86R14261 MEW-F

By:  Taylor S.B. No. 2306

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a presentation by the commissioner of insurance on the National Association of Insurance Commissioners accreditation process and participation in the National Conference of Insurance Legislators.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 31.008 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.008.  PARTICIPATION IN NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF INSURANCE LEGISLATORS. The department shall pay annually from department funds the costs of:

(1)  the state's membership in the National Conference of Insurance Legislators; and

(2)  full participation in the National Conference of Insurance Legislators by the chairs and ranking members of the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over insurance or finance.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter B, Chapter 31, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Section 31.029 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.029.  PRESENTATION ON NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INSURANCE COMMISSIONERS ACCREDITATION PROCESS. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (e), during the first year of each state fiscal biennium, the commissioner shall provide to each standing committee of the senate and the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over insurance, or if determined by rules of those standing committees, each standing committee of the senate and the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over finance, a presentation regarding the accreditation process for the National Association of Insurance Commissioners.

(b)  The presentation must:

(1)  provide an overview of the role of delegation of legislative authority for policy development in the National Association of Insurance Commissioners accreditation process;

(2)  explain how state laws incorporate National Association of Insurance Commissioners accreditation standards or incorporate rules, standards, and processes by reference, and provide citations to those laws;

(3)  identify in a separate format each provision of law that may authorize future changes by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to be adopted without additional authorization by the legislature, highlighting any future delegation authority in the laws or rules of this state; and

(4)  provide an overview of the minimum National Association of Insurance Commissioners accreditation standards relating to:

(A)  laws and regulations;

(B)  regulatory practices and procedures; and

(C)  organizations and personnel practices.

(c)  The overview presented under Subsection (b)(4) must include:

(1)  summaries of the specific laws and rules that the accreditation standard specifies;

(2)  the intended purpose of each accreditation standard;

(3)  the date that the accreditation standard was adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and the date that the standard was adopted in this state; and

(4)  any change to the accreditation standards since the last presentation to the legislature.

(d)  The commissioner may make the presentation at a joint hearing of the applicable committees under Subsection (a).

(e)  Instead of providing the presentation required under Subsection (a), the department may coordinate with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners to conduct a training session that contains the same information required under Subsection (b) that is specific to the laws of this state during a National Association of Insurance Commissioners meeting.

(f)  If the department exercises the option under Subsection (e), the department shall pay from funds the costs associated with registration and reimbursement for reasonable food, travel, and lodging for two committee members from the standing committee of the senate with primary jurisdiction over insurance, two committee members from the standing committee of the house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over insurance, and one committee member from the standing committee of each chamber with primary jurisdiction over appropriations to attend the meeting.

SECTION 3.  The commissioner of insurance shall provide the first presentation required under Section 31.029, Insurance Code, as added by this Act, not later than September 1, 2020.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.