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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to part II of article 9 to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§431:9- Contracts between public adjuster and insured.**

(a) All contracts for services provided by a public adjuster shall be in writing and contain the following terms:

(1) Title of "Public Adjuster Contract";

(2) Description of services to be provided to the insured;

(3) Full salary, fee, commission, or other consideration the public adjuster is to receive for services;

(4) Initial expenses to be reimbursed to the public adjuster from the proceeds of the claim payment shall be specified by type, with dollar estimates set forth in the contract, and with any additional expenses first approved by the insured;

(5) Attestation language stating that the public adjuster is fully bonded pursuant to section 431:9-223;



- 1        (6) Insured's full name, street address, insurance company  
2        name, and policy number, if known or upon  
3        notification;
- 4        (7) Description of the loss and its location, if  
5        applicable;
- 6        (8) Legible full name of the public adjuster signing the  
7        contract;
- 8        (9) The public adjuster's permanent home state, business  
9        address, and phone number;
- 10       (10) License number on record with the insurance division;
- 11       (11) Signatures of the public adjuster and the insured; and
- 12       (12) Date the contract was signed by the public adjuster  
13       and date the contract was signed by the insured.
- 14       (b) A public adjuster contract shall not contain any  
15       contract term that:
- 16       (1) Requires the insured to authorize an insurance company  
17       to issue a check only in the name of the public  
18       adjuster;
- 19       (2) Imposes collection costs or late fees; or
- 20       (3) Precludes the insured from pursuing civil remedies.



1        (c) No public adjuster shall charge, agree to, or accept  
2 as compensation or reimbursement any payment, fee, commission,  
3 or other thing of value that is determined to be unreasonable by  
4 the commissioner. If the compensation is based on a share of  
5 the insurance settlement or proceeds, the exact percentage shall  
6 be specified in the contract.

7        (d) If the insurer, no later than seventy-two hours after  
8 the date on which the loss is reported to the insurer, either  
9 pays or commits in writing to pay the insured the limits of any  
10 coverage that are or may be applicable to the specific claim,  
11 the public adjuster shall:

12        (1) Not receive a commission consisting of a percentage of  
13 the total amount paid by an insurer to resolve a  
14 claim;

15        (2) Inform the insured that loss recovery amount might not  
16 be increased by the insurer; and

17        (3) Be entitled only to reasonable compensation from the  
18 insured for services provided by the public adjuster  
19 on behalf of the insured, based on the time spent on a  
20 claim and expenses incurred by the public adjuster,



1           until the claim is paid or the insured receives a  
2           written commitment to pay from the insurer.

3           (e) A public adjuster shall provide the insured a written  
4           disclosure concerning any direct or indirect financial interest  
5           that the public adjuster has with any other party who is  
6           involved in any aspect of the claim, other than the salary, fee,  
7           commission, or other consideration established in the written  
8           contract with the insured, including but not limited to any  
9           ownership of, other than as a minority stockholder, or any  
10           compensation expected to be received from, any construction  
11           firm, salvage firm, building appraisal firm, motor vehicle  
12           repair shop, or any other firm that provides estimates for work,  
13           or that performs any work, in conjunction with damages caused by  
14           the insured loss on which the public adjuster is engaged. For  
15           purposes of this subsection, "firm" shall include any  
16           corporation, partnership, association, joint-stock company, or  
17           person.

18           (f) The insured shall have the right to rescind the  
19           contract within three business days after the date the contract  
20           was signed. The rescission shall be in writing and mailed or



1 delivered to the public adjuster at the address in the contract  
2 within the three business day period.

3 (g) If the insured exercises the right to rescind the  
4 contract pursuant to subsection (f), anything of value given by  
5 the insured under the contract shall be returned to the insured  
6 within fifteen business days following the receipt of the  
7 cancellation notice by the public adjuster.

8 (h) Compensation provisions in a public adjusting contract  
9 shall be made available to the commissioner upon request."

10 SECTION 2. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by adding a new section to part II of article 9A to be  
12 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

13 "§431:9A- Standard of conduct. A person issued a  
14 limited lines motor vehicle rental company producer license  
15 shall act in good faith, abstain from deception, and practice  
16 honesty and equity in all insurance matters."

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended by adding a new section to part IV of article 9A to be  
19 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

20 "§431:9A- Standard of conduct. An owner holding a  
21 self-service storage limited lines license shall act in good



1 faith, abstain from deception, and practice honesty and equity  
2 in all insurance matters."

3 SECTION 4. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by adding a new section to article 31 to be  
5 appropriately designated and to read as follows:

6 "§431:31- Standard of conduct. A vendor issued a  
7 limited lines license shall act in good faith, abstain from  
8 deception, and practice honesty and equity in all insurance  
9 matters."

10 SECTION 5. Section 431:2-201, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
11 amended by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

12 "(c) The commissioner may:

13 (1) Make reasonable rules for effectuating any provision  
14 of this code, except those relating to the  
15 commissioner's appointment, qualifications, or  
16 compensation. The commissioner shall adopt rules to  
17 effectuate article 10C of chapter 431, subject to the  
18 approval of the governor's office and the requirements  
19 of chapter 91;

20 (2) Conduct examinations and investigations to determine  
21 whether any person has violated any provision of this



1 code or to secure information useful in the lawful  
2 administration of any provision;

3 (3) Require applicants to provide fingerprints and pay a  
4 fee to allow the commissioner to make a determination  
5 of license eligibility after obtaining state and  
6 national criminal history record checks from the  
7 Hawaii criminal justice data center and the Federal  
8 Bureau of Investigation; ~~and~~

9 (4) Require, upon reasonable notice, that insurers report  
10 any claims information the commissioner may deem  
11 necessary to protect the public interest~~[-]~~; and

12 (5) Upon showing of good cause, waive or modify, in whole  
13 or part, any or all fees by order."

14 SECTION 6. Section 431:7-202, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
15 amended by amending subsection (f) to read as follows:

16 "(f) The taxes imposed by subsections (a), (b), (c),  
17 and (d) shall be paid monthly. The monthly tax shall be due and  
18 payable by electronic payment via the ~~[Automated Clearing House~~  
19 ~~debit or credit payment system]~~ National Association of  
20 Insurance Commissioners' Online Premium Tax for Insurance or an  
21 equivalent service approved by the commissioner on or before the



1 twentieth day of the calendar month following the month in which  
2 it accrues, coinciding with the filing of the statement provided  
3 for in section 431:7-201.

4 In addition to the monthly tax and monthly tax statement,  
5 the annual tax shall be due and payable by electronic payment  
6 via the [~~Automated Clearing House debit or credit payment~~  
7 ~~system~~] National Association of Insurance Commissioners' Online  
8 Premium Tax for Insurance or an equivalent service approved by  
9 the commissioner on or before March 1 coinciding with the filing  
10 of the statement provided for in section 431:7-201.

11 All amounts paid under this subsection, other than fines,  
12 shall be allowed as a credit on the annual tax imposed by  
13 subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d).

14 If the total amount of installment payments for any  
15 calendar year exceeds the amount of annual tax for that year,  
16 the excess shall be treated as an overpayment of the annual tax  
17 and be allowed as a refund under section 431:7-203.

18 Any insurer failing or refusing to pay the required taxes  
19 above stated when due and payable shall be liable for a fine of  
20 \$500 or ten per cent of the tax due, whichever is greater; plus  
21 interest at a rate of twelve per cent per annum on the





1 delinquent taxes. The taxes may be collected by distraint, or  
2 the taxes, fine, and interest may be recovered by an action to  
3 be instituted by the commissioner in the name of this State, in  
4 any court of competent jurisdiction. The commissioner may  
5 suspend the certificate of authority of the delinquent insurer  
6 until the taxes, fine, and interest, should any be imposed, are  
7 fully paid.

8 ~~[As used in this subsection, "Automated Clearing House~~  
9 ~~debit or credit payment system" means the network for the~~  
10 ~~interbank clearing of electronic payments for participating~~  
11 ~~depository financial institutions.]"~~

12 SECTION 7. Section 431:8-313, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) Each ~~[surplus lines broker shall file with the~~  
15 ~~commissioner on or before March 15, 2011, a verified statement~~  
16 ~~of all surplus lines insurance transacted during 2010. Each~~  
17 ~~surplus lines broker shall file with the commissioner on or~~  
18 ~~before September 15, 2011, a verified statement of all surplus~~  
19 ~~lines insurance transacted after December 31, 2010, and before~~  
20 ~~July 1, 2011. After June 30, 2011, each]~~ surplus lines broker  
21 shall file electronically with the commissioner within forty-



1 five days of the end of each calendar quarter a verified  
2 statement of all surplus lines insurance transacted during the  
3 calendar quarter as follows:

4 (1) The statement for the quarter ending March 31 shall be  
5 filed on or before May 15;

6 (2) The statement for the quarter ending June 30 shall be  
7 filed on or before August 15;

8 (3) The statement for the quarter ending September 30  
9 shall be filed on or before November 15; and

10 (4) The statement for the quarter ending December 31 shall  
11 be filed on or before February 15."

12 SECTION 8. Section 431:8-315, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14 "(a) ~~[On or before March 15, 2011, each surplus lines~~  
15 ~~broker shall pay to the director of finance, through the~~  
16 ~~commissioner, a premium tax on surplus lines insurance~~  
17 ~~transacted by the broker during 2010. On or before~~  
18 ~~September 15, 2011, each surplus lines broker shall pay to the~~  
19 ~~director of finance, through the commissioner, a premium tax on~~  
20 ~~surplus lines insurance transacted by the broker after December~~  
21 ~~31, 2010, and before July 1, 2011. After June 30, 2011, within]~~



1 Within forty-five days after the end of each calendar quarter,  
2 each surplus lines broker shall pay to the director of finance,  
3 through the commissioner[7] via the National Association of  
4 Insurance Commissioners' Online Premium Tax for Insurance or an  
5 equivalent service approved by the commissioner, a premium tax  
6 on surplus lines insurance transacted by the broker during the  
7 calendar quarter for insurance for which this State is the home  
8 state of the insured. The tax rate shall be in the amount of  
9 4.68 per cent of gross premiums, less return premiums, on  
10 surplus lines insurance for which the home state is this State.

11 As used in this subsection, "gross premiums" means the  
12 amount of the policy or coverage premium charged by the insurer  
13 in consideration for the insurance contract. Any charges for  
14 policy, survey, inspection, service, or similar fees or other  
15 charges added by the broker shall not be considered part of  
16 gross premiums."

17 SECTION 9. Section 431:9-230, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 "**\$431:9-230 Reporting and accounting for [premiums-]**  
20 **funds.** (a) Every licensed adjuster shall have the



1 responsibilities of a trustee for all [~~premium~~] funds and return  
2 [~~premium~~] funds received or collected under this article.

3 (b) The licensee, upon receipt of the funds, shall either:

4 (1) Remit the [~~premiums (less commissions)~~] funds and  
5 return [~~premiums~~] funds received or held by the  
6 licensee to the [~~insurers or the~~] persons entitled to  
7 [~~such~~] the funds; or

8 (2) Maintain the funds at all times in a federally insured  
9 account with a bank, savings and loan association, or  
10 financial services loan company situated in Hawaii,  
11 separate from the licensee's own funds or funds held  
12 by the licensee in any other capacity, [~~in an amount~~  
13 ~~at least equal to the premiums (net of commissions)~~]  
14 and return [~~premiums~~] funds received by [~~such~~] the  
15 licensee and unpaid to the insurers or persons  
16 entitled to [~~such~~] the funds. Return [~~premiums~~] funds  
17 shall be returned within thirty days, unless directed  
18 otherwise in writing by the person entitled to the  
19 funds.

20 The licensee shall not be required to maintain a separate bank  
21 account or other account for the funds of each [~~insurer or~~]



1 person entitled to ~~[such]~~ the funds, ~~[if and]~~ so long as the  
2 funds held for the ~~[insurer or]~~ person entitled to ~~[such]~~ the  
3 funds are reasonably ascertainable from the books of account and  
4 records of the licensee. Only ~~[such]~~ additional funds ~~[as may~~  
5 ~~be]~~ reasonably necessary to pay bank, savings and loan  
6 association, or financial services loan company charges may be  
7 commingled with the ~~[premium]~~ funds. In the event the bank,  
8 savings and loan association, or financial services loan company  
9 account is an interest earning account, ~~[such]~~ the licensee may  
10 not retain the interest earned on ~~[such]~~ the funds to the  
11 licensee's own use or benefit without the prior written consent  
12 of the ~~[insurers or]~~ person entitled to ~~[such]~~ the funds. A  
13 ~~[premium]~~ trustee account shall be designated on the records of  
14 the bank, savings and loan association, or financial services  
15 loan company as a "trustee account established pursuant to  
16 section 431:9-230, Hawaii Revised Statutes", or words of similar  
17 import.

18 (c) Any ~~[such]~~ licensee who, not being lawfully entitled  
19 to ~~[such]~~ the funds, diverts or appropriates ~~[such]~~ the funds or  
20 any portion of them ~~[to]~~ for the licensee's own use, shall be



1 guilty of embezzlement[7] and shall be punished as provided in  
2 the criminal statutes of this State."

3 SECTION 10. Section 431:9-235, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 **"§431:9-235 Denial, suspension, revocation of licenses.**

6 (a) The commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to extend  
7 any license issued under this article for any cause specified in  
8 any other provision of this article, or for any of the following  
9 causes:

10 (1) For any cause for which issuance of the license could  
11 have been refused had it then existed and been known  
12 to the commissioner;

13 (2) If the licensee wilfully violates or knowingly  
14 participates in the violation of any provision of this  
15 code;

16 (3) If the licensee has obtained or attempted to obtain  
17 any license issued under this article through wilful  
18 misrepresentation or fraud, or has failed to pass any  
19 examination required by section 431:9-206;



1 (4) If the licensee has misappropriated, converted to the  
2 licensee's own use, or illegally withheld moneys  
3 required to be held in a fiduciary capacity;

4 (5) If the licensee, with intent to deceive, has  
5 materially misrepresented the terms or effect of any  
6 insurance contract; or has engaged or is about to  
7 engage in any fraudulent transaction;

8 (6) If the licensee has been [~~guilty of~~] found to have  
9 committed any unfair practice or fraud as defined in  
10 article 13;

11 (7) If in the conduct of the licensee's affairs under the  
12 license, the licensee has shown oneself to be a source  
13 of injury and loss to the public; or

14 (8) If the licensee has dealt with, or attempted to deal  
15 with, insurance or to exercise powers relative to  
16 insurance outside the scope of the licensee's  
17 licenses.

18 (b) The license of any partnership or corporation may be  
19 [se] suspended, revoked, or refused for any of the causes that  
20 relate to any individual designated in the license to exercise  
21 its powers.



1 (c) The holder of any license, which has been revoked or  
2 suspended, shall surrender the license certificate to the  
3 commissioner at the commissioner's request.

4 (d) The commissioner may suspend, revoke, or refuse to  
5 extend any license for any cause specified in this article by an  
6 order:

7 (1) Given to the licensee at least fifteen days prior to  
8 the order's effective date, subject to the right of  
9 the licensee to have a hearing as provided in  
10 section 431:2-308. The license shall be suspended  
11 pending the hearing; or

12 (2) Made after a hearing as provided in section 431:2-308.  
13 The effective date of the order shall be ten days  
14 after the date the order is given to the licensee.  
15 The order may be appealed to the circuit court of the  
16 first judicial circuit of this State as provided in  
17 chapter 91."

18 SECTION 11. Section 431:9A-107.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
19 is amended to read as follows:

20 **"§431:9A-107.5 Limited license.** (a) Notwithstanding any  
21 other provision of this article, the commissioner may issue:





- 1 (1) A limited license to persons selling travel tickets of  
2 a common carrier of persons or property who shall act  
3 only as to travel ticket policies of accident and  
4 health or sickness insurance or baggage insurance on  
5 personal effects;
- 6 (2) A limited license to each individual who has charge of  
7 vending machines used in this State for the  
8 effectuation of travel insurance;
- 9 (3) A limited license to any individual who sells policies  
10 of accident and health or sickness insurance as a  
11 promotional device to improve the circulation of a  
12 newspaper in this State;
- 13 (4) A limited line credit insurance producer license to  
14 any individual who sells, solicits, or negotiates  
15 limited line credit insurance; or
- 16 (5) A limited license to any owner of a self-service  
17 storage facility, as defined in section 507-61, to  
18 sell stored property insurance, as defined in  
19 section 431:9A-171.
- 20 (b) The commissioner may prescribe and furnish forms  
21 calling for any information that the commissioner deems proper



1 in connection with the application for or extension of these  
2 limited licenses.

3 (c) The limited license shall not be issued until the  
4 license fee has been paid.

5 (d) A person issued a limited license shall act in good  
6 faith, abstain from deception, and practice honesty and equity  
7 in all insurance matters."

8 SECTION 12. Section 431:10C-405, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
9 is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

10 "(a) The commissioner shall establish a board of governors  
11 within the bureau~~[, a board of governors for the purpose of~~  
12 ~~providing]~~ to provide expertise and consultation on all matters  
13 pertaining to the operation of the bureau and the joint  
14 underwriting plan. The commissioner shall appoint members to  
15 the board, which shall be composed of:

16 (1) [~~Five~~] Four persons from, and members or  
17 representatives of, nationally organized insurers or  
18 their domestic insurer affiliates;

19 (2) One person to represent insurance producers; and



1       ~~[(3) Two members, each a self-insurer under this article,~~  
2           ~~and nominated by all the certified self-insurers in~~  
3           ~~the State;~~

4       ~~(4) Two members, not affiliated with the foregoing~~  
5           ~~organizations, nominated by such nonaffiliated~~  
6           ~~insurers; and~~

7       ~~(5)]~~ (3) Two members ~~[each, to be]~~ selected by the  
8           commissioner or nominated by each of the  
9           classifications provided for in  
10          section 431:10C-407(b) ."

11       SECTION 13. Section 431:13-103, Hawaii Revised Statutes,  
12 is amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

13       "(a) The following are defined as unfair methods of  
14 competition and unfair or deceptive acts or practices in the  
15 business of insurance:

16       (1) Misrepresentations and false advertising of insurance  
17           policies. Making, issuing, circulating, or causing to  
18           be made, issued, or circulated, any estimate,  
19           illustration, circular, statement, sales presentation,  
20           omission, or comparison ~~[which-]~~ that:



- 1 (A) Misrepresents the benefits, advantages,  
2 conditions, or terms of any insurance policy;
- 3 (B) Misrepresents the dividends or share of the  
4 surplus to be received on any insurance policy;
- 5 (C) Makes any false or misleading statement as to the  
6 dividends or share of surplus previously paid on  
7 any insurance policy;
- 8 (D) Is misleading or is a misrepresentation as to the  
9 financial condition of any insurer, or as to the  
10 legal reserve system upon which any life insurer  
11 operates;
- 12 (E) Uses any name or title of any insurance policy or  
13 class of insurance policies misrepresenting the  
14 true nature thereof;
- 15 (F) Is a misrepresentation for the purpose of  
16 inducing or tending to induce the lapse,  
17 forfeiture, exchange, conversion, or surrender of  
18 any insurance policy;
- 19 (G) Is a misrepresentation for the purpose of  
20 effecting a pledge or assignment of or effecting  
21 a loan against any insurance policy;



1 (H) Misrepresents any insurance policy as being  
2 shares of stock;

3 (I) Publishes or advertises the assets of any insurer  
4 without publishing or advertising with equal  
5 conspicuousness the liabilities of the insurer,  
6 both as shown by its last annual statement; or

7 (J) Publishes or advertises the capital of any  
8 insurer without stating specifically the amount  
9 of paid-in and subscribed capital;

10 (2) False information and advertising generally. Making,  
11 publishing, disseminating, circulating, or placing  
12 before the public, or causing, directly or indirectly,  
13 to be made, published, disseminated, circulated, or  
14 placed before the public, in a newspaper, magazine, or  
15 other publication, or in the form of a notice,  
16 circular, pamphlet, letter, or poster, or over any  
17 radio or television station, or in any other way, an  
18 advertisement, announcement, or statement containing  
19 any assertion, representation, or statement with  
20 respect to the business of insurance or with respect



1 to any person in the conduct of the person's insurance  
2 business, which is untrue, deceptive, or misleading;

3 (3) Defamation. Making, publishing, disseminating, or  
4 circulating, directly or indirectly, or aiding,  
5 abetting, or encouraging the making, publishing,  
6 disseminating, or circulating of any oral or written  
7 statement or any pamphlet, circular, article, or  
8 literature which is false, or maliciously critical of  
9 or derogatory to the financial condition of an  
10 insurer, and which is calculated to injure any person  
11 engaged in the business of insurance;

12 (4) Boycott, coercion, and intimidation.

13 (A) Entering into any agreement to commit, or by any  
14 action committing, any act of boycott, coercion,  
15 or intimidation resulting in or tending to result  
16 in unreasonable restraint of, or monopoly in, the  
17 business of insurance; or

18 (B) Entering into any agreement on the condition,  
19 agreement, or understanding that a policy will  
20 not be issued or renewed unless the prospective  
21 insured contracts for another class or an



1 additional policy of the same class of insurance  
2 with the same insurer;

3 (5) False financial statements.

4 (A) Knowingly filing with any supervisory or other  
5 public official, or knowingly making, publishing,  
6 disseminating, circulating, or delivering to any  
7 person, or placing before the public, or  
8 knowingly causing, directly or indirectly, to be  
9 made, published, disseminated, circulated,  
10 delivered to any person, or placed before the  
11 public, any false statement of a material fact as  
12 to the financial condition of an insurer; or

13 (B) Knowingly making any false entry of a material  
14 fact in any book, report, or statement of any  
15 insurer with intent to deceive any agent or  
16 examiner lawfully appointed to examine into its  
17 condition or into any of its affairs, or any  
18 public official to whom the insurer is required  
19 by law to report, or who has authority by law to  
20 examine into its condition or into any of its  
21 affairs, or, with like intent, knowingly omitting



1 to make a true entry of any material fact  
2 pertaining to the business of the insurer in any  
3 book, report, or statement of the insurer;

4 (6) Stock operations and advisory board contracts.

5 Issuing or delivering or permitting agents, officers,  
6 or employees to issue or deliver, agency company stock  
7 or other capital stock, or benefit certificates or  
8 shares in any common-law corporation, or securities or  
9 any special or advisory board contracts or other  
10 contracts of any kind promising returns and profits as  
11 an inducement to insurance;

12 (7) Unfair discrimination.

13 (A) Making or permitting any unfair discrimination  
14 between individuals of the same class and equal  
15 expectation of life in the rates charged for any  
16 policy of life insurance or annuity contract or  
17 in the dividends or other benefits payable  
18 thereon, or in any other of the terms and  
19 conditions of the contract;

20 (B) Making or permitting any unfair discrimination in  
21 favor of particular individuals or persons, or





1 between insureds or subjects of insurance having  
2 substantially like insuring, risk, and exposure  
3 factors, or expense elements, in the terms or  
4 conditions of any insurance contract, or in the  
5 rate or amount of premium charge therefor, or in  
6 the benefits payable or in any other rights or  
7 privilege accruing thereunder;

8 (C) Making or permitting any unfair discrimination  
9 between individuals or risks of the same class  
10 and of essentially the same hazards by refusing  
11 to issue, refusing to renew, canceling, or  
12 limiting the amount of insurance coverage on a  
13 property or casualty risk because of the  
14 geographic location of the risk, unless:

- 15 (i) The refusal, cancellation, or limitation is  
16 for a business purpose which is not a mere  
17 pretext for unfair discrimination; or  
18 (ii) The refusal, cancellation, or limitation is  
19 required by law or regulatory mandate;

20 (D) Making or permitting any unfair discrimination  
21 between individuals or risks of the same class



1 and of essentially the same hazards by refusing  
2 to issue, refusing to renew, canceling, or  
3 limiting the amount of insurance coverage on a  
4 residential property risk, or the personal  
5 property contained therein, because of the age of  
6 the residential property, unless:

- 7 (i) The refusal, cancellation, or limitation is  
8 for a business purpose which is not a mere  
9 pretext for unfair discrimination; or  
10 (ii) The refusal, cancellation, or limitation is  
11 required by law or regulatory mandate;

12 (E) Refusing to insure, refusing to continue to  
13 insure, or limiting the amount of coverage  
14 available to an individual because of the sex or  
15 marital status of the individual; however,  
16 nothing in this subsection shall prohibit an  
17 insurer from taking marital status into account  
18 for the purpose of defining persons eligible for  
19 dependent benefits;

20 (F) Terminating or modifying coverage, or refusing to  
21 issue or renew any property or casualty policy or



1 contract of insurance solely because the  
2 applicant or insured or any employee of either is  
3 mentally or physically impaired; provided that  
4 this subparagraph shall not apply to accident and  
5 health or sickness insurance sold by a casualty  
6 insurer; provided further that this subparagraph  
7 shall not be interpreted to modify any other  
8 provision of law relating to the termination,  
9 modification, issuance, or renewal of any  
10 insurance policy or contract;

- 11 (G) Refusing to insure, refusing to continue to  
12 insure, or limiting the amount of coverage  
13 available to an individual based solely upon the  
14 individual's having taken a human  
15 immunodeficiency virus (HIV) test prior to  
16 applying for insurance; or
- 17 (H) Refusing to insure, refusing to continue to  
18 insure, or limiting the amount of coverage  
19 available to an individual because the individual  
20 refuses to consent to the release of information  
21 which is confidential as provided in



1 section 325-101; provided that nothing in this  
2 subparagraph shall prohibit an insurer from  
3 obtaining and using the results of a test  
4 satisfying the requirements of the commissioner,  
5 which was taken with the consent of an applicant  
6 for insurance; provided further that any  
7 applicant for insurance who is tested for HIV  
8 infection shall be afforded the opportunity to  
9 obtain the test results, within a reasonable time  
10 after being tested, and that the confidentiality  
11 of the test results shall be maintained as  
12 provided by section 325-101;

13 (8) Rebates. Except as otherwise expressly provided by  
14 law:

15 (A) Knowingly permitting or offering to make or  
16 making any contract of insurance, or agreement as  
17 to the contract other than as plainly expressed  
18 in the contract, or paying or allowing, or giving  
19 or offering to pay, allow, or give, directly or  
20 indirectly, as inducement to the insurance, any  
21 rebate of premiums payable on the contract, or



1           any special favor or advantage in the dividends  
2           or other benefits, or any valuable consideration  
3           or inducement not specified in the contract; or  
4       (B) Giving, selling, or purchasing, or offering to  
5           give, sell, or purchase as inducement to the  
6           insurance or in connection therewith, any stocks,  
7           bonds, or other securities of any insurance  
8           company or other corporation, association, or  
9           partnership, or any dividends or profits accrued  
10          thereon, or anything of value not specified in  
11          the contract;

12       (9) Nothing in paragraph (7) or (8) shall be construed as  
13          including within the definition of discrimination or  
14          rebates any of the following practices:

15       (A) In the case of any life insurance policy or  
16           annuity contract, paying bonuses to policyholders  
17           or otherwise abating their premiums in whole or  
18           in part out of surplus accumulated from  
19           nonparticipating insurance; provided that any  
20           bonus or abatement of premiums shall be fair and



1           equitable to policyholders and in the best  
2           interests of the insurer and its policyholders;

3           (B) In the case of life insurance policies issued on  
4           the industrial debit plan, making allowance to  
5           policyholders who have continuously for a  
6           specified period made premium payments directly  
7           to an office of the insurer in an amount which  
8           fairly represents the saving in collection  
9           expense;

10          (C) Readjustment of the rate of premium for a group  
11          insurance policy based on the loss or expense  
12          experience thereunder, at the end of the first or  
13          any subsequent policy year of insurance  
14          thereunder, which may be made retroactive only  
15          for the policy year; ~~and~~

16          (D) In the case of any contract of insurance, the  
17          distribution of savings, earnings, or surplus  
18          equitably among a class of policyholders, all in  
19          accordance with this article; and

20          (E) A reward under a wellness program established  
21          under a health care plan that favors an



1           individual if the wellness program meets the  
2           following requirements:

3           (i) The wellness program is reasonably designed  
4           to promote health or prevent disease;

5           (ii) An individual has an opportunity to qualify  
6           for the reward at least once a year;

7           (iii) The reward is available for all similarly  
8           situated individuals;

9           (iv) The wellness program has alternative  
10          standards for individuals who are unable to  
11          obtain the reward because of a health  
12          factor;

13          (v) Alternative standards are available for an  
14          individual who is unable to participate in a  
15          reward program because of a health  
16          condition;

17          (vi) The insurer provides information explaining  
18          the standard for achieving the reward and  
19          discloses the alternative standards; and



1           (vii) The total rewards for all wellness programs  
2                   under the health care plan do not exceed  
3                   twenty per cent of the cost of coverage;

4       (10) Refusing to provide or limiting coverage available to  
5       an individual because the individual may have a third-  
6       party claim for recovery of damages; provided that:

7       (A) Where damages are recovered by judgment or  
8           settlement of a third-party claim, reimbursement  
9           of past benefits paid shall be allowed pursuant  
10          to section 663-10;

11       (B) This paragraph shall not apply to entities  
12          licensed under chapter 386 or 431:10C; and

13       (C) For entities licensed under chapter 432 or 432D:

14          (i) It shall not be a violation of this section  
15              to refuse to provide or limit coverage  
16              available to an individual because the  
17              entity determines that the individual  
18              reasonably appears to have coverage  
19              available under chapter 386 or 431:10C; and

20          (ii) Payment of claims to an individual who may  
21              have a third-party claim for recovery of





1 damages may be conditioned upon the  
2 individual first signing and submitting to  
3 the entity documents to secure the lien and  
4 reimbursement rights of the entity and  
5 providing information reasonably related to  
6 the entity's investigation of its liability  
7 for coverage.

8 Any individual who knows or reasonably should  
9 know that the individual may have a third-party  
10 claim for recovery of damages and who fails to  
11 provide timely notice of the potential claim to  
12 the entity, shall be deemed to have waived the  
13 prohibition of this paragraph against refusal or  
14 limitation of coverage. "Third-party claim" for  
15 purposes of this paragraph means any tort claim  
16 for monetary recovery or damages that the  
17 individual has against any person, entity, or  
18 insurer, other than the entity licensed under  
19 chapter 432 or 432D;



1 (11) Unfair claim settlement practices. Committing or  
2 performing with such frequency as to indicate a  
3 general business practice any of the following:

4 (A) Misrepresenting pertinent facts or insurance  
5 policy provisions relating to coverages at issue;

6 (B) With respect to claims arising under its  
7 policies, failing to respond with reasonable  
8 promptness, in no case more than fifteen working  
9 days, to communications received from:

10 (i) The insurer's policyholder;

11 (ii) Any other persons, including the  
12 commissioner; or

13 (iii) The insurer of a person involved in an  
14 incident in which the insurer's policyholder  
15 is also involved.

16 The response shall be more than an acknowledgment  
17 that such person's communication has been  
18 received[7] and shall adequately address the  
19 concerns stated in the communication;



- 1 (C) Failing to adopt and implement reasonable  
2 standards for the prompt investigation of claims  
3 arising under insurance policies;
- 4 (D) Refusing to pay claims without conducting a  
5 reasonable investigation based upon all available  
6 information;
- 7 (E) Failing to affirm or deny coverage of claims  
8 within a reasonable time after proof of loss  
9 statements have been completed;
- 10 (F) Failing to offer payment within thirty calendar  
11 days of affirmation of liability, if the amount  
12 of the claim has been determined and is not in  
13 dispute;
- 14 (G) Failing to provide the insured, or when  
15 applicable the insured's beneficiary, with a  
16 reasonable written explanation for any delay, on  
17 every claim remaining unresolved for thirty  
18 calendar days from the date it was reported;
- 19 (H) Not attempting in good faith to effectuate  
20 prompt, fair, and equitable settlements of claims  
21 in which liability has become reasonably clear;



1 (I) Compelling insureds to institute litigation to  
2 recover amounts due under an insurance policy by  
3 offering substantially less than the amounts  
4 ultimately recovered in actions brought by the  
5 insureds;

6 (J) Attempting to settle a claim for less than the  
7 amount to which a reasonable person would have  
8 believed the person was entitled by reference to  
9 written or printed advertising material  
10 accompanying or made part of an application;

11 (K) Attempting to settle claims on the basis of an  
12 application [~~which~~] that was altered without  
13 notice, knowledge, or consent of the insured;

14 (L) Making claims payments to insureds or  
15 beneficiaries not accompanied by a statement  
16 setting forth the coverage under which the  
17 payments are being made;

18 (M) Making known to insureds or claimants a policy of  
19 appealing from arbitration awards in favor of  
20 insureds or claimants for the purpose of  
21 compelling them to accept settlements or



1                   compromises less than the amount awarded in  
2                   arbitration;

3           (N)    Delaying the investigation or payment of claims  
4                   by requiring an insured, claimant, or the  
5                   physician or advanced practice registered nurse  
6                   of either to submit a preliminary claim report  
7                   and then requiring the subsequent submission of  
8                   formal proof of loss forms, both of which  
9                   submissions contain substantially the same  
10                  information;

11          (O)    Failing to promptly settle claims, where  
12                   liability has become reasonably clear, under one  
13                   portion of the insurance policy coverage to  
14                   influence settlements under other portions of the  
15                   insurance policy coverage;

16          (P)    Failing to promptly provide a reasonable  
17                   explanation of the basis in the insurance policy  
18                   in relation to the facts or applicable law for  
19                   denial of a claim or for the offer of a  
20                   compromise settlement; and



1 (Q) Indicating to the insured on any payment draft,  
2 check, or in any accompanying letter that the  
3 payment is "final" or is "a release" of any claim  
4 if additional benefits relating to the claim are  
5 probable under coverages afforded by the policy;  
6 unless the policy limit has been paid or there is  
7 a bona fide dispute over either the coverage or  
8 the amount payable under the policy;

9 (12) Failure to maintain complaint handling procedures.

10 Failure of any insurer to maintain a complete record  
11 of all the complaints [~~which~~] that it has received  
12 since the date of its last examination under  
13 section 431:2-302. This record shall indicate the  
14 total number of complaints, their classification by  
15 line of insurance, the nature of each complaint, the  
16 disposition of [~~these~~] the complaints, and the time it  
17 took to process each complaint. For purposes of this  
18 [~~section,~~] paragraph, "complaint" means any written  
19 communication primarily expressing a grievance;

20 (13) Misrepresentation in insurance applications. Making  
21 false or fraudulent statements or representations on



1 or relative to an application for an insurance policy,  
2 for the purpose of obtaining a fee, commission, money,  
3 or other benefit from any insurer, producer, or  
4 individual; and

5 (14) Failure to obtain information. Failure of any  
6 insurance producer, or an insurer where no producer is  
7 involved, to comply with section 431:10D-623(a), (b),  
8 or (c) by making reasonable efforts to obtain  
9 information about a consumer before making a  
10 recommendation to the consumer to purchase or exchange  
11 an annuity."

12 SECTION 14. Section 431K-3.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended to read as follows:

14 "[~~§~~]**§431K-3.5**[~~§~~] **Registration fees and service fees of**  
15 **risk retention groups not chartered in this State.** (a) A risk  
16 retention group chartered in states other than this State and  
17 seeking to do business as a risk retention group in this State  
18 shall pay an initial registration fee of \$300 to the  
19 commissioner and shall thereafter pay annually a service fee of  
20 \$150 on or before [~~August 16 of each year in which the risk~~  
21 ~~retention group intends to do business in this State.~~] the



1 extension date of the certificate of authority, as established  
2 pursuant to section 431:3-214. The commissioner may, upon  
3 showing of good cause, waive or modify, in whole or part, all  
4 fees in this subsection by order.

5 (b) If the service fee is not paid on or before [~~August 16~~  
6 ~~of the year in which payment is due,~~] the extension date, a  
7 penalty shall be imposed in the amount of fifty per cent of the  
8 service fee. The commissioner shall provide written notice of  
9 the delinquency of payment and the imposition of the authorized  
10 penalty. If the service fee and the penalty are not paid within  
11 thirty days immediately following the date of the notice of  
12 delinquency, the commissioner may revoke the registration of the  
13 risk retention group and may not reinstate the registration  
14 until the service fee and the penalty have been paid."

15 SECTION 15. Section 431K-7.1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
16 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows

17 "(a) A purchasing group that intends to do business in  
18 this State shall pay an initial registration fee of \$300 to the  
19 commissioner and shall thereafter pay annually a service fee of  
20 \$150 on or before [~~August 16 of each year in which the~~  
21 ~~purchasing group intends to do business in this State~~] the





1 extension date of the certificate of authority, as established  
2 pursuant to section 431:3-214. The commissioner may, upon  
3 showing of good cause, waive or modify, in whole or part, all  
4 fees in this subsection by order."

5 SECTION 16. Section 431S-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
6 amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

7 "(b) Each person seeking to register as a pharmacy benefit  
8 manager shall file with the commissioner an application on a  
9 form prescribed by the commissioner. The application shall  
10 include:

11 (1) The name, address, official position, and professional  
12 qualifications of each individual who is responsible  
13 for the conduct of the affairs of the pharmacy benefit  
14 manager, including all members of the board of  
15 directors; board of trustees; executive commission;  
16 other governing board or committee; principal  
17 officers, as applicable; partners or members, as  
18 applicable; and any other person who exercises control  
19 or influence over the affairs of the pharmacy benefit  
20 manager;



(2) The name and address of the applicant's agent for service of process in the State; and

(3) A nonrefundable [~~application~~] issuance fee of \$140. The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or modify, in whole or part, the fee in this subsection by order."

SECTION 17. Section 431S-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"~~[§]~~**§431S-4**~~[§]~~ **Annual renewal requirement.** (a) Each pharmacy benefit manager shall renew its registration by March 31 each year.

(b) When renewing its registration, a pharmacy benefit manager shall submit to the commissioner the following:

(1) An application for renewal on a form prescribed by the commissioner; and

(2) A [~~renewal~~] service fee of \$140. The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or modify, in whole or part, the fee in this subsection by order.

~~[(c) Failure on the part of a pharmacy benefit manager to renew its registration as provided in this section shall result in a penalty of \$140 and may cause the registration to be~~



1 ~~revoked or suspended by the commissioner until the requirements~~  
2 ~~for renewal have been met.]"~~

3 SECTION 18. Section 432:1-108, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
4 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

5 "(a) The commissioner shall collect, in advance, the  
6 following fees:

7 (1) Certificate of authority:

8 (A) Application for a certificate of authority:

9 \$900; and

10 (B) Issuance of certificate of authority: \$600;

11 (2) Organization of domestic mutual benefit societies:

12 (A) Application for a certificate of registration:

13 \$1,500; and

14 (B) Issuance of certificate of registration: \$150;

15 and

16 (3) For all services subsequent to the issuance of a  
17 certificate of authority, including extension of the  
18 certificate of authority: \$600 per year.

19 The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or  
20 modify, in whole or part, all fees in this subsection by order."



1       SECTION 19. Section 432:2-108, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
2 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

3       "(a) The commissioner shall collect, in advance, the  
4 following fees:

5       (1) Certificate of authority:

6           (A) Application for a certificate of authority:  
7               \$900;

8           (B) Issuance of certificate of authority: \$600;

9       (2) Organization of domestic fraternal benefit societies:

10           (A) Application for a preliminary certificate of  
11               authority: \$1,500;

12           (B) Issuance of preliminary certificate of authority:  
13               \$150; and

14       (3) For all services subsequent to the issuance of a  
15       certificate of authority, including extension of the  
16       certificate of authority: \$600 per year.

17 The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or  
18 modify, in whole or part, all fees in this subsection by order."

19       SECTION 20. Section 432D-17, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
20 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:



1       "(a) The commissioner shall collect, in advance, the  
2 following fees:

3       (1) Certificate of authority:

4           (A) Application for a certificate of authority:  
5               \$900; and

6           (B) Issuance of certificate of authority: \$600; and

7       (2) For all services subsequent to the issuance of  
8 certificate of authority, including extension of the  
9 certificate of authority: \$600 per year.

10 The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or  
11 modify, in whole or part, all fees in this subsection by order."

12       SECTION 21. Section 432G-12, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is  
13 amended by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

14       "(a) The commissioner shall collect, in advance, the  
15 following fees:

16       (1) Certificate of authority:

17           (A) Application for a certificate of authority:  
18               \$900; and

19           (B) Issuance of certificate of authority: \$600; and



1           (2) For all services subsequent to the issuance of a  
2           certificate of authority, including extension of the  
3           certificate of authority: \$600 per year.

4   The commissioner may, upon showing of good cause, waive or  
5   modify, in whole or part, all fees in this subsection by order."

6           SECTION 22. If any provision of this Act, or the  
7   application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held  
8   invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or  
9   applications of the Act that can be given effect without the  
10   invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions  
11   of this Act are severable.

12          SECTION 23. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed  
13   and stricken. New statutory material is underscored.

14          SECTION 24. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 2050.



**Report Title:**

Insurance; Public Adjuster; Bill Reviewer; Motor Vehicle Rental Company; Portable Electronic; Self-service Storage; Limited Line License; Fee; National Association of Insurance Commissioners; Surplus Line; Hawaii Joint Underwriting Plan; Wellness Program

**Description:**

Institutes various consumer protections with regard to public adjusters, including requiring contractual terms and disclosures and granting a right to rescind. Imposes a standard of conduct on various entities. Authorizes the insurance commissioner to waive or modify certain fees by order. Reinstates the right to an administrative hearing and appeal from an order. Amends the Hawaii joint underwriting plan board of governors. Clarifies that rewards under wellness programs do not qualify as prohibited rebates. Makes various housekeeping amendments. Effective 1/1/2050. (HD1)

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

