
2	amended by adding a new article to be appropriately designated
3	and to read as follows:
4	"ARTICLE
5	MARKET CONDUCT SURVEILLANCE LAW
6	§431: -1 Legislative intent. The purpose of this
7	article is to establish a framework for insurance division
8	market conduct actions, including:
9	(1) Processes and systems for identifying, assessing, and
10	prioritizing market conduct problems that have a
11	substantial adverse impact on consumers,
12	policyholders, and claimants;
13	(2) Market conduct actions by the commissioner to
14	substantiate those market conduct problems and a means
15	to remedy significant market conduct problems; and
16	(3) Procedures to communicate and coordinate market
17	conduct actions among states to foster the most
18	efficient and effective use of resources.

- 1 §431: -2 Definitions. As used in this article, unless
 2 the context indicates otherwise:
- 3 "Commissioner" means the insurance commissioner.
- 4 "Complaint" means a written or documented oral
- 5 communication to the insurance division primarily expressing a
- 6 grievance, meaning an expression of dissatisfaction. For health
- 7 companies, a grievance is a written complaint submitted by or on
- 8 behalf of a covered person.
- 9 "Comprehensive market conduct examination" means a review
- 10 of one or more lines of business of an insurer domiciled in this
- 11 State that is not conducted for cause. The term includes a
- 12 review of rating, tier classification, underwriting,
- 13 policyholder service, claims, marketing and sales, producer
- 14 licensing, complaint handling practices, or compliance
- 15 procedures and policies.
- "Insurance compliance audit" means a voluntary, internal
- 17 evaluation, review, assessment, audit, or investigation for the
- 18 purpose of identifying or preventing noncompliance with, or
- 19 promoting compliance with laws, regulations, orders, or industry
- 20 or professional standards, which is conducted by or on behalf of
- 21 a company licensed or regulated under this code, or which
- 22 involves an activity regulated under this code.



1 "Insurance compliance self-evaluative audit document" means documents prepared as a result of or in connection with an 2 insurance compliance audit. An insurance compliance self-3 evaluative audit document may include a written response to the 4 findings of an insurance compliance audit. An insurance 5 compliance self-evaluative audit document may include, but is 6 7 not limited to, as applicable, field notes and records of observations, findings, opinions, suggestions, conclusions, 8 drafts, memoranda, drawings, photographs, exhibits, computer 9 generated or electronically recorded information, phone records, 10 11 maps, charts, graphs, and surveys; provided that this supporting 12 information is collected or developed for the primary purpose and in the course of an insurance compliance audit. 13 "Market conduct action" means any of the full range of 14 activities that the commissioner may initiate to assess the 15 16 market and practices of individual insurers, beginning with market analysis and extending to targeted examinations. 17 commissioner's activities to resolve an individual consumer 18 19 complaint or other reports of a specific instance of misconduct 20 are not market conduct actions for purposes of this article. 21 "Market analysis" means a process whereby market conduct surveillance personnel collect and analyze information from 22



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- 1 filed schedules, surveys, required reports, and other sources in
- 2 order to develop a baseline and to identify patterns or
- 3 practices of insurers licensed to do business in this State that
- 4 deviate significantly from the norm or that may pose a potential
- 5 risk to the insurance consumer.
- 6 "Market conduct examination" means the examination of the
- 7 insurance operations of an insurer licensed to do business in
- 8 this State in order to evaluate compliance with the applicable
- 9 laws and rules of this State. A market conduct examination may
- 10 be either a comprehensive examination or a targeted examination.
- 11 A market conduct examination is separate and distinct from a
- 12 financial examination of an insurer performed pursuant to
- 13 article 5, but may be conducted at the same time.
- "Market conduct surveillance personnel" means those
- 15 individuals employed or contracted by the commissioner to
- 16 collect, analyze, review or act on information on the insurance
- 17 marketplace, which identifies patterns or practices of insurers.
- 18 "National Association of Insurance Commissioners" means the
- 19 organization of insurance regulators from the fifty states, the
- 20 District of Columbia, and the four United States territories.
- "Qualified contract examiner" means a person under contract
- 22 to the commissioner, who is qualified by education, experience



- 1 and, where applicable, professional designations, to perform
- 2 market conduct actions.
- 3 "Targeted examination" means a focused exam conducted for
- 4 cause, based on the results of market analysis indicating the
- 5 need to review either a specific line of business or specific
- 6 business practices, including but not limited to, underwriting
- 7 and rating, marketing and sales, complaint handling operations,
- 8 advertising materials, licensing, policyholder services, non-
- 9 forfeitures, claims handling, or policy forms and filings. A
- 10 targeted examination may be conducted by desk examination or by
- 11 an on-site examination.
- "Third party model or product" means a model or product
- 13 provided by an entity separate from and not under direct or
- 14 indirect corporate control of the insurer using the model or
- 15 product.
- 16 §431: -3 Domestic responsibility and deference to other
- 17 states. (a) The commissioner is responsible for conducting
- 18 market conduct examinations for policyholder protection, which
- 19 shall be accomplished by comprehensive or targeted examinations
- 20 of domestic insurers and targeted examinations of foreign
- 21 insurers as deemed necessary by the commissioner, based on the
- 22 results of market analysis. The commissioner may delegate



- 1 responsibility for conducting an examination of a domestic
- 2 insurer, foreign insurer, or an affiliate of an insurer to the
- 3 insurance commissioner of another state if that state's
- 4 insurance commissioner agrees to accept the delegated
- 5 responsibility for the examination.
- **6** (b) The commissioner may delegate responsibility to a
- 7 commissioner of a state in which the domestic insurer, foreign
- 8 insurer, or affiliate has a significant number of policies or
- 9 significant premium volume, as determined by the commissioner by
- 10 rule.
- 11 (c) If the commissioner elects to delegate responsibility
- 12 for examining an insurer, the commissioner shall accept a report
- 13 of the examination prepared by the commissioner to whom the
- 14 responsibility has been delegated.
- 15 (d) In lieu of conducting a market conduct examination of
- 16 an insurer, the commissioner shall accept a report of a market
- 17 conduct examination on the insurer prepared by the insurance
- 18 commissioner of the insurer's state of domicile or another
- 19 state, provided:
- 20 (1) The laws of that state applicable to the subject of
- the examination are deemed by the commissioner to be
- 22 substantially similar to those of this State;



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1	(2)	The examining state has a market conduct surveillance
2		system that the commissioner deems comparable to the
3		market conduct surveillance system required under this
4		article; and

- 5 (3) The examination from the other state's commissioner6 has been conducted within the past three years.
 - (e) If the insurance commissioner to whom the examination responsibility was delegated pursuant to subsection (a) or the report of a market conduct examination prepared by the insurance commissioner of another state pursuant to subsection (d), did not evaluate the specific area or issue of concern to the commissioner, the commissioner may pursue a targeted examination or market analysis of the unexamined area pursuant to this article.
- (f) The commissioner's determination under subsection (d)
 is discretionary and is not subject to appeal.
 - (g) Subject to a determination under subsection (d), if a market conduct examination conducted by another state results in a finding that an insurer should modify a specific practice or procedure, the commissioner shall accept documentation that the insurer has made a similar modification in this State, in lieu of initiating a market conduct action or examination related to

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- 1 that practice or procedure. The commissioner may require other
- 2 or additional practice or procedure modifications as are
- 3 necessary to achieve compliance with specific state laws or
- 4 regulations, which differ substantially from those of the state
- 5 that conducted the examination.
- 6 §431: -4 Market analysis procedures. (a) The
- 7 commissioner shall gather information from data currently
- 8 available to the insurance division, as well as surveys and
- 9 required reporting requirements, information collected by the
- 10 National Association of Insurance Commissioners and a variety of
- 11 other sources in both the public and private sectors, and
- 12 information from within and outside the insurance industry from
- 13 objective sources, information from websites for insurers,
- 14 agents and other organizations and information from other
- 15 sources, provided the sources are published at least annually in
- 16 a bulletin or circular, prior to use.
- 17 The information shall be analyzed in order to develop a
- 18 baseline understanding of the marketplace and to identify for
- 19 further review insurers or practices that deviate significantly
- 20 from the norm or that may pose a potential risk to the insurance
- 21 consumer. The commissioner shall use procedures, adopted by
- 22 rule, that are substantially similar to the National Association



- 1 of Insurance Commissioners' Market Analysis Handbook as one
 2 resource in performing this analysis.
 3 The commissioner shall use the following policies and
- 4 procedures in performing the analysis required under this
- 5 section:
- 6 (1) Identify key lines of business for systematic review;
- 7 and
- 8 (2) Identify companies for further analysis based on9 available information.
- 10 (b) If the analysis compels the commissioner to inquire
- 11 further into a particular insurer or practice, the following
- 12 continuum of market conduct actions may be considered prior to
- 13 conducting a targeted, on-site market conduct examination. The
- 14 action selected shall be made known to the insurer in writing.
- 15 These actions may include, but are not limited to:
- 16 (1) Correspondence with the insurer;
- 17 (2) Insurer interviews;
- 18 (3) Information gathering;
- 19 (4) Policy and procedure reviews;
- 20 (5) Interrogatories; and
- 21 (6) Review of insurer self-evaluation and compliance
- programs, including membership in an organization such



1	as a best-practice organization that has as its
2	central mission the promotion of high ethical
3	standards in the marketplace.
4	(c) The commissioner shall select a market conduct action
5	that is cost effective for the insurance division and the
6	insurer, while still protecting the insurance consumer.
7	(d) The commissioner shall take those steps reasonably
8	necessary to eliminate requests for information that duplicate
9	information provided as part of an insurer's annual financial
10	statement, the annual market conduct statement of the National
11	Association of Insurance Commissioners, or other required
12	schedules, surveys, or reports that are regularly submitted to
13	the commissioner, or with data requests made by other states if
14	that information is available to the commissioner, unless the
15	information is state specific, and coordinate market conduct
16	actions and findings with other states.
17	(e) Causes or conditions, if identified through market
18	analysis, that may trigger a targeted examination, are:
19	(1) Information obtained from a market conduct annual
20	statement, market survey or report of financial
21	examination indicating potential fraud, that the
22	insurer is conducting the business of insurance

1		without a license or is engaged in a potential pattern
2		of unfair trade practice in violation of article 13;
3	(2)	A number of complaints against the insurer or a
4		complaint ratio sufficient to indicate potential
5		fraud, conducting the business of insurance without a
6		license, or a potential pattern of unfair trade
7		practice in violation of article 13. For the purposes
8		of this section, a complaint ratio shall be determined
9		for each line of business;
10	(3)	Information obtained from other objective sources,
11		such as published advertising materials indicating
12		potential fraud, conducting the business of insurance
13		without a license, or evidencing a potential pattern
14		of unfair trade practice in violation of article 13;
15		or
16	(4)	Patterns of violations of this chapter and the rules
17		adopted thereunder regarding rate filings, form
18		filings, and termination requirements.
19	§ 431	: -5 Protocols for market conduct actions. (a)
20	Market co	nduct actions taken as a result of a market analysis
21	shall foc	us on the general business practices and compliance

- 1 activities of insurers, rather than identifying infrequent or
- 2 unintentional random errors that do not cause consumer harm.
- 3 (b) The commissioner is authorized to determine the
- 4 frequency and timing of such market conduct actions. The timing
- 5 shall depend upon the specific market conduct action to be
- 6 initiated, unless extraordinary circumstances indicating a risk
- 7 to consumers require immediate action.
- 8 If the commissioner has information that more than one
- 9 insurer is engaged in common practices that may violate the law,
- 10 the commissioner may schedule and coordinate multiple
- 11 examinations simultaneously.
- 12 (c) The insurer shall be notified of any practice or
- 13 procedure which is to be the subject of a market conduct action
- 14 and shall be given an opportunity to resolve such matters that
- 15 arise as a result of a market analysis to the satisfaction of
- 16 the commissioner before any additional market conduct actions
- 17 are taken against the insurer. If the insurer has modified the
- 18 practice or procedure as a result of a market conduct action
- 19 taken by the commissioner of another state, the commissioner
- 20 shall accept appropriate documentation that the insurer has
- 21 satisfactorily modified the practice or procedure and made



- 1 similar modification to such practice or procedure in this
- 2 State.
- 3 §431: -6 Protocols for targeted market conduct
- 4 examinations. (a) When market analysis identifies a pattern of
- 5 conduct or practice by an insurer which requires further
- 6 investigation, and less intrusive market conduct actions
- 7 identified in section 431: -4(b) are not appropriate, the
- 8 commissioner has the discretion to conduct targeted, market
- 9 conduct examinations in accordance with procedures, adopted by
- 10 rule, that are substantially similar to the National Association
- 11 of Insurance Commissioners' Market Conduct Uniform Examination
- 12 Procedures and the Market Regulation Handbook.
- (b) If the insurer to be examined is not a domestic
- 14 insurer, the commissioner shall communicate with and may
- 15 coordinate the examination with the insurance commissioner of
- 16 the state in which the insurer is organized.
- 17 (c) Concomitant with the notification requirements
- 18 established in subsection (e), the commissioner shall post
- 19 notification on the National Association of Insurance
- 20 Commissioners' Examination Tracking System, or comparable
- 21 product as determined by the commissioner, that a market conduct
- 22 examination has been scheduled.



1 (d) The commissioner may not conduct a comprehensive market conduct examination more frequently than once every three 2 years. The commissioner may waive conducting a comprehensive 3 4 market conduct examination based on market analysis. 5 (e) Prior to commencement of a targeted on-site market conduct examination, market conduct surveillance personnel shall 6 prepare a work plan and proposed budget. The proposed budget, 7 which shall be reasonable for the scope of the examination, and 8 9 work plan, shall be provided to the company under examination. Market conduct examinations shall, to the extent feasible, 10 utilize desk examinations and data requests prior to a targeted 11 on-site examination. 12 Market conduct examinations shall be conducted in 13 accordance with the provisions set forth in procedures, adopted 14 by rule, that are substantially similar to the National 15 Association of Insurance Commissioners' Market Regulation 16 Handbook and the National Association of Insurance 17 Commissioners' Market Conduct Uniform Examinations Procedures. 18 19 Prior to the conclusion of a market conduct examination, the individual among the market conduct surveillance personnel 20

who is designated as the examiner-in-charge shall schedule an

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exit conference with the insurer.

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1	(f)	Announcement of the examination shall be sent to the
2	insurer a	nd posted on the National Association of Insurance
3	Commissio	ners' Examination Tracking System or comparable
4	product,	as determined by the commissioner, as soon as possible
5	but in no	case later than sixty days before the estimated
6	commencem	ent of the examination. The announcement shall
7	contain:	
8	(1)	The name and address of the insurer being examined;
9	(2)	The name and contact information of the examiner-in-
10		charge;
11	(3)	The reason for and the scope of the targeted
12		examination;
13	(4)	The date the examination is scheduled to begin;
14	(5)	Identification of any non-insurance department
15		personnel who will assist in the examination, if known
16		at the time the notice is prepared;
17	(6)	A time estimate for the examination;
18	(7)	A budget and work plan for the examination and
19		identification of reasonable and necessary costs and
20		fees that will be included in the bill, if the cost of
21		the examination is billed to the company; and

- (8) A request for the insurer to name its examination
 coordinator.
- 3 (g) If a targeted examination is expanded beyond the4 reasons provided to the insurer in the notice of the examination
- 5 required under this section, the commissioner shall provide
- 6 written notice to the insurer, explaining the extent of the
- 7 expansion and the reasons for the expansion. The department
- 8 shall provide a revised work plan to the insurer before the
- 9 beginning of any significantly expanded examination, unless
- 10 extraordinary circumstances indicating a risk to consumers
- 11 require immediate action.
- 12 (h) The commissioner shall conduct a pre-examination
- 13 conference with the insurer examination coordinator and key
- 14 personnel to clarify expectations thirty days prior to
- 15 commencement of the examination.
- 16 (i) The department shall use the National Association of
- 17 Insurance Commissioners' Standard Data Request or comparable
- 18 product.
- 19 A company responding to a commissioner's request to produce
- 20 information shall produce it as it is kept in the usual course
- 21 of business or shall organize and label it to correspond with
- 22 the categories in the demand.



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If a	commissioner's request does not specify the form or
forms for	producing electronically stored information, a company
responding	g to the request must produce the information in a form
or forms	in which the company ordinarily maintains it or in a
form or fo	orms that are reasonably usable.
A cor	mpany responding to an information request need not
produce th	ne same electronically stored information in more than
one form.	
A cor	mpany responding to an information request need not
provide th	ne electronically stored information from sources that
the compar	ny identifies as not reasonably accessible because of
undue bur	den or cost.
(j)	The commissioner shall adhere to the following
timeline,	unless a mutual agreement is reached with the insurer
to modify	the timeline:
(1)	The commissioner shall deliver the draft report to the
	insurer within sixty days of the completion of the
	examination. Completion of the examination shall be
	defined as the date the commissioner confirms in
	writing that the examination is completed;
	forms for responding or forms if form or forms if form or form. A comproduce the one form. A comprovide the the companion undue burd (j) timeline, to modify

(2) The insurer must respond with written comments within

thirty days of receipt of the draft report;

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(3)	The insurance division shall make a good faith effort
	to resolve issues and prepare a final report within
	thirty days of receipt of the insurer's written
	comments, unless a mutual agreement is reached to
	extend the deadline. The commissioner may make
	corrections and other changes, as appropriate; and

(4) The insurer shall, within thirty days, accept the final report, accept the findings of the report, file written comments, or request a hearing. An additional thirty days shall be allowed if agreed to by the commissioner and the insurer. Any such hearing request must be made in writing and must follow chapter 91.

The final written and electronic market conduct report shall include the insurer's written response and any agreed-to corrections or changes. The response may be included either as an appendix or in text of the examination report. The company is not obligated to submit a response. References to specific individuals by name shall be limited to an acknowledgement of their involvement in the conduct of the examination.

(k) Upon adoption of the examination report pursuant to subsection (j), the commissioner shall continue to hold the



content of the examination report as private and confidential 1 for a period of thirty days, except as provided in this 2 subsection. During this time, the report shall not be subject 3 to subpoena and shall not be subject to discovery or admissible 4 5 in evidence in any private action, provided no court of competent jurisdiction has ordered production. Thereafter, the 6 commissioner shall open the report for public inspection, 7 provided no court of competent jurisdiction has stayed its 8 publication. This section shall not be construed to limit the 9 commissioner's authority to use any final or preliminary market 10 11 conduct examination report, and examiner or company work papers 12 or other documents, or any other information discovered or 13 developed during the course of an examination in the furtherance of any legal or regulatory action that the commissioner, in the 14 commissioner's sole discretion may deem appropriate. 15 Nothing contained in this article shall prevent or be 16 construed as preventing the commissioner from disclosing the 17 content of an examination report, preliminary examination report 18 or results, or any matter relating thereto, to the insurance 19 division of this or any other state or agency of the federal 20 government at any time, provided the agency or office receiving 21

- 1 the report or matters relating thereto agrees to hold it
- 2 confidential and in a manner consistent with this article.
- 3 (1) Where the reasonable and necessary cost and fees of a
- 4 market conduct examination are to be assessed against the
- 5 insurer under examination, the costs and fees shall be
- 6 consistent with that otherwise authorized by law. Costs and
- 7 fees shall be itemized and bills shall be provided to the
- 8 insurer on a monthly basis for review prior to submission for
- 9 payment.
- 10 The commissioner shall maintain active management and
- 11 oversight of examination costs and fees, including costs and
- 12 fees associated with the use of insurance division personnel and
- 13 examiners and with retaining qualified contract examiners
- 14 necessary to perform an examination. To the extent the
- 15 commissioner retains outside assistance, the commissioner must
- 16 have in writing protocols that:
- 17 (1) Clearly identify the types of functions to be subject
- 18 to outsourcing;
- 19 (2) Provide specific timelines for completion of the
- 21 (3) Require disclosure of contract examiners'
- 22 recommendations;



1	(4) Establish and utilize a dispute resolution or
2	arbitration mechanism to resolve conflicts with
3	insurers regarding examination costs and fees; and
4	(5) Require disclosure of the terms of the contracts with
5	the outside consultants that will be used,
6	specifically the costs and fees or hourly rates, or
7	both that can be charged.
8	The commissioner shall review and affirmatively endorse
9	detailed billings from the qualified contract examiner before
10	the detailed billings are sent to the insurer.
11	The commissioner may contract in accordance with applicable
12	state contracting procedures, for qualified contract actuaries
13	and examiners as the commissioner deems necessary, provided that
14	the compensation and per diem allowances paid to the contract
15	persons shall not exceed one hundred twenty-five per cent of the
16	compensation and per diem allowances for examiners set forth in
17	the guidelines adopted by the National Association of Insurance
18	Commissioners, unless the commissioner demonstrates that one
19	hundred twenty-five per cent is inadequate under the
20	circumstances of the examination.
21	§431: -7 Confidentiality requirements. (a) Except as
22	otherwise provided by law, market conduct surveillance personnel



- 1 shall have free and full access to all books and records,
- 2 employees, officers and directors, as practicable, of the
- 3 insurer during regular business hours. An insurer utilizing a
- 4 third-party model or product for any of the activities under
- 5 examination shall cause, upon the request of market conduct
- 6 surveillance personnel, the details of those models or products
- 7 to be made available to those personnel. All documents, whether
- 8 from a third party or an insurer, including but not limited to
- 9 working papers, third party models or products, complaint logs,
- 10 and copies thereof, created, produced, or obtained by or
- 11 disclosed to the commissioner or any other person in the course
- 12 of any market conduct actions made pursuant to this article, or
- 13 in the course of market analysis by the commissioner of the
- 14 market conditions of an insurer, or obtained by the National
- 15 Association of Insurance Commissioners as a result of any of the
- 16 provisions of this article, shall be confidential by law and
- 17 privileged, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall not be
- 18 subject to discovery or admissible in evidence in any private
- 19 civil action.
- 20 (b) No waiver of any applicable privilege or claim of
- 21 confidentiality in the documents, materials, or information



1	shall	occur	as	a	result	of	disclosure	to	the	commissioner	under
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- 2 this section.
- 3 (c) Market conduct surveillance personnel shall be vested
- 4 with the power to issue subpoenas and examine insurance company
- 5 personnel under oath when such action is ordered by the
- 6 commissioner.
- 7 (d) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, the
- 8 Commissioner may:
- 9 (1) Share documents, materials, or other information,
- 10 including the confidential and privileged documents,
- 11 materials, or information subject to subsection (a),
- with other state, federal, and international
- 13 regulatory agencies and law enforcement authorities
- 14 and the National Association of Insurance
- 15 Commissioners and its affiliates and subsidiaries;
- 16 provided that the recipient agrees to and has the
- 17 legal authority to maintain the confidentiality and
- 18 privileged status of the document, material,
- 19 communication, or other information;
- 20 (2) Receive documents, materials, communications, or
- information, including otherwise confidential and
- 22 privileged documents, materials, or information, from



1		the National Association of Insurance Commissioners
2		and its affiliates or subsidiaries, and from
3		regulatory and law enforcement officials of other
4		foreign or domestic jurisdictions, and shall maintain
5		as confidential or privileged any document, material,
6		or information received with notice or the
7		understanding that it is confidential or privileged
8		under the laws of the jurisdiction that is the source
9		of the document, material, or information; and
10	(3)	Enter into agreements governing the sharing and use of
11		information consistent with this subsection; and
12	(4)	No insurer shall be compelled to disclose an insurance
13		compliance self-evaluative audit document or waive any
14		statutory or common law privilege, but may voluntarily
15		disclose such document to the commissioner in response
16		to any market analysis, market conduct action, or
17		examination as provided in this article.
18	§ 431	: -8 Market conduct surveillance personnel. (a)
19	Market co	nduct surveillance personnel shall be qualified by
20	education	, experience, and, where applicable, professional
21	designati	ons. The commissioner may supplement the in-house

market conduct surveillance staff with qualified outside

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- 1 professional assistance if the commissioner determines that
- 2 assistance is necessary.
- 3 (b) Market conduct surveillance personnel have a conflict
- 4 of interest, either directly or indirectly, if they are
- 5 affiliated with the management, have been employed by, or own a
- 6 pecuniary interest in the insurer subject to any examination
- 7 under this article within the most recent five years prior to
- 8 the use of the personnel. This section shall not be construed
- 9 to automatically preclude an individual from being:
- 10 (1) A policyholder or claimant under an insurance policy;
- 11 (2) A grantee of a mortgage or similar instrument on the
- individual's residence from a regulated entity if done
- under customary terms and in the ordinary course of
- 14 business;
- 15 (3) An investment owner in shares of regulated diversified
- investment companies; or
- 17 (4) A settlor or beneficiary of a "blind trust" into which
- any otherwise permissible holdings have been placed.
- 19 §431: -9 Immunity for market conduct surveillance
- 20 personnel. (a) No cause of action shall arise nor shall any
- 21 liability be imposed against the commissioner, the
- 22 commissioner's authorized representatives or an examiner



- 1 appointed by the commissioner for any statements made or conduct
- 2 performed in good faith while carrying out the provisions of
- 3 this article.
- 4 (b) No cause of action shall arise, nor shall any
- 5 liability be imposed against any person for the act of
- 6 communicating or delivering information or data to the
- 7 commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative or
- 8 examiner pursuant to an examination made under this article, if
- 9 the act of communication or delivery was performed in good faith
- 10 and without fraudulent intent or the intent to deceive.
- 11 (c) A person identified in subsection (a) shall be
- 12 entitled to an award of attorney's fees and costs if the person
- 13 is the prevailing party in a civil cause of action for libel,
- 14 slander, or any other relevant tort arising out of activities in
- 15 carrying out the provisions of this article and the party
- 16 bringing the action was not substantially justified in doing so.
- 17 For purposes of this section a proceeding is "substantially
- 18 justified" if it had a reasonable basis in law or fact at the
- 19 time that it was initiated.
- (d) This section does not abrogate or modify in any way
- 21 any common law or statutory privilege or immunity heretofore
- 22 enjoyed by any person identified in subsection (a).



- 1 §431: -10 Fines and penalties. (a) Fines and penalties
 2 levied pursuant to this article or other provisions of this
- 3 chapter shall be consistent, reasonable, and justified.
- 4 (b) The commissioner shall take into consideration actions
- 5 taken by insurers that maintain membership in best-practice
- 6 organizations that exist to promote high ethical standards of
- 7 conduct in the marketplace, and insurers that self assess, self-
- 8 report and remediate problems detected to mitigate fines levied
- 9 pursuant to this article.
- 10 §431: -11 Data collection and participation in national
- 11 market conduct databases. (a) The commissioner shall collect
- 12 and report market data to the market information systems of the
- 13 National Association of Insurance Commissioners, including the
- 14 complaint database system, the examination tracking system, and
- 15 the regulatory information retrieval system, or other comparable
- 16 successor products as determined by the commissioner. In
- 17 addition to complaint data, the accuracy of insurer-specific
- 18 information reported to the National Association of Insurance
- 19 Commissioners to be used for market analysis purposes or as the
- 20 basis for market conduct actions shall be reviewed by
- 21 appropriate personnel in the insurance department and by the
- 22 insurer.



- 1 (b) Information collected and maintained by the insurance
- 2 division shall be compiled in a manner that meets the
- 3 requirements of the National Association of Insurance
- 4 Commissioners.
- 5 (c) After completion of any level of market analysis,
- 6 prior to further market conduct action, the State shall contact
- 7 the insurer to review the analysis.
- **8** (d) A company responding to a commissioner's request to
- 9 produce information shall produce it as it is kept in the usual
- 10 course of business or shall organize and label it to correspond
- 11 with the categories in the demand.
- 12 If a commissioner's request does not specify the form or
- 13 forms for producing electronically stored information, a company
- 14 responding to the request must produce the information in a form
- 15 or forms in which the company ordinarily maintains it or in a
- 16 form or forms that are reasonably usable.
- 17 A company responding to an information request need not
- 18 produce the same electronically stored information in more than
- 19 one form.
- 20 A company responding to an information request need not
- 21 provide the electronically stored information from sources that



- 1 the company identifies as not reasonably accessible because of
- 2 undue burden or cost.
- 3 §431: -12 Coordination with other states through the
- 4 National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The
- 5 commissioner shall share information and coordinate the
- 6 insurance division's market analysis and examination efforts
- 7 with other states through the National Association of Insurance
- 8 Commissioners.
- 9 §431: -13 Additional duties of the commissioner. (a)
- 10 At least once per year, or more frequently if deemed necessary,
- 11 the commissioner shall make available in an appropriate manner
- 12 to insurers and other entities subject to the scope of this
- 13 chapter, information on new laws and rules, enforcement actions,
- 14 and other information the commissioner deems pertinent to ensure
- 15 compliance with market conduct requirements.
- 16 (b) The commissioner shall designate a specific person or
- 17 persons within the insurance division whose responsibilities
- 18 shall include the receipt of information from employees of
- 19 insurers and licensed entities concerning violations of laws, as
- 20 defined in this section. The person or persons shall be
- 21 provided with proper training on the handling of the

- 1 information, which shall be deemed a confidential communication
- 2 for the purposes of this section.
- 3 (c) For any change made to a work product referenced in
- 4 this article, which materially changes the way in which market
- 5 analysis, market conduct actions, or market conduct examinations
- 6 are conducted, the commissioner shall give notice and provide
- 7 parties with an opportunity for a public hearing pursuant to
- 8 chapter 91."
- 9 SECTION 2. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2007.

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INTRODUCED BY:

IML

JAN 1 7 2007

Report Title:

Insurance; Market Conduct

Description:

Enacts the National Conference of Insurance Legislators market conduct surveillance model law, which requires the insurance commissioner to conduct market conduct examinations of domestic and foreign insurers.