

Chapter Ins 3

CASUALTY INSURANCE

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Ins 3.01 Accumulation benefit riders attached to health and accident policies. Except where such rider is used only on a policy replacing the company's own policy, and so recites, no rider providing for accumulations of benefits will be approved for use upon any policy of health and accident insurance, whether it is proposed to issue such rider with or without an additional premium. Such rider operates as an aid to twisting the policies of another company in such manner as to make its use a direct encouragement of this practice.

Ins 3.02 Automobile fleets, vehicles not included in. Individually owned motor vehicles cannot be included or covered by fleet rates. The determining factor for inclusion under fleet coverage must be ownership and not management or use.

Ins 3.04 Dividends not deducted from premiums in computing loss reserves. Premiums returned to policyholders as dividends may not be

deducted from the earned premiums in computing loss reserves under s. 623.04, Stats.

History: 1-2-56; emerg. am. eff. 6-22-76; am. Register, September, 1976, No. 249, eff. 10-1-76.

Ins 3.08 Municipal bond insurance. (1) **PURPOSE.** This section implements and interprets ss. 601.42, 611.19 (1), 618.21, 623.03, 623.04, 627.05, 628.34 (2), 632.14, and 632.17, Stats., for the purpose of establishing minimum requirements for the transaction of a type of surety insurance known as municipal bond insurance.

(2) **SCOPE.** This section shall apply to the underwriting, marketing, rating, accounting and reserving activities of insurers which write municipal bond insurance.

(3) **DEFINITIONS.** (a) "Annual statement" means the fire and casualty annual statement form specified in s. Ins. 7.01 (5) (a).

(b) "Contingency reserve" means a reserve established for the protection of policyholders covered by policies insuring municipal bonds against the effect of excessive losses occurring during adverse economic cycles.

(c) "Cumulative net liability" means one-third of one percent of the insured unpaid principal and insured unpaid interest covered by in-force policies of municipal bond insurance.

(d) "Municipal bonds" means securities, including revenue obligations, the interest on which is exempt from Federal income taxes, including those which are issued by or on behalf of:

1. Any state, territory or possession of the United States of America;
 2. Any political subdivision of any such state, territory or possession;
- or
3. Any agency, authority or corporate or other instrumentality of any one or more of the foregoing, or which are guaranteed by any of the foregoing.

(e) "Municipal bond insurance" means a type of surety insurance authorized by s. Ins 6.75 (2) (g) which is limited to the guaranteeing of the performance and obligations of municipal bonds.

(f) "Municipal bond insurer" means an insurer which issues municipal bond insurance.

(g) "Total net liability" means the average annual amount due, net of reinsurance, for principal and interest on the insured amount of any one issue of municipal bonds.

(h) "Person" means any individual, corporation for profit or not for profit, association, partnership or any other legal entity.

(i) "Policyholders' surplus" means an insurer's net worth, the difference between its assets and liabilities, as reported in its annual statement.

(4) **MINIMUM CAPITAL OR PERMANENT SURPLUS.** The minimum capital or permanent surplus of a municipal bond insurer shall be \$2 million for Register, December, 1984, No. 348

an insurer first authorized to do business in Wisconsin on or before January 1, 1984, or the amount required by statute or administrative order after that date for other municipal bond insurers.

(5) LIMITATIONS AND RESTRICTIONS. (a) Policies of municipal bond insurance shall be issued only to provide coverage on bonds of the type defined in sub. (3) (d).

(b) A municipal bond insurer may not have total net liability in respect to any one issue of municipal bonds in excess of an amount representing 10% of its policyholders' surplus.

(c) A municipal bond insurer may not have outstanding cumulative net liability, under in-force policies of municipal bond insurance, in an amount which exceeds the sum of:

1. Its capital and surplus, plus
2. The contingency reserve under sub. (9) plus
3. Fifty percent of the unearned premiums on the stated class of business.

(d) A municipal bond insurer may not have more than 25% of the principal amount which it has insured represented by the principal amount of municipal bonds issued primarily to finance property for use in a trade or business carried on by any person other than a governmental unit, and secured by a pledge of payments to be made by the person or of revenues to be derived from the trade or business.

(6) PREMIUM. The total consideration charged for municipal bond insurance policies, including policy and other fees or similar charges, shall be considered premium and shall be subject to the reserve requirements of subs. (8) and (9).

(7) FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND REPORTING. (a) The financial condition and operations of a municipal bond insurer shall be reported on the annual statement.

(b) The total contingency reserve required by sub. (9) shall be reported as a liability in the annual statement. This liability may be reported as unpaid losses or other appropriately labeled write-in item. Appropriate entries shall be made in the underwriting and investment exhibit - statement of income of the annual statement. The change in contingency reserve for the year shall be reported in the annual statement as a reduction of or a deduction from underwriting income. If the contingency reserve is recorded as a loss liability, the change in the reserve shall be excluded from loss development similar to fidelity and surety losses incurred but not reported.

(c) A municipal bond insurer shall compute and maintain adequate case basis loss reserves to be reported in the underwriting and investment exhibit, unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, of the annual statement. The method used to determine the loss reserve shall accurately reflect loss frequency and loss severity and shall include components for claims reported and unpaid, and for claims incurred but not reported, provided:

1. No deduction may be made for anticipated salvage in computing case basis loss reserves.

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2. If the amount of insured principal and interest on a defaulted issue of municipal bonds which is due and payable over the period of the next 3 years exceeds 10% of a municipal bond insurer's capital, surplus and contingency reserve, its case basis reserve so established shall be supported by a report from a qualified independent source.

(8) **UNEARNED PREMIUM RESERVE.** A municipal bond insurer shall compute and maintain an unearned premium reserve on an annual or on a monthly pro rata basis on all unexpired coverage, except that in the case of premiums paid more than one year in advance, the premium shall be earned proportionally with the expiration of exposure except as provided under sub. (12).

(9) **CONTINGENCY RESERVE.** (a) A municipal bond insurer shall establish a contingency reserve which shall consist of allocations of sums representing 50% of the earned premium on policies of municipal bond insurance except as provided under sub. (12).

(b) The contingency reserve established by this subsection shall be maintained for 240 months. That portion of the contingency reserve established and maintained for more than 240 months shall be released and may no longer constitute part of the contingency reserve except as provided under sub. (12).

(c) Subject to the approval of the commissioner, withdrawals may be made from the contingency reserve in any year in which the actual paid losses on municipal bond insurance policies exceed 35% of the earned premiums on municipal bonds insurance policies except as provided under sub. (12).

(d) A municipal bond insurer may invest the contingency reserve in tax and loss bonds purchased pursuant to 26 U.S.C.s. 832(e). The contingency reserve shall otherwise be invested only in classes of securities or types of investments specified in s. 620.22 (1), Stats., except as provided under sub. (12).

(10) **CONFLICTS OF INTEREST PROHIBITED.** No municipal bond insurer may pay any commission or make any gift of money, property or other valuable thing to any employee, agent, or representative of any issuer of municipal bonds or to any employee, agent or representative of any underwriter of any issue of the bonds as an inducement to the purchase of, or at any time there is in force, a policy insuring bonds, and no employee, agent or representative of the insurer or underwriter shall receive any payment or gift. However, violation of the provisions of this subsection does not render void the municipal bond insurance policy.

(11) **TRANSITION.** Unearned premium reserves and contingency loss reserves shall be computed and maintained on risks insured after the effective date of this section as required by subs. (8) and (9).

(12) **LAWS OR REGULATIONS OF OTHER JURISDICTIONS.** Whenever the laws or regulations of another jurisdiction in which a municipal bond insurer is licensed, require a larger unearned premium reserve or a larger contingency reserve in the aggregate than that set forth in this section, the establishment and maintenance of the larger aggregated, unearned premium reserve and contingency reserve complies with this rule.

d. that the applicable premium rates may be changed.

Note: "Prominent use" as referred to in 2. and 4. is considered to include, but is not necessarily limited to, use in titles, brief descriptions, captions, bold-face type, or type larger than that used in the text of the form.

5. The foregoing limitation on the use of the term "non-cancellable" shall also apply to any synonymous term such as "not cancellable" and the limitation on use of the term "guaranteed renewable" shall apply to any synonymous term such as "guaranteed continuable".

6. Nothing herein contained is intended to restrict the development of policies having other guarantees of renewability, or to prevent the accurate description of their terms of renewability or the classification of such policies as guaranteed renewable or non-cancellable for any period during which they may actually be such, provided the terms used to describe them in policy contracts and advertising are not such as may readily be confused with the above terms.

7. The provisions of ss. 632.76 (1), 632.74 and 632.77 (3), Stats., are applicable to non-cancellable or non-cancellable and guaranteed renewable or guaranteed renewable policy forms as herein defined.

(f) Policies issued on a family basis shall clearly set forth the conditions relating to termination of coverage of any family member.

(g) Surgical benefit provisions or schedules shall provide that the benefit for any covered surgical procedure not specifically listed in the schedule and not excluded by the provisions of the policy shall be determined by the company on a basis consistent with the benefit provided for a comparable listed procedure.

(h) A limited policy is one that contains unusual exclusions, limitations, reductions, or conditions of such a restrictive nature that the payments of benefits under such policy are limited in frequency or in amounts. All limited policies shall be so identified by having the words "THIS IS A LIMITED POLICY—READ IT CAREFULLY" imprinted or stamped diagonally across the face of the policy and the filing back, if any, in contrasting color from the text of the policy and in outline type not smaller than 18-point. When appropriate, these words may be varied by the insurer in a manner to indicate the type of policy; as for example, "THIS POLICY IS LIMITED TO AUTOMOBILE ACCIDENTS—READ IT CAREFULLY". Without limiting the general definition above, policies of the following types shall be defined as "limited": 1. School Accident, 2. Aviation Accident, 3. Polio, 4. Specified Disease, 5. Automobile Accident.

(i) If the policy excepts coverage while the insured is in military or naval service, the policy must provide for a refund of pro rata unearned premium upon request of the insured for any period the insured is not covered. However, if coverage is excluded only for loss resulting from military or naval service or war, the refund provision will not be required. This section shall not apply to non-cancellable policies or non-cancellable and guaranteed renewable policies or guaranteed renewable policies.

(j) The provision or notice regarding the right to return the policy required by s. 632.73, Stats., shall:

1. Be printed on or attached to the first page of the policy,

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2. Have a caption or title which refers at least to the right to examine or to return the policy such as: "Right to Return Policy Within 10 Days of Receipt", "Notice: Right to Return Policy", "Right of Policy Examination", "Right to Examine Policy", "Right to Examine Policy for 10 Days", "10 Day Right to Examine Policy", "10 Day Right to Return Policy", or "Notice of 10 Day Right to Return Policy", or other wording, subject to approval by the commissioner, which is believed to be equally clear or more definite as to subject matter, and

3. Provide an unrestricted right to return the policy, within 10 days from the date it is received by the policyholder, to the insurer at its home or branch office, if any, or to the agent through whom it was purchased; except it shall provide an unrestricted right to return the policy within 30 days of the date it is received by the policyholder in the case of a Medicare supplement policy subject to s. Ins 3.39 (4), (5), and (6), issued pursuant to a direct response solicitation. Provision shall not be made to require the policyholder to set out in writing the reasons for returning the policy, to require the policyholder to first consult with an agent of the insurer regarding the policy, or to limit the reasons for return.

Note: Paragraph (j) was adopted to assist in the application of s. 204.31 (2) (a), Stats., to the review of accident and sickness policy and other contract forms. Those statutory requirements are presently included in s. 632.73, Stats. The original statute required that the provision of notice regarding the right to return the policy must be appropriately captioned or titled. Since the important rights given the insured are to examine the policy and to return the policy, the rule requires that the caption or title must refer to at least one of these rights—examine or return. Without such reference, the caption or title is not considered appropriate.

The original statute permitted the insured to return the policy for refund to the home office or branch office of the insurer or to the agency with whom it was purchased. In order to assure the refund is made promptly, some insurers prefer to instruct the insured to return the policy to a particular office or agent for a refund. Notices or provisions with such requirements will be approved on the basis that the insurer must recognize an insured's right to receive a full refund if the policy is returned to any other office or agent mentioned in the statute.

Also, the statute permits the insured to return a policy for refund within 10 days from the date of receipt. Some insurers' notices or provisions regarding such right, however, refer to delivery to the insured instead of receipt by the insured or do not specifically provide for the running of the 10 days from the date the insured receives the policy. Notices or provisions containing such wording will be approved on the basis that the insurer will not refuse refund if the insured returns the policy within 10 days from the date of receipt of the policy.

Sections 632.73 (2m) and 600.03 (35) (e), as created by Chapter 82, Laws of 1981, provide for the right of return provisions in certain certificates of group Medicare supplement policies. Therefore, for purposes of this subparagraph, the word policy includes a Medicare supplement certificate subject to Ins 3.39 (4), (5), and (6).

(k) A policy which contains any provision under which the claimant may elect one benefit in lieu of another shall not limit to a specified period the time within which election may be made.

(3) RIDERS AND ENDORSEMENTS. (a) A rider is an instrument signed by one or more officers of the insurer issuing the same to be attached to and form a part of a policy. All riders shall comply with the requirements of s. 204.31 (2) (a) 4, 1973 Stats.

(b) If the rider reduces or eliminates coverage of the policy, signed acceptance of the rider by the insured is necessary. However, signed acceptance of the rider is not necessary when the rider is attached at the time of the original issuance of the policy if notice of the attachment of the rider is affixed on the face and filing back, if any, in contrasting color, in not less than 12-point type. Such notice shall be worded in one of the following ways:

"Notice! See Elimination Rider Attached"

"Notice! See Exclusion Rider Attached"

"Notice! See Exception Rider Attached"

"Notice! See Limitation Rider Attached"

"Notice! See Reduction Rider Attached"

A company may submit, subject to approval by the commissioner, other wording which it believes is equally clear or more definite as to subject matter.

(c) An endorsement differs from a rider only in that it is applied to a policy by means of printing or stamping on the body of the policy. All endorsements shall comply with the requirements of s. 204.31 (2) (a) 4, 1973 Stats.

(d) If the endorsement reduces or eliminates coverage of the policy, signed acceptance of the endorsement by the insured is necessary. However, signed acceptance of the endorsement is not necessary when the endorsement is affixed at the time of the original issuance of the policy if notice of the endorsement is affixed on the face and filing back, if any, in contrasting color, in not less than 12-point type. Such notice shall be worded in one of the following ways:

"Notice! See Elimination Endorsement Included Herein"

"Notice! See Exclusion Endorsement Included Herein"

"Notice! See Exception Endorsement Included Herein"

"Notice! See Limitation Endorsement Included Herein"

"Notice! See Reduction Endorsement Included Herein"

A company may submit, subject to approval by the commissioner, other wording which it believes is equally clear or more definite as to subject matter.

(4) APPLICATIONS. (a) Application forms shall meet the requirements of s. Ins 3.28 (3).

(b) It shall not be necessary for the applicant to sign a proxy provision as a condition for obtaining insurance. The applicant's signature to the application must be separate and apart from any signature to a proxy provision.

(c) The application form, or the copy of it, attached to a policy shall be plainly printed or reproduced in light-faced type of a style in general use, the size of which shall be uniform and not less than 10-point.

(6) RATE FILINGS. (a) The following must be accompanied by a rate schedule:

1. Policy forms.
2. Rider or endorsement forms which affect the premium rate.

(b) The rate schedule shall bear the insurer's name and shall contain or be accompanied by the following information:

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1. The form number or identification symbol of each policy, rider or endorsement to which the rates apply.

2. A schedule of rates including policy fees or rate changes at renewal, if any, variations, if any, based upon age, sex, occupation, or other classification.

3. An indication of the anticipated loss ratio on an earned-incurred basis.

4. Any revision of a rate filing shall be accompanied by a statement of the experience on the form and the anticipated loss ratio on an earned-incurred basis under the revised rate filing.

5. Subdivisions 3 and 4 shall not apply to non-cancellable policies or riders or non-cancellable and guaranteed renewable policies or riders or guaranteed renewable policies or riders.

History: Cr. Register, March, 1958, No. 27; subsections (1), (5), (6) eff. 4-1-58; subsections (2), (3), (4) eff. 5-15-58; am. (2) (c) and cr. (4) (c), Register, March, 1959, No. 39, eff. 4-1-59; am. (2) (e), (6) (b) 3 and 4, Register, November, 1959, No. 47, eff. 12-1-59; am. and renum. (2) (c), (d), (e), (f), (g) and (h); am. (3) and (6) (b) 5, Register, June, 1960, No. 54, eff. 7-1-60; am. (2) (e) 4, Register, November, 1960, No. 59, eff. 12-1-60; r. (2) (j), Register, April, 1963, No. 88, eff. 5-1-63; cr. (2) (j), Register, March, 1964, No. 99, eff. 4-1-64; am. (2) (e) 2 and 4, Register, April, 1964, No. 100, eff. 5-1-64; am. (2) (j) 2; am. NOTE in (2) (j) 3; Register, March, 1969, No. 159; eff. 4-1-69; cr. (2) (k), Register, June, 1971, No. 186, eff. 7-1-71; am. (4) (a), Register, February, 1974, No. 218, eff. 3-1-74; emerg. am. (1), (2) (e) 7, (2) (j), (3) (a) and (c), eff. 6-22-76; am. (1), (2) (e) 7, (2) (j), (3) (a) and (c), Register, September, 1976, No. 249, eff. 10-1-76; am. (1) and (2) (e) 7, Register, March, 1979, No. 279, eff. 4-1-79; r. (5), Register, January, 1980, No. 289, eff. 2-1-80; am. (2) (j) 3, Register, June, 1982, No. 318, eff. 7-1-82.

Ins 3.14 Group accident and sickness insurance. (1) **PURPOSE.** This rule implements and interprets applicable statutes for the purpose of establishing procedures and requirements to expedite the review and approval of group accident and sickness policies permitted by s. 600.03 (34m) (b), Stats.

(3) **RATE FILINGS.** Schedules of premium rates shall be filed in accordance with the requirements of ch. 601 and s. 631.20, Stats. The schedules of premium rates shall bear the insurer's name and shall identify the coverages to which such rates are applicable.

(4) **CERTIFICATES.** (a) Each certificate issued to an employee or member of an insured group in connection with a group insurance policy shall include a statement in summary form of the provisions of the group policy relative to:

1. The essential features of the insurance coverage,
2. To whom benefits are payable,
3. Notice or proof of loss,
4. The time for paying benefits, and
5. The time within which suit may be brought.

(5) **COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS.** (a) Policies issued in accordance with s. 600.03 (34m) (b), Stats., shall offer to insure all eligible members of the group or association except any as to whom evidence of insurability is not satisfactory to the insurer. Cancellation of coverage of individual members of the group or association who have not withdrawn participation nor received maximum benefits is not permitted, except that the