

1 SB54  
2 194392-5  
3 By Senator Shelnuttt  
4 RFD: Banking and Insurance  
5 First Read: 05-MAR-19

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, insurers and other  
9 entities are required to provide notice to certain  
10 persons upon a breach of security resulting in the  
11 unauthorized acquisition of sensitive personally  
12 identifying information.

13 This bill would require insurers and other  
14 entities licensed by the Department of Insurance to  
15 develop, implement, and maintain an information  
16 security program and report certain cybersecurity  
17 events to the Commissioner of Insurance. The bill  
18 would provide that information provided to the  
19 Commissioner of Insurance pursuant to this act  
20 would be confidential and privileged under certain  
21 conditions. This bill would also provide civil  
22 penalties for violations. The bill is based on the  
23 Insurance Data Security Model Law of the National  
24 Association of Insurance Commissioners.

25  
26 A BILL  
27 TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2  
3 Relating to insurance; to require insurers and other  
4 entities licensed by the Department of Insurance to develop,  
5 implement, and maintain an information security program; to  
6 provide for reporting to the Commissioner of Insurance,  
7 including the reporting of cybersecurity events; to provide  
8 that information provided to the commissioner pursuant to this  
9 act would be confidential and privileged under certain  
10 conditions; to provide for civil penalties under certain  
11 conditions; and for this purpose to amend Sections  
12 10A-20-6.16, as corrected by Act 2018-406, the Codification  
13 Act, relating to certain nonprofit corporations, and  
14 27-21A-23, Code of Alabama 1975, relating to health  
15 maintenance organizations.

16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

17 Section 1. Short title.

18 This act shall be known and may be cited as the  
19 Insurance Data Security Law.

20 Section 2. Purpose and intent.

21 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, this  
22 act establishes the exclusive state standards applicable to  
23 licensees for data security, the investigation of a  
24 cybersecurity event as defined in Section 3, and notification  
25 to the Commissioner of Insurance of a cybersecurity event as  
26 provided by this act.

1 (b) This act may not be construed to create or imply  
2 a private cause of action for a violation of this act nor may  
3 it be construed to curtail a private cause of action which  
4 would otherwise exist in the absence of this act.

5 Section 3. Definitions.

6 For purposes of this act, the following words have  
7 the following meanings:

8 (1) AUTHORIZED INDIVIDUAL. An individual known to  
9 and screened by the licensee and determined to be necessary  
10 and appropriate to have access to the nonpublic information  
11 held by the licensee and its information systems.

12 (2) COMMISSIONER. The Commissioner of Insurance.

13 (3) CONSUMER. An individual, including, but not  
14 limited to, an applicant, policyholder, insured, beneficiary,  
15 claimant, or certificate holder, who is a resident of this  
16 state and whose nonpublic information is in the possession,  
17 custody, or control of a licensee.

18 (4)a. CYBERSECURITY EVENT. An event resulting in  
19 unauthorized access to, disruption, or misuse of an  
20 information system or nonpublic information stored on an  
21 information system.

22 b. The term cybersecurity event does not include the  
23 unauthorized acquisition of encrypted nonpublic information if  
24 the encryption, process, or key is not also acquired,  
25 released, or used without authorization.

26 c. Cybersecurity event does not include an event  
27 with regard to which the licensee has determined that the

1 nonpublic information accessed by an unauthorized person has  
2 not been used or released and has been returned or destroyed.

3 (5) DEPARTMENT. The Department of Insurance.

4 (6) ENCRYPTED. The transformation of data into a  
5 form which results in a low probability of assigning meaning  
6 without the use of a protective process or key.

7 (7) INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM. The  
8 administrative, technical, and physical safeguards that a  
9 licensee uses to access, collect, distribute, process,  
10 protect, store, use, transmit, dispose of, or otherwise handle  
11 nonpublic information.

12 (8) INFORMATION SYSTEM. A discrete set of electronic  
13 information resources organized for the collection,  
14 processing, maintenance, use, sharing, dissemination, or  
15 disposition of electronic nonpublic information, as well as  
16 any specialized system such as industrial/process controls  
17 systems, telephone switching and private branch exchange  
18 systems, and environmental control systems.

19 (9) LICENSEE. Any person licensed, authorized to  
20 operate, or registered, or required to be licensed,  
21 authorized, or registered pursuant to the insurance laws of  
22 this state but shall not include a purchasing group or a risk  
23 retention group chartered and licensed in a state other than  
24 this state or a licensee that is acting as an assuming insurer  
25 that is domiciled in another state or jurisdiction.

1 (10) MULTI-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION. Authentication  
2 through verification of at least two of the following types of  
3 authentication factors:

- 4 a. Knowledge factors, such as a password.
- 5 b. Possession factors, such as a token or text  
6 message on a mobile phone.
- 7 c. Inherence factors, such as a biometric  
8 characteristic.

9 (11) NONPUBLIC INFORMATION. Electronic information  
10 that is not publicly available information and is any of the  
11 following:

12 a. Any information concerning a consumer which  
13 because of name, number, personal mark, or other identifier  
14 can be used to identify the consumer, in combination with any  
15 one or more of the following data elements:

- 16 1. The Social Security number.
- 17 2. The driver's license number or nondriver  
18 identification card number.
- 19 3. Any financial account number or a credit or debit  
20 card number.
- 21 4. Any security code, access code, or password that  
22 would permit access to a consumer's financial account.
- 23 5. Biometric records.

24 c. Any information or data, except age or gender, in  
25 any form or medium created by or derived from a health care  
26 provider or a consumer, that can be used to identify a  
27 particular consumer, and that relates to any of the following:

1           1. The past, present, or future physical, mental, or  
2 behavioral health or condition of a consumer or a member of  
3 the consumer's family.

4           2. The provision of health care to any consumer.

5           3. Payment for the provision of health care to any  
6 consumer.

7           (12) PERSON. Any individual or any nongovernmental  
8 entity, including, but not limited to, any nongovernmental  
9 partnership, corporation, branch, agency, or association.

10           (13)a. PUBLICLY AVAILABLE INFORMATION. Any  
11 information that a licensee has a reasonable basis to believe  
12 is lawfully made available to the general public from federal,  
13 state, or local government records; widely distributed media;  
14 or disclosures to the general public that are required to be  
15 made by federal, state, or local law.

16           b. For the purposes of this definition, a licensee  
17 has a reasonable basis to believe that information is lawfully  
18 made available to the general public if the licensee has taken  
19 steps to determine both of the following:

20           1. That the information is of the type that is  
21 available to the general public.

22           2. Whether a consumer can direct that the  
23 information not be made available to the general public and,  
24 if so, that the consumer has not done so.

25           (14) RISK ASSESSMENT. The risk assessment that each  
26 licensee is required to conduct under subsection (c) of  
27 Section 4.

1 (15) STATE. The State of Alabama.

2 (16) THIRD-PARTY SERVICE PROVIDER. A person, not  
3 defined as a licensee, who contracts with a licensee to  
4 maintain, process, store, or access nonpublic information  
5 through the provision of services to the licensee.

6 Section 4. Information Security Program.

7 (a) Commensurate with the size and complexity of the  
8 licensee, the nature and scope of the activities of the  
9 licensee, including its use of third-party service providers,  
10 and the sensitivity of the nonpublic information used by the  
11 licensee or in the possession, custody, or control of the  
12 licensee, each licensee shall develop, implement, and maintain  
13 a comprehensive written information security program based on  
14 the risk assessment of the licensee that contains  
15 administrative, technical, and physical safeguards for the  
16 protection of nonpublic information and the information system  
17 of the licensee.

18 (b) The information security program of a licensee  
19 shall be designed to do all of the following:

20 (1) Protect the security and confidentiality of  
21 nonpublic information and the security of the information  
22 system.

23 (2) Protect against any threats or hazards to the  
24 security or integrity of nonpublic information and the  
25 information system.



1           (3) Protect against unauthorized access to or use of  
2 nonpublic information and minimize the likelihood of harm to  
3 any consumer.

4           (4) Define and periodically reevaluate a schedule  
5 for retention of nonpublic information and a mechanism for its  
6 destruction when no longer needed.

7           (c) The licensee shall do all of the following:

8           (1) Designate one or more employees, an affiliate,  
9 or an outside vendor to act on behalf of the licensee who is  
10 responsible for the information security program.

11           (2) Identify reasonably foreseeable internal or  
12 external threats that could result in unauthorized access,  
13 transmission, disclosure, misuse, alteration, or destruction  
14 of nonpublic information, including threats to the security of  
15 information systems and nonpublic information that are  
16 accessible to or held by third-party service providers.

17           (3) Assess the likelihood and potential damage of  
18 these threats, taking into consideration the sensitivity of  
19 the nonpublic information.

20           (4) Assess the sufficiency of policies, procedures,  
21 information systems, and other safeguards in place to manage  
22 these threats, including consideration of threats in each  
23 relevant area of the operations of the licensee, including all  
24 of the following:

25           a. Employee training and management.

1           b. Information systems, including network and  
2 software design, as well as information classification,  
3 governance, processing, storage, transmission, and disposal.

4           c. Detecting, preventing, and responding to attacks,  
5 intrusions, or other systems failures.

6           (5) Implement information safeguards to manage the  
7 threats identified in its ongoing assessment, and no less than  
8 annually, assess the effectiveness of the key controls,  
9 systems, and procedures of the safeguards.

10          (d) Based on its risk assessment, the licensee shall  
11 do all of the following:

12           (1) Design its information security program to  
13 mitigate the identified risks commensurate with the size and  
14 complexity of the licensee, the nature and scope of the  
15 activities of the licensee, including the use by the licensee  
16 of third-party service providers, and the sensitivity of the  
17 nonpublic information used by the licensee or in the  
18 possession, custody, or control of the licensee.

19           (2) Determine which security measures listed below  
20 are appropriate and, if appropriate, do the following to  
21 implement the security measures:

22           a. Place access controls on information systems,  
23 including controls to authenticate and permit access only to  
24 authorized individuals to protect against the unauthorized  
25 acquisition of nonpublic information.

26           b. Identify and manage the data, personnel, devices,  
27 systems, and facilities that enable the organization to

1 achieve business purposes in accordance with their relative  
2 importance to business objectives and the risk strategy of the  
3 licensee.

4 c. Restrict physical access to nonpublic information  
5 to authorized individuals only.

6 d. Protect by encryption or other appropriate means,  
7 all nonpublic information while being transmitted over an  
8 external network and all nonpublic information stored on any  
9 laptop computer or other portable computing or storage device  
10 or media.

11 e. Adopt secure development practices for in-house  
12 developed applications utilized by the licensee.

13 f. Modify the information system in accordance with  
14 the information security program of the licensee.

15 g. Utilize effective controls, which may include  
16 multi-factor authentication procedures for employees accessing  
17 nonpublic information.

18 h. Regularly test and monitor systems and procedures  
19 to detect actual and attempted attacks on, or intrusions into,  
20 information systems.

21 i. Include audit trails within the information  
22 security program designed to detect and respond to  
23 cybersecurity events and designed to reconstruct material  
24 financial transactions sufficient to support normal operations  
25 and obligations of the licensee.

26 j. Implement measures to protect against  
27 destruction, loss, or damage of nonpublic information due to

1 environmental hazards, such as fire and water damage or other  
2 catastrophes or technological failures.

3 k. Develop, implement, and maintain procedures for  
4 the secure disposal of nonpublic information in any format.

5 (3) Include cybersecurity risks in the enterprise  
6 risk management process of the licensee.

7 (4) Stay informed regarding emerging threats or  
8 vulnerabilities and utilize reasonable security measures when  
9 sharing information relative to the character of the sharing  
10 and the type of information shared.

11 (5) Provide its personnel with cybersecurity  
12 awareness training that is updated as necessary to reflect  
13 risks identified by the licensee in the risk assessment.

14 (e) If the licensee has a board of directors, the  
15 board or an appropriate committee of the board, at a minimum,  
16 shall do all of the following:

17 (1) Require the executive management of the licensee  
18 or its delegates to develop, implement, and maintain the  
19 information security program of the licensee.

20 (2) Require the executive management of the licensee  
21 or its delegates to report in writing at least annually, all  
22 of the following:

23 a. The overall status of the information security  
24 program of the licensee and the compliance of the licensee  
25 with this act.

26 b. Material matters related to the information  
27 security program, addressing issues such as risk assessment,

1 risk management and control decisions, third-party service  
2 provider arrangements, results of testing, cybersecurity  
3 events or violations and the responses of management thereto,  
4 and recommendations for changes in the information security  
5 program.

6 (3) If executive management delegates any of its  
7 responsibilities under this section, it shall oversee the  
8 development, implementation, and maintenance of the  
9 information security program of the licensee prepared by the  
10 delegate and shall receive a report from the delegate  
11 complying with the requirements of the report to the board of  
12 directors.

13 (f) (1) A licensee shall exercise due diligence in  
14 selecting a third-party service provider.

15 (2) A licensee shall require a third-party service  
16 provider to implement appropriate administrative, technical,  
17 and physical measures to protect and secure the information  
18 systems and nonpublic information that are accessible to, or  
19 held by, the third-party service provider.

20 (g) The licensee shall monitor, evaluate, and  
21 adjust, as appropriate, the information security program  
22 consistent with any relevant changes in technology, the  
23 sensitivity of its nonpublic information, internal or external  
24 threats to information, and the changing business arrangements  
25 of the licensee, such as mergers and acquisitions, alliances  
26 and joint ventures, outsourcing arrangements, and changes to  
27 information systems.

1 (h) (1) As part of its information security program,  
2 each licensee shall establish a written incident response plan  
3 designed to promptly respond to, and recover from, any  
4 cybersecurity event that compromises the confidentiality,  
5 integrity, or availability of nonpublic information in its  
6 possession, the information systems of the licensee, or the  
7 continuing functionality of any aspect of the business or  
8 operations of the licensee.

9 (2) The incident response plan shall address all of  
10 the following areas:

11 a. The internal process for responding to a  
12 cybersecurity event.

13 b. The goals of the incident response plan.

14 c. The definition of clear roles, responsibilities,  
15 and levels of decision-making authority.

16 d. External and internal communications and  
17 information sharing.

18 e. Identification of requirements for the  
19 remediation of any identified weaknesses in information  
20 systems and associated controls.

21 f. Documentation and reporting regarding  
22 cybersecurity events and related incident response activities.

23 g. The evaluation and revision as necessary of the  
24 incident response plan following a cybersecurity event.

25 (i) Each insurer domiciled in this state, annually  
26 on or before February 15, shall submit to the commissioner a  
27 written statement certifying that the insurer is in compliance

1 with the requirements set forth in this act. Each insurer  
2 shall maintain for examination by the department all records,  
3 schedules, and data supporting this certificate for a period  
4 of five years. To the extent an insurer has identified areas,  
5 systems, or processes that require material improvement,  
6 updating, or redesign, the insurer shall document the  
7 identification and the remedial efforts planned and underway  
8 to address the areas, systems, or processes. The documentation  
9 shall be available for inspection by the commissioner.

10 Section 5. Investigation of a Cybersecurity Event.

11 (a) If the licensee learns that a cybersecurity  
12 event has or may have occurred, the licensee, or an outside  
13 vendor or service provider designated to act on behalf of the  
14 licensee, shall conduct a prompt investigation.

15 (b) During the investigation, the licensee, or an  
16 outside vendor or service provider designated to act on behalf  
17 of the licensee, at a minimum, shall determine as much of the  
18 following information as possible:

19 (1) If a cybersecurity event has occurred.

20 (2) The nature and scope of the cybersecurity event.

21 (3) Any nonpublic information that may have been  
22 involved in the cybersecurity event.

23 (c) The licensee shall perform or oversee reasonable  
24 measures to restore the security of the information systems  
25 compromised in the cybersecurity event in order to prevent  
26 further unauthorized acquisition, release, or use of nonpublic

1 information in the possession, custody, or control of the  
2 licensee.

3 (d) If the licensee learns that a cybersecurity  
4 event has or may have occurred in a system maintained by a  
5 third-party service provider, the licensee shall complete the  
6 steps listed in subsection (b) or confirm and document that  
7 the third-party service provider has completed those steps.

8 (e) The licensee shall maintain records concerning  
9 all cybersecurity events for a period of at least five years  
10 from the date of the cybersecurity event and shall produce  
11 those records upon demand of the commissioner.

12 Section 6. Notification of a Cybersecurity Event.

13 (a) Each licensee shall notify the commissioner as  
14 promptly as possible, but in no event later than three  
15 business days from a determination that a cybersecurity event  
16 involving nonpublic information that is in the possession of a  
17 licensee has occurred when either of the following criteria  
18 has been met:

19 (1) This state is the state of domicile of the  
20 licensee, in the case of an insurer, or this state is the home  
21 state of the licensee, in the case of a producer, as those  
22 terms are defined in Section 27-7-1, Code of Alabama 1975, and  
23 the cybersecurity event has a reasonable likelihood of  
24 materially harming a consumer residing in this state or  
25 reasonable likelihood of materially harming any material part  
26 of the normal operation of the licensee.



1           (2) The licensee reasonably believes that the  
2 nonpublic information involves 250 or more consumers residing  
3 in this state and the cybersecurity event is either of the  
4 following:

5           a. A cybersecurity event impacting the licensee that  
6 the licensee is required to notify any government body,  
7 self-regulatory agency, or any other supervisory body about  
8 pursuant to any state or federal law.

9           b. A cybersecurity event that has a reasonable  
10 likelihood of materially harming either of the following:

11           1. Any consumer residing in this state.

12           2. Any material part of the normal operation of the  
13 licensee.

14           (b) The licensee shall provide as much of the  
15 following information as possible in electronic form as  
16 directed by the commissioner:

17           (1) The date of the cybersecurity event.

18           (2) A description of how the information was  
19 exposed, lost, stolen, or breached, including the specific  
20 roles and responsibilities of any third-party service  
21 providers.

22           (3) How the cybersecurity event was discovered.

23           (4) Whether any lost, stolen, or breached  
24 information has been recovered and if so, how this was done.

25           (5) The identity of the source of the cybersecurity  
26 event.

1           (6) Whether the licensee has filed a police report  
2 or has notified any regulatory, government, or law enforcement  
3 agencies and, if so, when the notification was provided.

4           (7) A description of the specific types of  
5 information acquired without authorization. Specific types of  
6 information means particular data elements including, for  
7 example, types of medical information, types of financial  
8 information, or types of information allowing identification  
9 of the consumer.

10          (8) The period during which the information system  
11 was compromised by the cybersecurity event.

12          (9) The number of total consumers in this state  
13 affected by the cybersecurity event. The licensee shall  
14 provide the best estimate in the initial report to the  
15 commissioner and update this estimate with each subsequent  
16 report to the commissioner pursuant to this section.

17          (10) The results of any internal review identifying  
18 a lapse in either automated controls or internal procedures,  
19 or confirming that all automated controls or internal  
20 procedures were followed.

21          (11) A description of efforts being undertaken to  
22 remediate the situation which permitted the cybersecurity  
23 event to occur.

24          (12) A copy of the privacy policy of the licensee  
25 and a statement outlining the steps the licensee will take to  
26 investigate and notify consumers affected by the cybersecurity  
27 event.

1           (13) The name of a contact person who is both  
2 familiar with the cybersecurity event and authorized to act  
3 for the licensee.

4           (c) The licensee shall have a continuing obligation  
5 to update and supplement initial and subsequent notifications  
6 regarding material changes to previously provided information  
7 relating to the cybersecurity event.

8           (d) The licensee shall comply with Act 2018-396 of  
9 the 2018 Regular Session as applicable and provide a copy of  
10 the notice sent to consumers under the law to the commissioner  
11 when a licensee is required to notify the commissioner under  
12 subsection (a).

13           (e) (1) If the licensee becomes aware of a  
14 cybersecurity event in a system maintained by a third-party  
15 service provider, the licensee shall treat the event in the  
16 same manner as provided under subsection (a) unless the  
17 third-party service provider provides the notice required  
18 under subsection (a) to the commissioner.

19           (2) The computation of deadlines of a licensee shall  
20 begin on the day after the third-party service provider  
21 notifies the licensee of the cybersecurity event or the  
22 licensee otherwise has actual knowledge of the cybersecurity  
23 event, whichever is sooner.

24           (3) Nothing in this act shall prevent or abrogate an  
25 agreement between a licensee and another licensee, a  
26 third-party service provider, or any other party to fulfill

1 any of the investigation requirements of Section 5 or the  
2 notice requirements of this section.

3 (f) (1) a. In the case of a cybersecurity event  
4 involving nonpublic information that is used by the licensee  
5 that is acting as an assuming insurer or in the possession,  
6 custody, or control of a licensee that is acting as an  
7 assuming insurer and that does not have a direct contractual  
8 relationship with the affected consumers, the assuming insurer  
9 shall notify its affected ceding insurers and the commissioner  
10 of its state of domicile within three business days of making  
11 the determination that a cybersecurity event has occurred.

12 b. The ceding insurers that have a direct  
13 contractual relationship with affected consumers shall fulfill  
14 the consumer notification requirements under Act 2018-396,  
15 2018 Regular Session, and any other notification requirements  
16 relating to a cybersecurity event under this section.

17 (2)a. In the case of a cybersecurity event involving  
18 nonpublic information that is in the possession, custody, or  
19 control of a third-party service provider of a licensee that  
20 is an assuming insurer, the assuming insurer shall notify its  
21 affected ceding insurers and the commissioner of its state of  
22 domicile within three business days of receiving notice from  
23 its third-party service provider that a cybersecurity event  
24 has occurred.

25 b. The ceding insurers that have a direct  
26 contractual relationship with affected consumers shall fulfill  
27 the consumer notification requirements under Act 2018-396,

1 2018 Regular Session, and any other notification requirements  
2 relating to a cybersecurity event under this section.

3 (3) Any licensee acting as assuming insurer shall  
4 have no other notice obligations relating to a cybersecurity  
5 event or other data breach under this section or any other law  
6 of this state.

7 (g) (1) In the case of a cybersecurity event  
8 involving nonpublic information that is in the possession,  
9 custody, or control of a licensee that is an insurer or its  
10 third-party service provider for which a consumer accessed the  
11 services of the insurer through an independent insurance  
12 producer, and for which consumer notice is required by Act  
13 2018-396, 2018 Regular Session, the insurer shall notify the  
14 producers of record of all affected consumers of the  
15 cybersecurity event no later than the time at which notice is  
16 provided to the affected consumers.

17 (2) The insurer is excused from this obligation for  
18 any producers who are not authorized by law or contract to  
19 sell, solicit, or negotiate on behalf of the insurer, and in  
20 those instances in which the insurer does not have the current  
21 producer of record information for an individual consumer.

22 Section 7. Power of Commissioner.

23 (a) The commissioner may examine and investigate  
24 into the affairs of any licensee to determine whether the  
25 licensee has been or is engaged in any conduct in violation of  
26 this act. This power is in addition to the powers which the  
27 commissioner has under Section 27-2-21, Code of Alabama 1975.

1 The investigation or examination shall be conducted pursuant  
2 to Sections 27-2-22, et seq., Code of Alabama 1975.

3 (b) If the commissioner has reason to believe that a  
4 licensee has been or is engaged in conduct in this state which  
5 violates this act, the commissioner may take action that is  
6 necessary or appropriate to enforce this act.

7 Section 8. Confidentiality.

8 (a) (1) Any documents, materials, or other  
9 information in the control or possession of the department  
10 that are furnished by a licensee or an employee or agent  
11 acting on behalf of a licensee pursuant to subsection (i) of  
12 Section 4; subdivisions (2), (3), (4), (5), (8), (10), and  
13 (11) of subsection (b) of Section 6; or that are obtained by  
14 the commissioner in an investigation or examination pursuant  
15 to Section 7 shall be confidential by law and privileged,  
16 shall not be subject to any open records, freedom of  
17 information, sunshine, or other public record disclosure laws,  
18 shall not be subject to subpoena, and shall not be subject to  
19 discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil  
20 action. The commissioner shall not otherwise make the  
21 documents, materials, or other information public without the  
22 prior written consent of the licensee.

23 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1), the  
24 commissioner may use the documents, materials, or other  
25 information in the furtherance of any regulatory or legal  
26 action brought as a part of the duties of the commissioner.

1 (b) Neither the commissioner nor any person who  
2 received documents, materials, or other information while  
3 acting under the authority of the commissioner or with whom  
4 the documents, materials, or other information are shared  
5 pursuant to this section shall be permitted or required to  
6 testify in any private civil action concerning any  
7 confidential documents, materials, or information subject to  
8 subsection (a).

9 (c) In order to assist in the performance of the  
10 duties of the commissioner under this act, the commissioner  
11 may do all of the following:

12 (1) Share documents, materials, or other  
13 information, including the confidential and privileged  
14 documents, materials, or information subject to subsection  
15 (a), with other state, federal, and international regulatory  
16 agencies, with the National Association of Insurance  
17 Commissioners, its affiliates or subsidiaries, and with state,  
18 federal, and international law enforcement authorities,  
19 provided that the recipient agrees in writing to maintain the  
20 confidentiality and privileged status of the documents,  
21 materials, or other information.

22 (2) Receive documents, materials, or information,  
23 including otherwise confidential and privileged documents,  
24 materials, or information, from the National Association of  
25 Insurance Commissioners, its affiliates or subsidiaries and  
26 from regulatory and law enforcement officials of other foreign  
27 or domestic jurisdictions, and shall maintain as confidential

1 or privileged any document, material, or information received  
2 with notice or the understanding that it is confidential or  
3 privileged under the laws of the jurisdiction that is the  
4 source of the document, material, or information.

5 (3) Share documents, materials, or other information  
6 subject to subsection (a) with a third-party consultant or  
7 vendor provided the consultant agrees in writing to maintain  
8 the confidentiality and privileged status of the document,  
9 material, or other information.

10 (4) Enter into agreements governing sharing and use  
11 of information consistent with this subsection.

12 (d) No waiver of any applicable privilege or claim  
13 of confidentiality in the documents, materials, or information  
14 shall occur as a result of disclosure to the commissioner  
15 under this section or as a result of sharing as authorized in  
16 subsection (c).

17 (e) Nothing in this act shall prohibit the  
18 commissioner from releasing final adjudicated actions that are  
19 open to public inspection to a database or other clearinghouse  
20 service maintained by the National Association of Insurance  
21 Commissioners, its affiliates or subsidiaries.

22 (f) Documents, materials, or other information in  
23 the possession or control of the National Association of  
24 Insurance Commissioners or a third-party consultant or vendor  
25 pursuant to this act shall be confidential by law and  
26 privileged, shall not be subject to open records, freedom of  
27 information, sunshine, or other public record disclosure laws,



1 shall not be subject to subpoena, and shall not be subject to  
2 discovery or admissible in evidence in any private civil  
3 action.

4 Section 9. Exceptions.

5 (a) The following exceptions shall apply to this  
6 act:

7 (1) A licensee is exempt from Section 4 of this act  
8 if any of the following criteria apply:

9 a. The licensee has fewer than 25 employees.

10 b. The licensee has less than \$5 million in gross  
11 annual revenue.

12 c. The license has less than \$10 million in year-end  
13 total assets.

14 (2) A licensee subject to Pub.L. 104-191, 110 Stat.  
15 1936, enacted August 21, 1996 (Health Insurance Portability  
16 and Accountability Act) that has established and maintains an  
17 information security program pursuant to the statutes, rules,  
18 regulations, procedures, or guidelines established thereunder,  
19 shall be considered to meet the requirements of this act,  
20 provided that licensee is compliant with and submits a written  
21 statement certifying its compliance with Pub. L. 104-191.

22 (3) An employee, agent, representative, or designee  
23 of a licensee who is also a licensee is exempt from this act  
24 and is not required to develop its own information security  
25 program to the extent that the employee, agent,  
26 representative, or designee is covered by the information  
27 security program of the other licensee.

1 (b) In the event a licensee ceases to qualify for an  
2 exemption, the licensee shall have 180 days to comply with  
3 this act.

4 Section 10. Penalties.

5 (a) An insurance producer violating this act may be  
6 penalized in accordance with Section 27-7-19, Code of Alabama  
7 1975.

8 (b) Any other licensee violating this act may be  
9 subject to the suspension or revocation of the license or  
10 certificate of authority of the licensee or, in lieu thereof  
11 and at the discretion of the commissioner, the licensee may be  
12 subject to a fine of up to ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) per  
13 violation.

14 Section 11. Rules.

15 The commissioner may adopt rules implementing this  
16 act pursuant to Chapter 2 of Title 27, Code of Alabama 1975.

17 Section 12. Severability.

18 If any provision of this act or the application  
19 thereof to any person or circumstance is for any reason held  
20 to be invalid, the remainder of the act and the application of  
21 the provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be  
22 affected thereby.

23 Section 13. Sections 10A-20-6.16, as corrected by  
24 Act 2018-406, the Codification Act, and 27-21A-23, Code of  
25 Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

26 "§10A-20-6.16.

1           "(a) No statute of this state applying to insurance  
2 companies shall be applicable to any corporation organized  
3 under this article and amendments thereto or to any contract  
4 made by the corporation; except the corporation shall be  
5 subject to the following:

6           "(1) The provisions regarding annual premium tax to  
7 be paid by insurers on insurance premiums.

8           "~~(2) Chapter 55 of Title 27, regarding the~~  
9 ~~prohibition of unfair discriminatory acts by insurers on the~~  
10 ~~basis of an applicant's or insured's abuse status.~~

11           "~~(3) The Medicare Supplement Minimum Standards set~~  
12 ~~forth in Article 2 and Article 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 27,~~  
13 ~~and Long-Term Care Insurance Policy Minimum Standards set~~  
14 ~~forth in Article 3 of Chapter 19 of Title 27.~~

15           "~~(4) Section 27-1-17, requiring insurers and health~~  
16 ~~plans to pay health care providers in a timely manner.~~

17           "~~(5) Chapter 56 of Title 27, regarding the Access to~~  
18 ~~Eye Care Act.~~

19           "(6) Rules promulgated by the Commissioner of  
20 Insurance pursuant to Sections 27-7-43 and 27-7-44.

21           "(7) Chapter 54 of Title 27.

22           "~~(8) Chapter 57 of Title 27, requiring coverage to~~  
23 ~~be offered for the payment of colorectal cancer examinations~~  
24 ~~for covered persons who are 50 years of age or older, or for~~  
25 ~~covered persons who are less than 50 years of age and at high~~  
26 ~~risk for colorectal cancer according to current American~~  
27 ~~Cancer Society colorectal cancer screening guidelines.~~

1           "~~(9) Chapter 58 of Title 27, requiring that policies~~  
2 ~~and contracts including coverage for prostate cancer early~~  
3 ~~detection be offered, together with identification of~~  
4 ~~associated costs.~~

5           "~~(10) Chapter 59 of Title 27, requiring that~~  
6 ~~policies and contracts including coverage for chiropractic be~~  
7 ~~offered, together with identification of associated costs.~~

8           "~~(11) Chapter 54A of Title 27, requiring that~~  
9 ~~policies and contracts to offer coverage for certain treatment~~  
10 ~~for Autism Spectrum Disorder under certain conditions.~~

11           "(12) Chapter 12A of Title 27.

12           "(13) Chapter 2B of Title 27.

13           "(14) Chapter 29 of Title 27.

14           "(15) The act adding this amendatory language.

15           "(b) The provisions in subsection (a) that require  
16 specific types of coverage to be offered or provided shall not  
17 apply when the corporation is administering a self-funded  
18 benefit plan or similar plan, fund, or program that it does  
19 not insure.

20           "§27-21A-23.

21           "(a) Except as otherwise provided in this chapter,  
22 provisions of the insurance law and provisions of health care  
23 service plan laws shall not be applicable to any health  
24 maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority  
25 under this chapter. This provision shall not apply to an  
26 insurer or health care service plan licensed and regulated  
27 pursuant to the insurance law or the health care service plan

1 laws of this state except with respect to its health  
2 maintenance organization activities authorized and regulated  
3 pursuant to this chapter.

4 "(b) Solicitation of enrollees by a health  
5 maintenance organization granted a certificate of authority  
6 shall not be construed to violate any provision of law  
7 relating to solicitation or advertising by health  
8 professionals.

9 "(c) Any health maintenance organization authorized  
10 under this chapter shall not be deemed to be practicing  
11 medicine and shall be exempt from the provisions of Section  
12 34-24-310, et seq., relating to the practice of medicine.

13 "(d) No person participating in the arrangements of  
14 a health maintenance organization other than the actual  
15 provider of health care services or supplies directly to  
16 enrollees and their families shall be liable for negligence,  
17 misfeasance, nonfeasance, or malpractice in connection with  
18 the furnishing of such services and supplies.

19 "(e) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed in  
20 any way to repeal or conflict with any provision of the  
21 certificate of need law.

22 "(f) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection  
23 (a), a health maintenance organization shall be subject to all  
24 of the following:

25 "(1) Section 27-1-17.

26 "(2) Chapter 56, ~~regarding the Access to Eye Care~~  
27 ~~Act.~~

1           "~~(3) Chapter 54, regarding mental illness coverage.~~

2           "~~(4) Chapter 57, requiring coverage to be offered~~  
3 ~~for the payment of colorectal cancer examinations for covered~~  
4 ~~persons who are 50 years of age or older, or for covered~~  
5 ~~persons who are less than 50 years of age and at high risk for~~  
6 ~~colorectal cancer according to current American Cancer Society~~  
7 ~~colorectal cancer screening guidelines.~~

8           "~~(5) Chapter 58, requiring that policies and~~  
9 ~~contracts including coverage for prostate cancer early~~  
10 ~~detection be offered, together with identification of~~  
11 ~~associated costs.~~

12           "~~(6) Chapter 59, requiring that policies and~~  
13 ~~contracts including coverage for chiropractic be offered,~~  
14 ~~together with identification of associated costs.~~

15           "(7) Rules promulgated by the Commissioner of  
16 Insurance pursuant to Sections 27-7-43 and 27-7-44.

17           "(8) Chapter 12A.

18           "~~(9) Chapter 54A, requiring policies and contracts~~  
19 ~~to cover certain treatment for Autism Spectrum Disorder under~~  
20 ~~certain conditions.~~

21           "~~(10) Chapter 2B, regarding risk-based capital.~~

22           "~~(11) Chapter 29, regarding insurance holding~~  
23 ~~company systems.~~

24           "(12) The act adding this amendatory language."

25           Section 14. Licensees shall have two years from the  
26 effective date of this act to implement subsection (f) of

1 Section 4 and one year from the effective date of this act to  
2 implement the remainder of Section 4.

3 Section 15. This act shall become effective  
4 immediately upon its passage and approval by the Governor or  
5 its otherwise becoming law.