

**RHODE ISLAND GOVERNMENT REGISTER
PUBLIC NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING**

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS REGULATION (INCLUDES THE OFFICE OF THE
HEALTH INSURANCE COMMISSIONER)**

Title of Rule: Powers and Duties of the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner

Rule Identifier: 230-RICR-20-30-4

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 08/31/2018

Hearing Date: 09/11/2018

End of Public Comment: 09/30/2018

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-14.5-1 et seq., 42-14-5, and 42-14-17.

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

OHIC is proposing some clarifications to this Regulation to improve readability and a few technical non-substantive changes reflected in the proposed amendments. In addition, the following changes have been made.

- In § 4.1, deleted the reference to the Administrative Procedures Act because it does not authorize the promulgation of any regulations but sets forth the required procedures.
- In §§ 4.5(B), 4.6(C), 4.7(C) and 4.8(C), relocated a paragraph and added some explanatory language for greater clarity.
- In § 4.10(D)(4), which sets forth guidelines for health insurers to follow when contracting with hospitals licensed in Rhode Island, added a sentence to clarify that the existing intent of the regulation is for it to apply to health insurer contracts with hospitals in the event of hospital conversions.

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until September 30, 2018 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Cory King

Department of Business Regulation (includes the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner)

Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner
1511 Pontiac Ave, Bldg 69-1
Cranston, RI 02920
cory.king@ohic.ri.gov

Public Hearing:

A public hearing, in accordance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-35-2.8, to consider the proposed amendment shall be held on September 11, 2018 at 11:00 am at Department of Labor & Training, Conference Room 73-1, 1511 Pontiac Ave, Bldg 73-1, Cranston, RI 02920 at which time and place all persons interested therein will be heard. The seating capacity of the room will be enforced and therefore the number of persons participating in the hearing may be limited at any given time by the hearing officer, in order to comply with safety and fire codes.

The place of the public hearing is accessible to individuals who are handicapped. If communication assistance (readers/interpreters/captioners) is needed, or any other accommodation to ensure equal participation, please call 401-462-9658 or RI Relay 711 at least three (3) business days prior to the meeting so arrangements can be made to provide such assistance at no cost to the person requesting.

Regulatory Analysis Summary and Supporting Documentation:

This proposed amendment constitutes technical clarifications and a minor amendment to clarify OHIC's existing policies. There is no policy change from the status quo, therefore, there is no economic impact due to the amendment that would require a cost-benefit analysis.

In the development of the proposed amendment consideration was given to: (1) alternative approaches; (2) overlap or duplication with other statutory and regulatory provisions; and (3) significant economic impact on small business. No alternative approach, duplication, or overlap was identified based upon available information.

For full regulatory analysis or supporting documentation see agency contact person above.