

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

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

Title of Rule: Unfair Property/Casualty Claims Settlement Practices

Rule Identifier: 230-RICR-20-40-2

Rulemaking Action: Proposed Amendment

Important Dates:

Date of Public Notice: 09/18/2019

Hearing Date: 10/15/2019

End of Public Comment: 10/25/2019

Authority for this Rulemaking:

R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-9.1-4

Summary of Rulemaking Action:

This Regulation provides specifications for Unfair Claims Settlement Practices under R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-9.1-4. The proposed amendments are designed to bring the regulation into compliance with statutory changes made to the underlying statute in the last legislative session. The specific proposed changes are:

- 2.3(A)(2) – This section is proposed to be amended to refer to a statutory definition rather than repeating it to avoid possible inconsistencies if the statute or regulation are amended in the future.
- 2.8(A)(2) – This section is proposed to be amended to reflect actions which have been taken since the original regulation was issued and to instruct applicants on the course to take in the future.
- 2.8(A)(4) – This section is proposed to be added to reflect the provisions of the statutory change to R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-9.1-4(a)(25)(iv).
- 2.8(B)(1)(b)(1) – This section is proposed to be added to reflect the provisions of the statutory change to R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-9.1-4(a)(25)(iv).
- 2.8(c)(1) - This section is proposed to be added to reflect the provisions of the statutory change to R.I. Gen. Laws § 27-9.1-4(a)(23).

Additional Information and Comments:

All interested parties are invited to request additional information or submit written or oral comments concerning the proposed amendment until October 25, 2019 by contacting the appropriate party at the address listed below:

Elizabeth Dwyer
Department of Business Regulation (includes the Office of the Health Insurance Commissioner)
1511 Pontiac Ave, Bldg. 69-2
Cranston, RI 02920
elizabeth.dwyer@dbr.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 October 15, 2019 at 10:00 am at 1511 Pontiac Ave, Buildings 68-69, 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 401-462-9551 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 regulation will result in no adverse impact for small businesses. In the development of the proposed regulation 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.