

**LOUISIANA**

**DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE**



**OFFICE OF PROPERTY AND CASUALTY**

**Policy Form Filing Handbook**

July 2018 Edition

This handbook has been developed as a guide to assist insurers in preparing and submitting filings. This handbook is not a rule or regulation that has been promulgated by the Louisiana Department of Insurance. Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this handbook. However, it should not be relied upon as an alternative or supplement to the Louisiana Insurance Code and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder, or other applicable laws, by which all dealings with the Louisiana Department of Insurance are governed.

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**The Policy Forms division reviews property and casualty contract forms submitted by insurers for compliance with applicable statutes, rules, and regulations. Additionally, the division provides information and assistance to consumers and industry representatives by responding to inquiries, and making public presentations.**

The following instructions apply to filings made by an insurer, a group of affiliated insurers, an underwriting organization, or a rating organization.

- Insurers must make sure they are properly licensed in Louisiana for the line of business stated in filings prior to submission.
- Insurers must carefully examine the provisions of Title 22, LDI Regulation 78, Title 23, Title 32, and all other Bulletins, Regulations, Directives, and Advisories developed by the Department to ensure compliance, prior to submission. These provisions can be found in the Product Filing Matrix through the Reference Search.
- A Department filing number will be assigned to each filing upon receipt in the Office of Property and Casualty, Policy Forms Division. The Department filing number is the number used for tracking.
- Submissions for rates and rules must be made separately from forms.
- If rate, rule, and form filings are made at the same or similar times and are interdependent, this fact must be noted in the filing description or transmittal document for each related filing to facilitate cross-referencing. As different divisions within the Office of Property and Casualty handle the filings, this cross-reference will allow for a quicker review and approval process.
- Filings should be made separately for each program. A filing may reference more than one company only if all the forms contained apply to all companies listed.
- Form filings may be filed electronically through SERFF (System for Electronic Rates & Forms Filing) or by U.S. Mail.

- Form filings are to be addressed to:

Office of Property and Casualty  
Attention: Policy Forms Division  
Louisiana Department of Insurance  
1702 North Third Street  
Post Office Box 94214  
Baton Rouge, LA 70804-9214

**Note:** If the filer is responding to a specific examiner of the Division, the response should be addressed to that person.

Please note the following:

- Retro-active effective dates are not allowed. The earliest effective date for a filing is the filing's approval date.
- When a company is adopting, delay adopting, or non-adopting a rating organization's filing, the company must be a member and/or subscriber of the particular rating organization and have the necessary authority for the coverage line stated in the filing. **The filing must specifically state the rating organization's designation or item number(s) that have been approved for use in Louisiana and will be utilized with your company's filing.**

## REGULATION 78 – POLICY FORM FILINGS / PRODUCT FILING MATRIX

Adopted effective January 1, 2003, [Regulation 78](#) provides for the uniform and practicable administration of policy forms. The provisions of this law will assist all insurers in complying with the form filing, review and approval requirements of the Louisiana Insurance Code, and allows for expedited review and approval processes. Regulation 78 is printed at the end of this handbook.

In addition, the Department of Insurance has created a Product Filing Matrix (PFM) (<http://ia.lds.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/>) to provide insurers the ability to search for the filing and legal requirements applicable to specific product types. The PFM will also generate the Statements of Compliance required by Regulation 78 to be submitted with most filings.

## SUMMARY OF REGULATION 78

### FILING REQUIRED

Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:861.A, all basic insurance policy forms, riders and endorsements must be approved by the Commissioner of Insurance, prior to being issued or delivered in this state.

- A **Property and Casualty Transmittal Document** must accompany every **paper** filing, describing the items included in the filing, the insurance product for which the filing is being made, and the method of marketing to be used for the product. (§10113.B.2) **Electronic** filings submitted through SERFF (System for Electronic Rates & Forms Filing) do not require a Property and Casualty Transmittal Document as it is incorporated into the build of the system.
- There are approximately 100 defined Property and Casualty **Insurance Product Codes** for the various types of Property and Casualty Products.

### STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE

A **Statement of Compliance** form must be generated from the [Product Filing Matrix \(PFM\)](#), and accompany every filing, other than those listed under Exceptions in §10113.D. The PFM links all defined insurance product codes to each provision of state law applicable to the content and administration of an insurance product.

Insurers must review the requirements for regulatory compliance in conjunction with the policy forms to be filed and identify the section / page number of the forms where compliance is demonstrated. This information must be entered on the **Statement of Compliance** for each insurance product included with a submission.

- The PFM includes all legal requirements applicable to both content and administration of an insurance product.
- Related laws, rules, regulations, bulletins, directives, and helpful comments are included, where appropriate.
- The PFM will be updated as laws change, allowing for immediate changes to affected Statements of Compliance.
- A new **Statement of Compliance** form should be printed or downloaded with each policy form filing.
- The **Statement of Compliance** form includes only those legal requirements applicable to the product filing.

## COMPLIANCE REVIEW

- A complete filing must be submitted to the Department in accordance with the requirements in §10113.C.2, no less than 45 days in advance of planned issuance, delivery or use.
- If a filing is incomplete, a notice of disapproval in accordance with La. R.S. 22:862(6) will be issued for failure to comply with the requirements in §10113.C.

## CERTIFICATION OF COMPLIANCE

[LDI Directive Number 174](#) designates those insurance products which must be filed pursuant to the requirements for **Certified Approval** and also those insurance products which may, at the discretion of the insurer, be filed either pursuant to said requirements for **Certified Approval**, or as ordinary filings subject to the requirements for compliance review.

A policy form filing submitted for **Certified Approval** must include a **Statement of Compliance** applicable to the insurance product being submitted, a signed, dated and notarized **Certification of Compliance** and all other items required to constitute a Complete Filing.

No insurer, or officer, employee or representative of an insurer, shall file a **Certification of Compliance** containing false attestations, or a certification form from which material facts or information have been omitted. In the event that the Department subsequently learns that the **Certification of Compliance** contained any inaccuracies, false attestations, or material omissions, the approval of the subject forms may be withdrawn and the insurer may be subjected to corrective action as set forth in §10113.I.

## REQUIRED FILING FEES

- La. R.S. 22:821 outlines the filing fees and instructions.
- The filing fee for filing property and casualty insurance policy forms with the Department of Insurance is \$100 per insurance product, per company.
- The filing fee for filing property and casualty insurance policy endorsements, amendments or riders with the Department of Insurance is \$25 per filing (not per endorsement), per company.
- The filing fee for adopting forms filed by a filing organization is \$20 per product adoption (per designation or item number), per company.
- Certain **EXCEPTIONS**, as outlined in §10113.D., to the requirements for a complete filing do not require payment of a filing fee.

## IMPORTANT FEE NOTES:

**The most common cause for an incomplete filing is payment of an incorrect filing fee. Please use the [Fee Wizard](#) on the PFM home page for assistance in determining the proper amount. There are other help documents available in the Property and Casualty section of the PFM [Help Center](#).**

- Declaration page, application or policy jacket only filings are considered endorsement filings. Therefore, these fees are \$25 per filing, per company.
- Policies and/or coverage parts that are stand-alone/monoline are \$100 each stand-alone policy and/or coverage part, per company. Any endorsements, applications and declaration pages submitted in conjunction with the policy and/or coverage part are included in the \$100 per product fee.
- When submitting policies and/or coverage parts that are not stand- alone



(i.e. cannot be sold separately), please indicate this in the Filing Fee calculation/explanation area and/or in the Filing Description, or provide a copy of the Fee Wizard Summary page from the PFM.

➤ Initial adoptions for initial programs should be noted in the Filing Description. There are no filing fees for initial adoptions for companies with filing authority. For companies without filing authority, the \$20 per designation/item number per company applies.

## COMPLETE FILING

Other than as specified in §10113.D, as an EXCEPTION, only complete filings will be accepted. In order for the Department to conduct a proper compliance review or compliance audit of an insurance product, all items associated therewith must be included. **A filing will be determined incomplete and will be disapproved if it does not contain all applicable items.**

All filings of an **insurance product** must include, in final printed form, the following items, in the listed order.

1. Required Filing Fee, per insurance product, per insurance company; or filing fee, per endorsement filing, per insurance company;
2. Completed Property and Casualty Transmittal Document, unless filed electronically through SERFF (System for Electronic Rates & Forms Filing);
3. Statement of Compliance for said product;
4. Policy forms filed for approval, in duplicate (duplicate is not required for filings submitted electronically through SERFF);
5. Explanation of any rate/rule impact, with a copy of any rate/rule approval letters issued by the department; if none, so state; and
6. Stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the company's set of the policy forms filed, unless filed electronically through SERFF.
7. Explanation or statement of variability for substantive variables of form text or language.

All filings of an **adoption (without filing authority)** or **delayed adoption** should include the following items, in the listed order.

1. Required Filing Fee, per identification/code number (designation or item number), per insurance company
2. Completed Property and Casualty Transmittal Document, unless filed electronically through SERFF;
3. Reference to the filing organization's identification/code number (designation or item number);
4. Line of business;
5. Name of the program(s); and
6. Stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the company's set of the policy forms filed, unless filed electronically through SERFF.

\*An initial adoption for an initial program must provide all designation or item numbers to be used.

All filings of an **adoption (with filing authority)** or a **non-adoption** must include the following items, in the listed order.

1. Completed Property and Casualty Transmittal Document, unless filed electronically through SERFF;
2. Reference to the filing organization's identification/code number (designation or item number);
3. Line of business;
4. Name of the program(s); and
5. Stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the company's set of the policy forms filed, unless filed electronically through SERFF.

\*An initial adoption for an initial program must provide all designation or item numbers to be used.

\*Company adoptions **with filing authority** - regular adoptions in which the company uses the same effective date as the rating organization and there are no changes to the forms, are not required. This does not apply to initial/new programs, delay of adoptions, non-adoptions, or any independent forms.

## EXCEPTIONS

Exceptions to the requirements for a complete filing may be allowed, at the discretion of the Department, subject to the conditions stated herein, for the policy forms outlined in §10113.D. (Informational filings must state in the filing description that the filing is informational.)

## RESUBMISSION OF REVISED FORMS

When submitting revised forms in response to an order of disapproval, or withdrawal of approval, **the revised forms will constitute a new filing**. Such resubmission must comply with all requirements §10113.G. Reference of the previous filing should be noted in the Filing Description.

## COMPLIANCE AND AUDITS

- Approval of a basic insurance policy form does not assure perpetual compliance. Following subsequent changes in applicable law, insurers shall revise and file updated insurance products, or amendatory riders or endorsements where appropriate, with the Department for approval as required to maintain continuous compliance with the current requirements of law, as outlined in §10113.H. This provision shall apply to all new business issued, or in-force business renewed, following any such subsequent changes in applicable law, or as otherwise determined by the Louisiana Legislature.
- A retrospective review process will be utilized to verify compliance of approved filings and to assure that all approved filings remain in compliance with currently applicable law. Compliance Audits may be conducted by random selection, prompted by complaints filed with the Department or requests for information made by the Department, or performed during the course of examinations conducted by the Department, as outlined in §10113.H.

## PERMANENT WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVED FORMS

Insurers shall notify the Department in writing to advise when a previously approved basic insurance policy form will no longer be marketed in this state and is being permanently withdrawn from the market. LDI Directive 201 requires

such notification to be sent 60 days prior to the market end date. The notification shall advise whether or not such coverage issued in this state under the policy form remains in force and whether or not such existing business will continue to be renewed. The notification shall provide the policy form numbers being discontinued and dates originally approved by this Department.

## **APPEALS/HEARINGS**

Any insurer or other person aggrieved by a failure to approve any filing, or the disapproval of any filing, or the withdrawal of approval of any filing, or any related action taken by the Department pursuant to §10113, may request an administrative hearing in accordance with the provisions of Part XXIX of Title 22 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes. Pursuant to La. R.S. 22:2191, such demand must be in writing, must specify in what respects the company is aggrieved and the grounds to be relied upon as basis for relief to be demanded at the hearing, and must be made within 30 days of receipt of actual notice or, if actual notice is not received, within 30 days of the date such insurer or other person learned of the act, or failure to act, upon which the demand for hearing is based.

## **MAINTENANCE OF RECORDS; ALTERATION OF FORMS PROHIBITED**

Every insurer or other person filing policy forms, or related forms, for approval by the Department shall maintain in their files the original set of any and all forms as returned by the Department, along with all related correspondence and transmittal documents from the Department. Alternatively, images of such documents may be maintained in electronic/digital form. Such files shall be available for inspection by the Department upon request, and must be maintained until the forms have been withdrawn from the market and no coverage issued on risks in this state utilizing such forms remains in force.

The alteration of, or any change to, any such form approved by the Department is prohibited. Any such altered or changed form shall be submitted to the Department as a new filing, and shall comply with all provisions in §10113 applicable to a new filing. This requirement does not apply to typographical corrections and format improvements that do not affect the terms, provisions or clarity of the insurance product.

A change of company name or logo, a change of address, and changes in listed officers do not require a new filing of forms when the Department is otherwise properly notified of such change, and a copy of such notification is maintained on file by the insurer. Insurers should submit an informational filing for tracking purposes.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

The Office of Property and Casualty, Policy Forms Division may be contacted at:

Telephone: (225) 342-5203 or (800) 259-5300

Facsimile: (225) 342-6057

[www.ldi.la.gov](http://www.ldi.la.gov)

## INSTRUCTIONS AND HELP MANUAL

A Help Manual/User Guide can be found on PFM by clicking **HELP**, then clicking on the **Help Manual** link at the very top of the page.  
<http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/PFMHelpManual-Industry.pdf>

A list of products, including definitions, product codes, and requirements, can be found in PFM in the HELP area by clicking Get Instructions, then Property and Casualty.

[http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/P&C\\_LDOI\\_CurrentMatrixPFM.pdf](http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/P&C_LDOI_CurrentMatrixPFM.pdf)

A list of certified products, including definitions and product codes, can be found in PFM in the HELP area by clicking Get Instructions.

<http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/R78Web6A-PCCertdProds.pdf>

A list of PFM products matched to SERFF products can be found in PFM in the HELP area by clicking Get Instructions, then Property and Casualty.

[http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/SERFF\\_PCM-to-LDI\\_PFM-Oct2010.pdf](http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/documents/SERFF_PCM-to-LDI_PFM-Oct2010.pdf)

<http://ia.ldi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/Help>

**SIGNIFICANT STATUTORY REFERENCES**  
**Office of Property and Casualty**

**Title 22 - Insurance Code**

- R.S. 22:1 et seq. Title, Definitions, Classifications, and Other Regulatory Matters - General definitions of insurance, defines various lines of insurance.
- R.S. 22:851 et seq. The Insurance Contract - The approval of forms, contents of policies.
- R.S. 22:1261 et seq. General provisions for property and casualty insurance.
- R.S. 22:1311 et seq. Standard Fire Policy – Standard provisions of fire insurance contracts.
- R.S. 22:1431 et seq. Portable Electronics Insurance Policies
- R.S. 22:1451 et seq. Insurance Rating and Rate Regulation – Rate regulations; Organizations.
- R.S. 22:1501 et seq. Use of Credit Information
- R.S. 22:1621 et seq. Managing General Agents Law – Definitions.
- R.S. 22:1891 et seq. Property and Casualty insurance Claims Payments provisions.
- R.S. 22:1961 et seq. Unfair Trade Practices – Unfair methods and unfair or deceptive acts and practices prohibited.
- R.S. 22:1981 et seq. Examination and Investigations
- R.S. 22:431 et seq. Unauthorized Insurance – Surplus Lines, endorsement of contract.
- R.S. 22:481 et seq. Risk Retention Groups – Risk Purchasing Groups
- R.S. 22:511 et seq. Louisiana Title Insurance Act – Definitions; requirements and restrictions.
- R.S. 22:2051 et seq. Insurance Guaranty Association Fund
- R.S. 22:2291 et seq. Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation
- R.S. 22:2361 et seq. Insure Louisiana Incentive Program
- R.S. 22:550.1 et seq. Captive Insurers
- R.S. 22:361 et seq. Vehicle Mechanical Breakdown Insurers – Definitions; contracts not in compliance.
- R.S. 22:381 et seq. Property Residual Value Insurers – Definitions; contracts not in compliance.
- R.S. 22:1521 et seq. Collision Damage Waiver Law – Definitions; form filing requirements.
- R.S. 22:1761 et seq. Motor Vehicle Rental Insurers - Definitions; form filing requirements.

The following noted documents may be viewed in the PFM through the Reference Search at <http://ia.lidi.state.la.us/ProductMatrix/Search>. Documents may also be found through the Department's website at [www.lidi.la.gov](http://www.lidi.la.gov).

## NOTED ACTIVE ADVISORY LETTERS

- Advisory Letter No. 2018-01 [Interpretation and Application of the Separate Named Storm Deductible Pursuant to LA. R.S. 22:1337](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 2017-02 [Statutory Requirements for Granting Defensive Driver Discounts on Automobile Insurance Policy Premiums](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 2014-05 [Act No. 427 of the 2014 Regular Session of the Louisiana Legislature \(Annual Homeowners Data Reporting Requirements\)](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 2014-02 [Eligibility For Certification as a Reinsurer - Qualified Jurisdictions](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 2012-03 [Producer Compensation; Placement of Commercial Property and Casualty Insurance](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 09-03 [New Financial Responsibility Limits For Automobile Insurance - Effective on UM/UIM Motorist Bodily Injury Coverage Form](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 09-02 ["Wrap-Up" Insurance](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 09-01 [Waiver of Subrogation Charges](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 07-01 [Repair of Motor Vehicles - Statement of Principles](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 04-02 [Adjustment of Automobile Insurance Claims Payment for Paint and Materials](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 02-01 [Notice of Cancellation; Notice of Nonrenewal](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 01-03 [Electronic Signatures](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 01-02 [Use of Mold Exclusions in Insurance Policy Forms](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 01-01 [Use of Pollution Exclusions in Commercial Lines Forms](#)
- Advisory Letter No. 97-01 [Use of Standard Pollution Exclusions](#)

## NOTED ACTIVE BULLETINS

- Bulletin 2017-07** [Certificates of Destruction for Water-Damaged Vehicles](#)
- Bulletin 2017-06** [Terrorism Risk insurance Data Call](#)
- Bulletin 2017-05** [Effect of Act 63 of the 2017 Regular Legislative Session on Producer Agency Fees](#)
- Bulletin 2016-05** [Terrorism Risk insurance Data Call](#)
- Bulletin 2016-03** [Schedule Rating Plans for Commercial property and Casualty Insurers](#)
- Bulletin 2015-01** [Filing Procedures for Compliance with the Provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2015](#)
- Bulletin 2013-08** [Wind Mitigation Credits, Wind Exclusion Credits, and Deductible Credits for Residential Property Insurance](#)
- Bulletin 2013-04** [Catastrophe Model Interrogatories](#)
- Bulletin 2011-01** [Implementation of the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act with Respect to Surplus Lines Insurance in Louisiana](#)
- Bulletin 2010-04** [Mandatory Use of the System for Electronic Rate and Form Filings \(SERFF\) for Electronic Rate, Rule and/or Policy Form Filings in Louisiana](#)
- Bulletin 09-09** [Consent-To-Rate Filings, A-Rated Filings and Individual Risk Rated Filings](#)
- Bulletin 09-08** [Homeowners and Fire/Commercial Insurance Policy Disclosure Forms](#)
- Bulletin 09-05** [Title Insurance Policies Written on Property Located in Louisiana Must Comply with the Provisions of the Louisiana Title Insurance Act, LSA-R.S. 22:511 et seq.](#)
- Bulletin 09-04** [Installment Plan Guidelines for Commercial Property and Casualty Insurers](#)
- Bulletin 09-02** [Certificates of Insurance Civil and Criminal Penalties](#)



- Bulletin 09-01** [The Certification Clause on the Louisiana Hurricane Loss Mitigation Survey Form in Regulation 94](#)
- Bulletin 08-09** [Filing Procedure for Workers' Compensation Group Self-Insurance Funds](#)
- Bulletin 08-08** [Revision of Compulsory Liability Minimum Limits for Vehicles in Excess of 20,000 lbs.](#)
- Bulletin 08-07** [Filing Procedures for Compliance with the Provisions of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2007](#)
- Bulletin 08-06** [Pleasure Boat Filing Guidelines](#)
- Bulletin 08-05** [Act 1476 - Omnibus Premium Reduction Act of 1997](#)
- Bulletin 08-04** [Rescission of Selected Louisiana Insurance Rating Commission \(LIRC\) Bulletins](#)
- Bulletin 08-03** [Use of Loss Experience to Deviate from the Fire Rate Classification Plans, Schedules, and Fire Rates Promulgated by the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana \(PIAL\)](#)
- Bulletin 08-02** [Uninsured/Underinsured Motorist Bodily Injury coverage Form](#)
- Bulletin 08-01** [Public Carrier Vehicle \(Taxi\) Liability Insurance Rates](#)
- Bulletin 07-07** [New Rating Example Worksheets \(Exhibits D and E\): New Rating Illustration Worksheets \(Exhibits D1 and E1\)](#)
- Bulletin 07-06** [New Loss Cost Multiplier Worksheets \(Exhibits C and C-WC\)](#)
- Bulletin 05-01** [Implementation of Military Discount to Active Military Personnel Based In Louisiana](#)
- Bulletin 01-05** [Economic Only Uninsured Motorist/Underinsured Motorist Coverage](#)
- Bulletin 01-03** [Act 205 - Workers' Compensation Programs](#)
- Bulletin 00-02** [Compliance Date of Privacy Provisions of Title V of the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act](#)
- Bulletin 00-01** [Insurance Over the Internet](#)

## NOTED ACTIVE DIRECTIVES

- Directive 204** [Mandatory Quarterly and Retroactive Reporting of Property and Casualty Insurance Residential Property and Private Passenger Automobile Insurance Through the Periodic Online Insurance Data Reporting System \(POIDRS\)](#)
- Directive 201** [Mandatory Requirement to Provide the Louisiana Department of Insurance with Sixty \(60\) Days Advance Written Notice Prior to any Withdrawal, Non-Renewal, or Conversion Action](#)
- Directive 198** [Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation Regular Assessment Recoupment and Remittance and Emergency Assessment Collection and Remittance](#)
- Directive 194** [Revised Supplemental Filing Exhibit Forms](#)
- Directive 186** [Proper Use of Cost of Airbag in Determining "Total Loss" of Vehicle](#)
- Directive 183** [Automobile Insurer Responsible for All Towing and Storage Service Charges](#)
- Directive 175** [Policy Forms - Subrogation Provisions](#)
- Directive 174** [Regulation 78 - Certified Products and Procedure](#)
- Directive 173** [Policy Forms - Binding Arbitration and/or Appraisal Provisions](#)
- Directive 171** [Stop Loss/Excess Policies of Insurance](#)
- Directive 170** [Property and Casualty Insurance Company Information Request](#)
- Directive 152** [Statutorily Imposed Vicarious Parental Liability](#)
- Directive 151** [Insurance Premium Financing](#)
- Directive 144** [Guidelines for Charges Pursuant to LSA-R.S. 22:627](#)
- Directive 143** [Aftermarket Crash Parts Disclosure Requirement](#)
- Directive 137** [Withdrawal of Absolute/Total Pollution Exclusion](#)
- Directive 135** [Use of Discounts and Credits by Group Self-Insurance Funds for Workers' Compensation](#)

- Directive 129** [Participating Policies](#)
- Directive 124** [Acceptance of Premiums from a Louisiana Licensed Premium Finance Company](#)
- Directive 95** [Acts 438 and 773 of the 1989 Louisiana Legislature \(Collision Damage Waiver\)](#)
- Directive 94** [Act 578 – House Bill 395 – 1989 Louisiana Regular Session \(Non-fault Incidents\)](#)
- Directive 81** [Payment to Agent or Broker](#)
- Directive 78** [Risk Retention Act of 1986](#)
- Directive 75** [Risk Retention Groups](#)
- Directive 72** [Interpretation of Language on Standard Fire Policy](#)
- Directive 67** [Stated Premium Must Include All Charges](#)
- Directive 58** [Cancellation and Non-renewal of Commercial Property and Casualty Insurance Policies](#)
- Directive 45** [Automobile Liability & Physical Damage Insurance](#)
- Directive 34** [Salvage on Paid Losses](#)
- Directive 32** [Mortgage Disability Insurance](#)
- Directive 18** [Automobile Total Loss Settlements](#)
- Directive 8** [Indiscriminate Cancellation and Arbitrary Refusals to Renew Insurance Contracts](#)
- Directive 1** [Title Insurance](#)

## NOTED ACTIVE REGULATIONS

- Regulation 108 [Investigation of Discrimination Complaints](#)
- Regulation 107 [Homeowner and Fire - Commercial Insurance Policy Disclosure Forms](#)
- Regulation 99 [Certificates of Insurance](#)
- Regulation 97 [Vehicle Tracking Systems](#)
- Regulation 95 [Public Fire Protection Grading Board of Review](#)
- Regulation 94 [Premium Adjustments for Compliance with Building Codes and Damage Mitigation](#)
- Regulation 93 [Named Storm and Hurricane Deductibles](#)
- Regulation 82 [Insure Louisiana Incentive Program](#)
- Regulation 81 [Military Personnel Automobile Liability Insurance Premium Discount and Insurer Premium Tax Credit Program](#)
- Regulation 80 [Commercial Lines Insurance Rate Deregulation](#)
- Regulation 79 [Limited Licensing for Motor Vehicle Rental Companies](#)
- Regulation 78 [Policy Forms Filing Requirements](#)
- Regulation 72 [Commercial Lines Insurance Policy Form Deregulation](#)
- Regulation 64 [Cancellation provisions for Vehicle Mechanical Breakdown Insurers](#)
- Regulation 42 [Group Self-Insurance Funds](#)
- Regulation 39 [Statement of Actuarial Opinion](#)
- Regulation 32 [Coordination of Benefits](#)
- Regulation 30 [Certificate of Insurance Coverage](#)
- Regulation 9 [Deferred Payment of Fire Premiums in Connection with the Term Rule](#)

## NOTED ACTIVE RULES

- Rule 14**     [Records Management](#)
- Rule 12**     [Transmission of Forms and Documents](#)
- Rule 7**       [Legal Expense Insurers](#)
- Rule 6**       [Vehicle Mechanical Breakdown Insurer](#)
- Rule 5**       [Unfair Trade Practices](#)
- Rule 1**       [Rules of Practice and Procedure before the Commissioner of Insurance](#)

The following noted Acts may be found through the Legislative website at [www.legis.state.la.us](http://www.legis.state.la.us).

**2016 LOUISIANA REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
NOTED ACTS**

<b>HB 184</b>	<b>ACT 274</b>	STOKES	Changes to promulgated disclosure notice. Requires insurance companies to notify policyholders if the report of a claim less than their deductible will increase premiums relative to homeowners insurance. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 363</b>	<b>ACT 4</b>	TALBOT	Provides that making certain false statements to the Property Insurance Association of Louisiana is a fraudulent insurance act. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 476</b>	<b>ACT 278</b>	HUVAL	Changes Certificate of Insurance Approval Process; Specifies that insurance producers may not be required to provide certain information regarding insurance coverage. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 612</b>	<b>ACT 123</b>	TALBOT	Allows vehicle mechanical breakdown insurers to file audited consolidated financial statements with the commissioner of insurance. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 663</b>	<b>ACT 142</b>	THIBAUT	Requires insurance companies to give 180-day written notice to a non-captive insurance producer prior to an insurance company terminating the producer's appointment. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 798</b>	<b>ACT 258</b>	TALBOT	Provides for limited lines licensing to sell property coverage for property that is self-stored in self-storage facilities. Includes requirements for brochures and other written materials regarding insurance offered. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>HB 935</b>	<b>ACT 596</b>	HOLLIS	Requires insurers to provide written notice to policyholders of policy coverage reductions at renewal. EFFECTIVE 1-1-2017
<b>HB 1013</b>	<b>ACT 456</b>	THIBAUT	Changes the requirements for transferring ownership of a motor vehicle, which is declared a total loss, to an insurance company. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>SB 27</b>	<b>ACT 162</b>	SMITH	Provides relative to motor vehicle rental insurers; adds authorized agents. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>SB 44</b>	<b>ACT 470</b>	GATTI	Provides for workers' compensation insurance premium reductions to certain employers. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>SB 95</b>	<b>ACT 197</b>	WARD	Provides relative to evidence of compulsory motor vehicle insurance for self-propelled motor vehicles. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016
<b>SB 123</b>	<b>ACT 613</b>	CLAITOR	Revises and reorganizes Code of Criminal Procedure articles and Revised Statutes relative to bail bonds. EFFECTIVE 1-1-2017
<b>SB 185</b>	<b>ACT 202</b>	MORRISH	Provides with respect to insurance premium finance companies; provides with respect to premium finance agreements which may include a loan agreement for wind mitigation retrofits. EFFECTIVE 8-1-2016

**2017 LOUISIANA REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
NOTED ACTS**

<b>HB 217</b>	<b>ACT 297</b>	JORDAN	INSURANCE: Provides relative to the regulation of unfair competition and unfair trade practices by vehicle mechanical breakdown insurers EFFECTIVE 7-1-2017
<b>HB 233</b>	<b>ACT 9</b>	THOMAS	INSURANCE/SURPLUS LINE: Provides relative to filing requirements for surplus lines insurers EFFECTIVE 7-1-2017
<b>HB 287</b>	<b>ACT 299</b>	TALBOT	INSURANCE: Provides for the return of unearned premium and notice of claim payments to the mortgagee EFFECTIVE 8-1-2017
<b>HB 378</b>	<b>ACT 13</b>	ANDERS	INSURERS/GUARANTY ASSNS: Provides for exclusion from guaranty fund coverage for a person acquiring rights to receive payments through a "structured settlement factoring transaction" EFFECTIVE 7-1-2017
<b>HB 392</b>	<b>ACT 61</b>	CONNICK	INSURANCE/FIRE-CASUALTY: Prohibits insurers from combining a higher classified public fire protection area with a lower classified public fire protection area for the purpose of determining insurance rates for both districts EFFECTIVE 8-1-2017
<b>HB 393</b>	<b>ACT 219</b>	CONNICK	INSURANCE/POLICIES: Provides for the elimination of contents coverage on residential properties following a declared disaster EFFECTIVE 1-1-2018
<b>HB 542</b>	<b>ACT 225</b>	STOKES	INSURANCE: Provides for travel insurance EFFECTIVE 1-1-2018
<b>SB 44</b>	<b>ACT 182</b>	SMITH	INSURANCE POLICIES: Provides relative to the sale of policies issued by the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation EFFECTIVE 8-1-2017
<b>SB 45</b>	<b>ACT 183</b>	SMITH	INSURANCE POLICIES: Provides relative to the definition of ocean marine insurance EFFECTIVE 8-1-2017
<b>SB 184</b>	<b>ACT 166</b>	LUNEAU	AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE: Provides for the removal of an offset or credit against uninsured motorist coverage when the carrier is insolvent EFFECTIVE 8-1-2017

**2018 LOUISIANA REGULAR LEGISLATIVE SESSION  
NOTED ACTS**

<b>HB 247</b>	<b>ACT 7</b>	HUVAL	INSURANCE/SURPLUS LINE: Provides relative to types of coverage available under surplus lines insurance. EFFECTIVE 1/1/2019
<b>HB 333</b>	<b>ACT 131</b>	TALBOT	INSURANCE/PROPERTY: Provides relative to the Louisiana Citizens Property Insurance Corporation Policy Take-Out Program. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>HB 370</b>	<b>ACT 132</b>	TALBOT	INSURANCE: Authorizes electronic delivery of insurance coverage notices. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>HB 522</b>	<b>ACT 592</b>	DAVIS	INSURANCE/AUTOMOBILE: Provides relative to motor vehicle service contracts; to move the registration of motor vehicle service contract providers from the department of insurance to the secretary of state. EFFECTIVE 2/1/2019
<b>HB 752</b>	<b>ACT 278</b>	HUVAL	INSURANCE/AUTOMOBILE: Provides relative to motor vehicle reports required to obtain an insurance premium quote. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>HB 756</b>	<b>ACT 695</b>	DWIGHT	INSURERS/GUARANTY ASSNS: Requires exhaustion of all other available coverage as relates to claims paid by the Louisiana Guaranty Association. EFFECTIVE 5/30/2018
<b>HCR 47</b>		TALBOT	INSURANCE/AUTOMOBILE: Requests the Department of Insurance to assemble a task force to address the high automobile insurance rates in the state.
<b>SB 85</b>	<b>ACT 27</b>	SMITH	INSURANCE CLAIMS: Authorizes an insured to opt in to receive a claim payment by electronic transfer. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>SB 87</b>	<b>ACT 18</b>	SMITH	INSURANCE DEPARTMENT: Provides relative to the electronic filing of documents. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>SB 138</b>	<b>ACT 567</b>	LUNEAU	AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE: Provides for out-of-state automobile insurance coverage. EFFECTIVE 8/1/2018
<b>SCR 55</b>		BISHOP	AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE: Requests the Louisiana Department of Insurance to assemble a task force to address the high automobile insurance rates in the state.



## **REGULATION 78**

Regulation 78 is printed on the following pages. Sections §10107 and §10109 are not included as they are specific to the Health and Life Divisions. If you need to view the complete document, please refer to the Department's website at [www.lidi.la.gov](http://www.lidi.la.gov) .

**RULE**

**Department of Insurance  
Office of the Commissioner**

**Regulation 78—Policy Form Filing Requirements  
(LAC 37:XIII.Chapter 101)**

The Department of Insurance, pursuant to the authority of the *Louisiana Insurance Code*, R.S. 22:1 et seq., and in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, R.S. 49:950 et seq., has amended Regulation 78, Policy Form Filing Requirements.

The purpose of amending Regulation 78 is to provide a more streamlined and cost-effective means for insurance companies to file policy forms, amendments and associated documents with the Department of Insurance; to provide uniform procedures for filing among the states; and to bring this regulation into compliance with the Affordable Care Act.

**Title 37  
INSURANCE**

**Part XIII. Regulations**

**Chapter 101. Regulation 78-Policy Form Filing Requirements**

**§10101. Purpose**

A. The purpose of this regulation is:

1. to provide for the uniform and practicable administration of the form filing, review and approval requirements of the *Louisiana Insurance Code*;
2. to clarify the provisions of R.S. 22:861(B);
3. to protect the interests of insurance consumers and the public through improvements to the form filing, review and approval processes; and
4. to assist all insurers doing business in the state of Louisiana in complying with the form filing, review and approval requirements of the *Louisiana Insurance Code*.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S.22:861, R.S. 22:862 and R.S 22:974.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2539 (December 2002), amended LR 33:101 (January 2007), LR 42:1940 (November 2016).

**§10103. Authority**

A. This regulation is adopted pursuant to R.S. 22:11.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11 and Directive 169.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2539 (December 2002), amended LR 42:1940 (November 2016).

**§10105. Applicability and Scope**

A. This regulation applies to all insurers doing business in the state of Louisiana subject to the form filing, review and approval provisions of the *Louisiana Insurance Code*.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S. 22:861, R.S. 22:862 and R.S. 22:974.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2539 (December 2002), amended LR 33:101 (January 2007), LR 42:1940 (November 2016).

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**§10113. Filing and Review of Property and Casualty Insurance Policy Forms and Related Matters**

A. Definitions. As used in this Section, the following terms shall have the meaning or definition as indicated herein.

*Affirmative Approval*-department approval, as a result of the department taking action, following compliance review of a complete filing, or a filing pursuant to Subsection D hereof.

*Basic Insurance Policy Form*-an insurance contractual agreement delineating the terms, provisions and conditions of a particular insurance product. It includes endorsements, and application forms where written application is required and is to be attached to the policy or be a part of the contract. It does not include policies, riders, or endorsements designed, at the request of the individual policyholder, contract holder, or certificate holder, to delineate insurance coverage upon a particular subject or which relate to the manner of distribution of benefits or to the reservation of rights and benefits under such policy.

*Certification of Compliance*-certification by an insurer, executed by an officer or authorized representative of the insurer on a form prescribed by the department, that upon knowledge and belief a filing is complete and in compliance with all applicable statutes, and rules and regulations promulgated by the department. A certification of compliance must be included with any filing for certified approval.

*Certified Approval*-approval on the basis of an expedited review by the department of a complete filing based upon the inclusion of a statement of compliance and a certification of compliance, executed by an officer or authorized representative of the filing insurer on forms prescribed by the department. The department shall by directive determine those specific types of coverage and particular types of contracts for which the certified approval procedure is either required or available at the option of the insurer.

*Commissioner*-the commissioner of insurance of the Louisiana Department of Insurance.

*Complete Filing*-the filing of a single insurance product, including any required filing fees; a basic insurance policy form, application form to be attached to the policy or be a part of the contract; all items required under Subsection C hereof, "General Filing Requirements," and any other requirements as may be set forth in the applicable statement of compliance.

*Compliance Audit*-a retrospective review conducted by the department of previously approved basic insurance policy forms to determine compliance with applicable law.

*Compliance Review*-department review of a filing made pursuant to this Section to determine either that the filing is in compliance with all applicable statutes, rules and regulations, or that the filing should be disapproved for noncompliance.

*Deemed Approval*-approval of a complete filing based upon notice, as provided herein, made to the department by the filing insurer, following expiration of the specific time periods as provided herein, where affirmative approval has not been granted and the filing has not been disapproved by

the department.

*Department*-the Louisiana Department of Insurance.

*Endorsement*-a written agreement attached to an insurance product to add or subtract coverage, or otherwise modify the product.

*Filing Organization*-an entity authorized by the Commissioner to act as an advisory or rating organization on behalf of its members and subscribers.

*Insurance Product*-a basic insurance policy form delineating the terms, provisions and conditions of a specific type of coverage under a particular type of contract, or a basic insurance policy form which combines more than one line of business within one policy form at a single premium.

*Insurer*-every person engaged in the business of making contracts of insurance, as further defined in R.S. 22:46(10).

*Method of Marketing*-marketing either through independent or captive agents; telephone, electronic mail or direct mail solicitation; groups, organizations, associations or trusts; and/or the Internet.

*Rate/Rule Approval*-a department notice addressed to an insurer granting authorization to implement or revise rates and/or rules on a specified date.

*Required Filing Fee*-the fee assessed per product or filing pursuant to state insurance law.

*Rider*-an endorsement to an insurance product that modifies clauses and provisions of the product, including adding or excluding coverage.

*Statement of Compliance*-a form prescribed by the department detailing the requirements specific to a particular form of coverage and contract type.

#### B. Filing Required

1. Pursuant to R.S. 22:861(A), no basic insurance policy form, other than fidelity or surety bond forms, or application form where written application is required and is to be attached to the policy or be a part of the contract, or printed rider or endorsement form, shall be issued, delivered, or used in this state unless and until it has been filed with and approved by the commissioner. Every page of each such form including rider and endorsement forms filed with the department must be identified by a form number in the lower left corner of the page.

2. A filing description must accompany every filing, describing the items included in the filing, the insurance product for which the filing is being made, and the method of marketing to be used for the product. For non-electronic paper filings, this description must be satisfied by the submission of a completed transmittal document.

#### C. General Filing Requirements

1. The department shall designate, by directive, those insurance products which must be filed pursuant to the requirements for certified approval as set forth in Subsection F hereof, "Time Periods and Requirements for Certified Approval of Policy Form Filings," and those insurance products which may, at the discretion of the insurer, be filed pursuant to said requirements. All insurance products not so designated shall be filed pursuant to the requirements for compliance review as set forth in Subsection E hereof, "Time Periods and Requirements for Compliance Review of Policy Form Filings." Filing organizations are excepted from the mandatory provisions relative to certified approval and

may, at their option, make filings pursuant to Subsection E hereof.

2. Only complete filings will be accepted, whether by mail or as otherwise authorized. In order for the department to conduct a proper compliance review or compliance audit of an insurance product, all items associated therewith must be included. A filing of a basic insurance policy form will be determined incomplete and will be disapproved if it does not contain all applicable items.

a. All filings of an insurance product must include, in final wording, the following items, in order:

i. required filing fee, per product, per insurance company; or required filing fee per endorsement filing; per insurance company;

ii. forms filed for approval;

iii. statement of compliance for said product;

iv. explanation of any rate/rule impact, with a copy of any rate/rule approval letters issued by the department; if none, so state;

v. duplicate set of the policy forms filing, as filed for approval, unless filed electronically;

vi. self-addressed, stamped envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the company's set of the policy forms filed, unless filed electronically.

b. Any insurer choosing to include variable provisions in any policy form must set forth prospective options of the proposed variable text in the submitted policy form. Each section of a policy form that is variable must be identified as variable and should be enclosed in brackets. The variable text or provisions must be described as clearly as possible and include all specific possible alternatives.

c. If it is necessary to provide an explanation of or any additional information regarding the range of variability contained in the form, then a separate statement of variability must be submitted. A statement of variability must provide an explanation of all permissible variations of text or provision that could be used in a policy form offered to policyholders or certificate holders. A statement of variability must also describe in detail all variations of text or provisions that could be placed in a policy form. The variable text or language must be described as clearly as possible and include all specific possible alternatives.

d. Use of any text or language that does not reflect the variable text or provision submitted and approved by the department constitutes use of an unapproved policy form. Any changes to a statement of variability must be submitted to the department as a new filing along with the policy form(s) being amended.

3. An insurer may elect to adopt forms submitted by a filing organization, or have a filing organization file forms on its behalf. An insurer may request an effective date later than the effective date of the filing by the filing organization. Such adoptions, whether delayed or not, must be requested by letter. The Forms and Compliance Division staff of the department will verify that the insurer is a member or subscriber of the filing organization, and that the forms being adopted have been approved by the department.

a. Adoptions, including delayed adoptions, are filed for informational purposes only, but the request will be denied if the forms proposed for adoption are not approved by the department. To receive an acknowledgement of filing, the insurer's request must contain the following items, in

order:

- i. required filing fee, per adoption of each advisory organization's reference or item filing, per insurance company whether or not delayed;
- ii. reference to the filing organization's designation/item number;
- iii. line of business;
- iv. name of the program; and
- v. stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the insurer's cover letter bearing the department's stamp of acknowledgement, or disapproval of an adoption, unless filed electronically.

b. An insurer may elect to non-adopt forms submitted by a filing organization. Non-adoptions are filed for informational purposes only, and must be submitted by the insurer. To receive an acknowledgement of the informational letter, it must contain the following items, in order:

- i. reference to the filing organization's identification/code number;
- ii. line of business;
- iii. name of the program; and
- iv. stamped, self-addressed envelope of sufficient size for use in returning the insurer's cover letter bearing the department's stamp of acknowledgement.

D. Exceptions. Exceptions to the requirements for a complete filing may be allowed at the discretion of the department, subject to the conditions stated herein, for the following policy forms:

1. informational filings, submitted for acknowledgement, for fidelity and surety bond forms as exempted by R.S. 22:861 A(1), and ocean marine and foreign trade insurances as exempted by R.S. 22:851(A). No filing fees will be required for these filings.

2. filings for certain commercial lines, exempted pursuant to the commercial deregulation laws set by Regulation 72;

3. application forms or enrollment forms to be used with a particular insurance product, or with multiple insurance products, provided that the policy form filings and dates approved are identified for each previously approved product with which the application form will henceforth be used, and the application form is included with any subsequently filed basic insurance policy forms as needed to constitute a complete filing. No filing fees will be required for these filings;

4. forms for lines of insurance or insurance products specifically exempted pursuant to statute.

5. riders or endorsements. Filings of amendatory riders or endorsements are permitted where the insurance product to be altered was originally certified or granted affirmative approval.

a. Such filings must include either:

- i. specimen copies of the pertinent previously approved or certified forms, the dates previously approved or certified, and the specific terms and provisions being amended, underlined in red or similarly emphasized; or

- ii. a detailed list that includes:

- (a) the department's form filing number;

- (b) date of approval; and

- (c) the form number for each previously approved policy form for which the amendment applies.

b. The rider or endorsement forms shall be included

with any subsequently filed basic insurance policy forms as needed to constitute a complete filing.

c. Such filings must include statutory filing fees in accordance with the most current fee schedule applicable to such filings, as set forth by the Louisiana Legislature.

E. Time Periods and Requirements for Compliance Review of Policy Form Filings

1. The time periods stated in this Section do not begin until the date a complete filing, or a filing pursuant to Subsection D hereof, "Exceptions," is received by the department.

2. If a filing is incomplete, notice of disapproval in accordance with R.S. 22:862(6) will be issued for failure to comply with the requirements of this regulation.

3. A basic insurance policy form must be submitted to the department in accordance with the "General Filing Requirements" of this Section no less than 45 days in advance of planned issuance, delivery or use.

4. If affirmatively approved by order of the commissioner prior to expiration of the 45-day period allowed for department review of a filing, the policy forms filed may be used on or after the date approved.

5. If disapproved, the policy forms filed may not be used.

6. At the expiration of 45 days, if no order has been issued affirmatively approving or disapproving a filing, the insurer shall submit written notice to the department if the filing has been deemed approved on a specific date, or advise when the filing is withdrawn from consideration. Such date specified by the insurer shall be on or after day 46, but not earlier than the 45-day expiration period. Such written notice shall be sent to the department within 30 days after the expiration of the 45-day period clearly stating the date deemed approved or withdrawn from consideration and the anticipated date to be used by the insurer (if different from the date deemed approved). Deemed approval shall not be effective until the insurer has so notified the commissioner, by certified mail/return receipt requested.

7. The commissioner may send written notice prior to expiration of the initial 45-day period extending the time allowed for approval or disapproval by an additional 15 days.

a. If affirmatively approved by order of the commissioner prior to expiration of the 15-day extended period allowed for department review, the policy forms filed may be used on or after the date approved.

b. At the expiration of the 15-day extended period, if no order has been issued affirmatively approving or disapproving the policy form filing, the insurer shall submit written notice to the department if the policy form filing has been deemed approved on a specific date or, advise when the policy form filing is withdrawn from consideration. Such date specified by the insurer shall be on or after day 46 referred to in Paragraph E.6 or day 61, but not earlier than the 45 day expiration period. Such written notice shall be sent to the department within 30 days after the expiration of the 15-day extended period, clearly stating the date deemed approved or withdrawn from consideration and the anticipated date to be used by the insurer (if different from the date deemed approved). Deemed approval shall not be effective until the insurer has so notified the commissioner, by certified mail/return receipt requested.

F. Time Periods and Requirements for Certified Approval of Policy Form Filings

1. The department will make available statements of compliance setting forth the statutory and regulatory requirements specific to the various forms of coverage and contract types, as well as certification of compliance forms:

2. A policy form filing submitted for certified approval must include the following documents:

- a. statement of compliance applicable to the form of coverage and contract type being submitted;
- b. signed and dated certification of compliance;
- c. all other items as set forth in Paragraph C.2 hereof.

3. If the filing is incomplete, notice of disapproval in accordance with R.S. 22:862(6) will be issued for failure to comply with the requirements of this regulation.

4. At the expiration of 15 days from acknowledged receipt of a filing by the department, if no order has been issued affirming certified approval or disapproving the policy form filing, the insurer shall submit written notice to the department if the policy form filing has been deemed approved on a specific date, or advise when the policy form filing is withdrawn from consideration. Such date specified by the insurer shall be on or after day 16, but no earlier than the 15-day expiration period. Such written notice shall be sent to the department within 30 days after the expiration of the 15-day period clearly stating the date deemed approved or withdrawn from consideration and the anticipated date to be used by the insurer (if different from the date deemed approved). Deemed approval shall not be effective until the insurer has so notified the commissioner, by certified mail/return receipt requested.

5. No insurer, through an officer or authorized representative, shall file a certification of compliance containing false attestations or from which material facts or information have been omitted. In the event that the department subsequently learns that a certification of compliance contains any inaccuracies, false attestations, or material omissions, approval of the subject forms may be withdrawn, and the insurer may be subjected to the provisions of Subsection I hereof.

G. Resubmission of Filings

1. When submitting revised forms in response to an order of disapproval, or withdrawal of approval, whether issued pursuant to Subsection E, Subsection F or Subsection I hereof, the revised forms will constitute a new filing, must comply with all provisions of this Section for such a filing, and, in addition to the required filing fee, must include:

- a. an outline of the proposed revisions, referencing the specific sections and page numbers for each form being revised;
- b. a restatement of the form with all necessary revisions, as set forth in the prior order of disapproval, underlined in red or similarly emphasized; and
- c. a copy of the prior order of disapproval, or withdrawal of approval, issued by the commissioner on the previous filing.

2. When submitting revisions to previously approved forms, the revised forms will constitute a new filing, must be a complete filing as set forth in Subsection C hereof, "General Filing Requirements" and, in addition to the

required filing fee, must include:

- a. a copy of the previously approved form;
- b. an outline of the proposed revisions, referencing the specific sections and page numbers for each previously approved form being revised;
- c. a restatement of the form, with all proposed revisions underlined in red or similarly emphasized; and
- d. a copy of the prior order of approval, issued by the commissioner on the previous filing.

3. When a previously approved form has been rewritten, it must be assigned a unique form number, and such form must be filed as an original filing.

H. Compliance and Audits

1. Approval of a basic insurance policy form does not assure perpetual compliance. Following subsequent changes in applicable law, insurers shall revise and file updated insurance products, or amendatory riders or endorsements where appropriate, with the department for approval as required to maintain continuous compliance with the current requirements of law. This provision shall apply to all new business issued, or in-force business renewed, following any such subsequent changes in applicable law, or as otherwise expressed by the Louisiana Legislature.

2. A retrospective review process is utilized to verify compliance of approved filings and to assure that all approved filings remain in compliance with currently applicable law. Compliance audits may be conducted by random selection, prompted by complaints filed with the department or requests for information made by the department, or performed during the course of examinations conducted by the department.

3. Insurers shall notify the department in writing to advise when a previously approved basic insurance policy form will no longer be marketed in this state and is being permanently withdrawn from the market. Such notification shall be sent at a minimum 60 days prior to the market end date and shall also advise whether or not coverage issued in this state under the policy form remains in force and whether or not such existing business will continue to be renewed. The notification shall provide the policy form numbers being discontinued and dates originally approved by this department.

I. Withdrawal of Approval and Corrective Action

1. The department shall withdraw any affirmative approval of a filing previously granted, or withdraw any approval of a filing previously deemed approved by an insurer, if the department determines that any of the reasons for disapproval as stated in R.S. 22:862 apply to the filing in question. The notice of withdrawal of approval by the department shall state that such withdrawal of approval is effective 30 days after receipt of such notice by the affected insurer or immediately where there has been a violation of the *Louisiana Insurance Code* that results in irreparable injury, loss, or damage and injunctive relief is necessary. In the event injunctive relief is granted to the department, the insurer or its duly authorized representative shall be enjoined or restrained from engaging in any prohibitory activity set forth in the injunctive order or judgment rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

a. The affected insurer may request a hearing on the withdrawal of approval, by written request mailed to the department within 30 days of receipt of the notice of

withdrawal of approval.

b. Upon receipt by the department of a timely request for a hearing, the 30-day notice period precedent to withdrawal of approval being effective shall be suspended for the duration of the hearing process, and shall recommence upon the date of a ruling adverse to the insurer requesting the hearing, unless injunctive relief has been requested and granted to the department by a court of competent jurisdiction. Such suspension of the notice of withdrawal of approval shall be applicable to Paragraphs I.2, 3, 4, and 5 hereof.

2. Upon receipt of the notice of withdrawal of approval by the department, the affected insurer must:

a. immediately amend its procedures to assure that all in-force business is properly administered in accordance with the findings stated in the department's withdrawal of approval;

b. immediately review and ascertain any negative impact upon covered persons caused directly or indirectly by non-compliant provisions of the forms for which department approval has been withdrawn; and

c. immediately review other products being marketed by the insurer to assure that they do not contain such non-compliant provisions.

3. Within 30 days of receipt of the notice of withdrawal of approval by the department, a corrective action plan must be submitted to the department by the affected insurer. The corrective action plan must include the following.

a. If the affected product will no longer be marketed, amendatory endorsement forms or rider forms to affect any in-force business written utilizing the non-compliant forms, correcting all areas of non-compliance as stated in the withdrawal of approval by the department; and a prototype of the notice to be utilized in notifying any affected policyholders of the changes to their existing coverage.

b. If the insurer desires to continue marketing the affected product, both:

i. a complete filing of properly revised forms in accordance with Paragraph G.1 hereof; and

ii. amendatory endorsement forms or rider forms to affect any in-force business written utilizing the non-compliant forms, correcting all areas of non-compliance as stated in the withdrawal of approval by the department; and a prototype of the notice to be utilized in notifying any affected policyholders of the changes to their existing coverage.

c. Where such a required change can be clearly explained to prospective policyholders through amendatory endorsement forms or rider forms, an insurer may request department approval to utilize its existing inventory of the policy forms in question subject to the incorporation of approved amendatory endorsement forms or rider forms. Such approval shall not extend to any reprinting of such forms.

4. Thirty days following receipt of the notice by the affected insurer, of withdrawal of approval by the department, an affected product shall not be issued by the insurer, except in accordance with a corrective action plan approved by the department. The insurer has the obligation

to timely notify its marketing force, or to otherwise adjust its business operations, accordingly. In the event the affected insurer issues the product without approval from the department, and injunctive relief is necessary and granted to the department, the insurer or its duly authorized representative shall be enjoined or restrained from engaging in any prohibitory activity set forth in the injunctive order or judgment rendered by a court of competent jurisdiction.

5. The department may, in its discretion, extend the 30-day period for approval of a corrective action plan, upon the written request of the affected insurer and for good cause shown. In the event such an extension is granted, the date by which the insurer must cease issuing the affected product, except in accordance with a corrective action plan approved by the department, shall likewise be so extended.

6. Failure to timely respond as required herein shall result in a formal investigation to establish the extent of statutory violations, followed by an administrative hearing to determine appropriate sanctions against the insurer.

7. Where the department fails to respond to a corrective action plan filed by an insurer, or takes no action whatsoever regarding such plan, the insurer may deem the subject corrective action plan approved at the expiration of the 30-day period for approval by the department.

#### J. Appeals and Hearings

1. Any person aggrieved by a failure to approve any filing, or the disapproval of any filing, or the withdrawal of approval of any filing, or any related action taken by the department pursuant to this Section, may request an administrative hearing in accordance with the provisions of part XXIX of title 22 of the *Louisiana Revised Statutes*. Pursuant to R.S. 22:2191, such demand must be in writing, must specify in what respects such person is aggrieved and the grounds to be relied upon as the basis for relief to be demanded at the hearing, and must be made within 30 days after the failure to approve any filing, notice of disapproval of any filing, or the notice of withdrawal of approval of any filing when such notice is mailed, faxed or delivered to the aggrieved party at his last known address.

#### K. Maintenance of Records; Alteration of Forms Prohibited

1. Every person filing policy forms, or related forms, for approval by the department shall maintain the original set of any and all forms as returned by the department, along with all related correspondence and transmittal documents from the department. Alternatively, images of such documents may be maintained in electronic/digital form. Such files shall be available for inspection by the department upon request, and must be maintained for a period of five years after the forms have been withdrawn from the market in accordance with Paragraph H.3 hereof, and no coverage issued on risks in this state utilizing such forms remains in force.

2. The alteration of, or any change to, any such form approved by the department is prohibited. Any such altered or changed form shall be submitted to the department as a new filing, and shall comply with all provisions of this Section applicable to a new filing. This Subsection shall not apply to typographical corrections and format improvements that do not affect the terms, provisions or clarity of the product.

3. A change of company name or logo, a change of

address, and changes in listed officers do not require a new filing of forms when the department is otherwise properly notified of such change, and a copy of such notification is maintained on file by the insurer.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S. 22:861 and R.S. 22:862.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2548 (December

2002), amended LR 33:108 (January 2007), LR 42:1952 (November 2016).

#### **§10115. Penalties**

A. Pursuant to R.S. 22:44, "False or Fraudulent Material Information," in accordance with all provisions thereof, and specifically applicable to all documents required by this regulation.

1. It shall be unlawful for any person to intentionally and knowingly supply false or fraudulent material information pertaining to any document or statement required by the department.

2. Whoever violates the provisions of this Section shall be imprisoned, with or without hard labor, for not more than five years, or fined not more than \$5,000, or both.

B. Pursuant to R.S. 22:1964(12), in accordance with all provisions thereof, any violation of a prohibitory provision of this regulation shall constitute an unfair trade practice, and, after proper notice and hearing as specified by statute, may subject the insurer and its officer(s) or representative(s) to:

1. The provisions of R.S. 22:1969, including:

a. payment of a monetary penalty of not more than \$1,000 for each and every act or violation, but not to exceed an aggregate penalty of \$100,000 unless the person knew or reasonably should have known he was in violation of applicable law, in which case the penalty shall be not more than \$25,000 for each and every act or violation, but not to exceed an aggregate penalty of \$250,000 in any six-month period; and

b. suspension or revocation of the license of the person if he knew or reasonably should have known he was in violation of applicable law.

2. The provisions of R.S. 22:1970, including:

a. a monetary penalty of not more than \$25,000 for each and every act or violation, not to exceed an aggregate of \$250,000; and

b. suspension or revocation of such person's license or certificate of authority.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S. 22:861, R.S. 22:862 and R.S. 22:974.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2552 (December 2002), amended LR 33:110 (January 2007), LR 42:1957 (November 2016).

#### **§10117. Severability**

A. If any provision of this regulation, or its application to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, such determination shall not affect other provisions or applications of this regulation which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to that end, the provisions of this regulation are severable.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S. 22:861, R.S. 22:862 and R.S. 22:974.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2552 (December

2002), amended LR 33:111 (January 2007), LR 42:1957 (November 2016).

#### **§10119. Effective Date**

##### **[Formerly §10117]**

A. This regulation became effective January 1, 2003; however, the amendments to this regulation will become effective upon final publication in the *Louisiana Register*.

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, Directive 169, R.S. 22:861, R.S. 22:862 and R.S. 22:974. HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 28:2552 (December 2002), amended LR 33:111 (January 2007), LR 42:1957 (November 2016).

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Louisiana Register Vol. 42, No. 11 November 20, 2016