

Amend HB 1951 (house committee printing) by inserting the following appropriately numbered Article of the bill and renumbering existing Articles of the bill accordingly:

ARTICLE _____. STANDARD FORMS

SECTION _____.001. Section 2301.008, Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 2301.008. ADOPTION AND USE OF STANDARD FORMS. The commissioner shall [~~may~~] adopt standard insurance policy forms, printed endorsement forms, and related forms other than insurance policy forms and printed endorsement forms, that an insurer shall [~~may~~] use in addition to [~~instead of~~] the insurer's own forms in writing insurance subject to this subchapter.

SECTION _____.002. Section 2301.052(b), Insurance Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Subject to Section 2301.0525, an [~~An~~] insurer may continue to use an insurance policy form or endorsement promulgated, approved, or adopted under Article 5.06 or 5.35 before June 11, 2003, on written notification to the commissioner that the insurer will continue to use the form or endorsement.

SECTION _____.003. Subchapter B, Chapter 2301, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 2301.0525 to read as follows:

Sec. 2301.0525. USE OF MINIMUM STANDARD INSURANCE POLICY FORMS REQUIRED. (a) Each insurer that writes residential property insurance in this state shall use the standard insurance policy forms adopted by the commissioner under Section 2301.008 for residential property insurance and, subject to Subsection (b), may also use alternative policy forms approved by the commissioner under Section 2301.006.

(b) An insurer may not deliver or issue for delivery in this state a residential property insurance policy unless the insurer informs each applicant for that insurance coverage, in the manner prescribed by commissioner rule, that an applicant otherwise qualified for that insurance coverage under this code may elect to obtain residential property insurance coverage under a standard insurance policy adopted by the commissioner under Section 2301.008.

(c) An insurer that offers coverage under the standard

policy forms shall disclose to the applicant or insured, at the time of the initial application and each renewal, each policy limit and type of coverage available to the insured and the respective costs for each coverage. The form of the disclosure shall be specified by the commissioner, subject to Section 2301.053(c).

(d) An insurer that offers coverage under approved forms other than the standard policy forms shall disclose to the applicant or insured, at the time of the initial application and each renewal, in comparison to the standard policy forms each additional coverage that is provided and the additional cost, each reduction in coverage or exclusion of coverage and the reduced cost, and each policy limit and type of coverage available to the insured and the respective costs for each coverage. The form of the disclosure shall be specified by the commissioner, subject to Section 2301.053(c). At a minimum, the disclosure must refer the applicant or insured to the Internet website described by Section 32.102 and state that the applicant may compare the rates of insurers at that site.

SECTION _____.004. The change in law made by this article applies only to an insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2012. A policy delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed before January 1, 2012, is governed by the law as it existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.