

HOUSE BILL No. 5583

January 24, 2006, Introduced by Reps. Cheeks, Condino, Vagnozzi, Alma Smith, Anderson, Espinoza, Brown, Meisner, Zelenko, Williams, Wojno, Lipsey, Donigan, Polidori, Tobocman, Farrah, Plakas, Gleason, Hood and Lemmons, III and referred to the Committee on Insurance.

A bill to amend 1956 PA 218, entitled "The insurance code of 1956," by amending sections 2109, 2115, 2403, and 2603 (MCL 500.2109, 500.2115, 500.2403, and 500.2603), section 2115 as amended by 1980 PA 461 and section 2403 as amended by 1993 PA 200.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 2109. ~~(1)~~ All rates for automobile insurance and home
2 insurance shall be made in accordance with the following
3 provisions:

4 (a) Rates shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly
5 discriminatory. A rate shall not be held to be excessive unless the
6 rate is unreasonably high for the insurance coverage provided. ~~and~~
7 ~~a reasonable degree of competition does not exist for the insurance~~

1 ~~to which the rate is applicable.~~

2 (b) A rate shall not be held to be inadequate unless the rate
3 is unreasonably low for the insurance coverage provided and the
4 continued use of the rate endangers the solvency of the insurer; or
5 unless the rate is unreasonably low for the insurance provided and
6 the use of the rate has or will have the effect of destroying
7 competition among insurers, creating a monopoly, or causing a kind
8 of insurance to be unavailable to a significant number of
9 applicants who are in good faith entitled to procure that insurance
10 through ordinary methods.

11 (c) A rate for a coverage is unfairly discriminatory in
12 relation to another rate for the same coverage if the differential
13 between the rates is not reasonably justified by differences in
14 losses, expenses, or both, or by differences in the uncertainty of
15 loss, for the individuals or risks to which the rates apply. A
16 reasonable justification shall be supported by a reasonable
17 classification system; by sound actuarial principles when
18 applicable; and by actual and credible loss and expense statistics
19 or, in the case of new coverages and classifications, by reasonably
20 anticipated loss and expense experience. A rate is not unfairly
21 discriminatory because it reflects differences in expenses for
22 individuals or risks with similar anticipated losses, or because it
23 reflects differences in losses for individuals or risks with
24 similar expenses.

25 ~~—— (2) A determination concerning the existence of a reasonable~~
26 ~~degree of competition with respect to subsection (1)(a) shall take~~
27 ~~into account a reasonable spectrum of relevant economic tests,~~

1 including the number of insurers actively engaged in writing the
2 insurance in question, the present availability of such insurance
3 compared to its availability in comparable past periods, the
4 underwriting return of that insurance over a period of time
5 sufficient to assure reliability in relation to the risk associated
6 with that insurance, and the difficulty encountered by new insurers
7 in entering the market in order to compete for the writing of that
8 insurance.

9 Sec. 2115. (1) ~~If as~~ **AS** part of a decision in a proceeding
10 under section 2114, or in a separate proceeding on the
11 commissioner's own motion, held pursuant to ~~Act No. 306 of the~~
12 ~~Public Acts of 1969, as amended, the commissioner finds that a~~
13 ~~reasonable degree of competition does not exist on a statewide~~
14 ~~basis with respect to automobile insurance or home insurance,~~ **THE**
15 **ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT OF 1969, 1969 PA 306, MCL 24.201 TO**
16 **24.328,** the commissioner ~~shall by~~ **MAY** order ~~require each~~ **AN**
17 **AUTOMOBILE OR HOME** insurer ~~which transacts that type of insurance~~
18 ~~in this state~~ to comply with the provisions of chapter 24 or 26,
19 as the case may be. ~~, with respect to that insurance which was the~~
20 ~~subject of the commissioner's finding.~~ The order shall take effect
21 not less than 90 nor more than 150 days after the order is issued.
22 On or after the effective date of an order issued under this
23 subsection, none of the provisions of this chapter ~~shall be~~ **IS**
24 applicable to the insurance ~~which~~ **THAT** was the subject of the
25 order.

26 (2) After an order issued pursuant to subsection (1) has been
27 in effect for 1 year, ~~if the commissioner has reason to believe~~

1 ~~that there would be a reasonable degree of price competition for~~
2 ~~the type of insurance affected by the order,~~ **THE COMMISSIONER, ON**
3 **HIS OR HER OWN MOTION,** or ~~if,~~ upon the petition of an insurer or
4 a resident of this state, ~~there is a showing that there is reason~~
5 ~~to believe that there would be a reasonable degree of price~~
6 ~~competition for that type of insurance, the commissioner shall~~ **MAY**
7 hold a hearing pursuant to ~~Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969,~~
8 ~~as amended,~~ **THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES ACT OF 1969, 1969 PA**
9 **306, MCL 24.201 TO 24.328,** to determine ~~if a reasonable degree of~~
10 ~~price competition would exist if~~ **WHETHER** the order ~~were no longer~~
11 **ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) SHOULD REMAIN** in effect. The hearing
12 shall be held upon not less than 20 days' written notice to each
13 insurer subject to the order **UNDER SUBSECTION (1)** and upon not less
14 than 20 days' notice in not less than 3 newspapers of general
15 circulation within this state.

16 (3) If the commissioner finds after the hearing that ~~a~~
17 ~~reasonable degree of price competition would exist,~~ **AN ORDER**
18 **ISSUED UNDER SUBSECTION (1) SHOULD NOT REMAIN IN EFFECT,** the
19 commissioner shall by order state when, not less than 90 nor more
20 than 150 days after issuance of a new order, the ~~preceding~~ order
21 **UNDER SUBSECTION (1)** will no longer be effective. On and after the
22 effective date of an order issued under this subsection, the
23 provisions of this chapter shall be applicable to the type of
24 insurance ~~which~~ **THAT** was the subject of the order **UNDER**
25 **SUBSECTION (1).**

26 Sec. 2403. (1) All rates shall be made in accordance with
27 this section and all of the following:

1 (a) Due consideration shall be given to past and prospective
2 loss experience within and outside this state; to catastrophe
3 hazards; to a reasonable margin for underwriting profit and
4 contingencies; to dividends, savings, or unabsorbed premium
5 deposits allowed or returned by insurers to their policyholders,
6 members, or subscribers; to past and prospective expenses, both
7 countrywide and those specially applicable to this state; to
8 underwriting practice, judgment, and to all other relevant factors
9 within and outside this state. For worker's compensation insurance,
10 in determining the reasonableness of the margin for underwriting
11 profit and contingencies, consideration shall be given to all
12 after-tax investment profit or loss from unearned premium and loss
13 reserves attributable to worker's compensation insurance, as well
14 as the factors used to determine the amount of reserves. For all
15 other kinds of insurance to which this chapter applies, all factors
16 to which due consideration is given under this subdivision shall be
17 treated in a manner consistent with the laws of this state that
18 existed on December 28, 1981.

19 (b) The systems of expense provisions included in the rates
20 for use by any insurer or group of insurers may differ from those
21 of other insurers or groups of insurers to reflect the requirements
22 of the operating methods of the insurer or group with respect to
23 any kind of insurance, or with respect to any subdivision or
24 combination thereof for which subdivision or combination separate
25 expense provisions are applicable.

26 (c) Risks may be grouped by classifications for the
27 establishment of rates and minimum premiums. Classification rates

1 may be modified to produce rates for individual risks in accordance
2 with rating plans that measure variations in hazards, expense
3 provisions, or both. The rating plans may measure any differences
4 among risks that may have a probable effect upon losses or expenses
5 as provided for in subdivision (a).

6 (d) Rates shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly
7 discriminatory. A rate shall not be held to be excessive unless the
8 rate is unreasonably high for the insurance coverage provided. ~~and~~
9 ~~a reasonable degree of competition does not exist with respect to~~
10 ~~the classification, kind, or type of risks to which the rate is~~
11 ~~applicable.~~ Except as otherwise provided in this subdivision, a
12 rate shall not be held to be inadequate unless the rate is
13 unreasonably low for the insurance coverage provided and the
14 continued use of the rate endangers the solvency of the insurer; or
15 unless the rate is unreasonably low for the insurance coverage
16 provided and the use of the rate has or will have the effect of
17 destroying competition among insurers, creating a monopoly, or
18 causing a kind of insurance to be unavailable to a significant
19 number of applicants who are in good faith entitled to procure the
20 insurance through ordinary methods. For commercial liability
21 insurance a rate shall not be held to be inadequate unless the
22 rate, after consideration of investment income and marketing
23 programs and underwriting programs, is unreasonably low for the
24 insurance coverage provided and is insufficient to sustain
25 projected losses and expenses; or unless the rate is unreasonably
26 low for the insurance coverage provided and the use of the rate has
27 or will have the effect of destroying competition among insurers,

1 creating a monopoly, or causing a kind of insurance to be
2 unavailable to a significant number of applicants who are in good
3 faith entitled to procure the insurance through ordinary methods.
4 As used in this subdivision, "commercial liability insurance" means
5 insurance that provides indemnification for commercial, industrial,
6 professional, or business liabilities. For worker's compensation
7 insurance provided by an insurer that is controlled by a nonprofit
8 health care corporation formed pursuant to the nonprofit health
9 care corporation reform act, ~~Act No. 350 of the Public Acts of~~
10 ~~1980, being sections 550.1101 to 550.1704 of the Michigan Compiled~~
11 ~~Laws—~~ **1980 PA 350, MCL 550.1101 TO 550.1704**, a rate shall not be
12 held to be inadequate unless the rate is unreasonably low for the
13 insurance coverage provided. A rate for a coverage is unfairly
14 discriminatory in relation to another rate for the same coverage,
15 if the differential between the rates is not reasonably justified
16 by differences in losses, expenses, or both, or by differences in
17 the uncertainty of loss for the individuals or risks to which the
18 rates apply. A reasonable justification shall be supported by a
19 reasonable classification system; by sound actuarial principles
20 when applicable; and by actual and credible loss and expense
21 statistics or, in the case of new coverages and classifications, by
22 reasonably anticipated loss and expense experience. A rate is not
23 unfairly discriminatory because the rate reflects differences in
24 expenses for individuals or risks with similar anticipated losses,
25 or because the rate reflects differences in losses for individuals
26 or risks with similar expenses. Rates are not unfairly
27 discriminatory if they are averaged broadly among persons insured

1 on a group, franchise, blanket policy, or similar basis.

2 (2) Except to the extent necessary to meet the provisions of
3 subsection (1)(d), uniformity among insurers in any matters within
4 the scope of this section is neither required nor prohibited.

5 Sec. 2603. (1) All rates shall be made in accordance with the
6 following provisions:

7 (a) Due consideration shall be given to past and prospective
8 loss experience within and outside this state; to catastrophe
9 hazards; to a reasonable margin for underwriting profit and
10 contingencies; to dividends, savings, or unabsorbed premium
11 deposits allowed or returned by insurers to their policyholders,
12 members, or subscribers; to past and prospective expenses, both
13 countrywide and those specially applicable to this state; and to
14 all other relevant factors within and outside this state. In the
15 case of fire insurance rates, consideration also shall be given to
16 the experience of the fire insurance business during a period of
17 not less than the most recent 5-year period for which that
18 experience is available.

19 (b) The systems of expense provisions included in the rates
20 for use by any insurer or group of insurers may differ from those
21 of other insurers or groups of insurers to reflect the requirements
22 of the operating methods of the insurer or group with respect to
23 any kind of insurance or with respect to any subdivision or
24 combination thereof for which subdivision or combination separate
25 expense provisions are applicable.

26 (c) Risks may be grouped by classifications for the
27 establishment of rates and minimum premiums. Classification rates

1 may be modified to produce rates for individual risks in accordance
2 with rating plans ~~which~~ **THAT** measure variations in hazards,
3 expense provisions, or both. The rating plans may measure any
4 differences among risks that may have a probable effect upon losses
5 or expenses as provided for in subdivision (a).

6 (d) Rates shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly
7 discriminatory. A rate shall not be held to be excessive unless the
8 rate is unreasonably high for the insurance coverage provided. ~~and~~
9 ~~a reasonable degree of competition does not exist with respect to~~
10 ~~the classification, kind, or type of risks to which the rate is~~
11 ~~applicable.~~ A rate shall not be held to be inadequate unless the
12 rate is unreasonably low for the insurance coverage provided and
13 the continued use of the rate endangers the solvency of the
14 insurer; or unless the rate is unreasonably low for the insurance
15 provided and the use of the rate has or will have the effect of
16 destroying competition among insurers, creating a monopoly, or
17 causing a kind of insurance to be unavailable to a significant
18 number of applicants who are in good faith entitled to procure the
19 insurance through ordinary methods. A rate for a coverage is
20 unfairly discriminatory in relation to another rate for the same
21 coverage, if the differential between the rates is not reasonably
22 justified by differences in losses, expenses, or both, or by
23 differences in the uncertainty of loss for the individuals or risks
24 to which the rates apply. A reasonable justification shall be
25 supported by a reasonable classification system; by sound actuarial
26 principles when applicable; and by actual and credible loss and
27 expense statistics or, in the case of new coverages and

1 classifications, by reasonably anticipated loss and expense
2 experience. A rate is not unfairly discriminatory because the rate
3 reflects differences in expenses for individuals or risks with
4 similar anticipated losses, or because the rate reflects
5 differences in losses for individuals or risks with similar
6 expenses. Rates are not unfairly discriminatory if they are
7 averaged broadly among persons insured on a group, franchise,
8 blanket policy, or similar basis.

9 (2) Except to the extent necessary to meet the provisions of
10 subsection (1)(d), uniformity among insurers in any matters within
11 the scope of this section is neither required nor prohibited.