

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION Senate House Comm: RCS 03/25/2025

The Committee on Banking and Insurance (Avila) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Present subsection (2) of section 627.0621, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (3) and amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

627.0621 Transparency in rate regulation.-

- (2) RATE TRANSPARENCY REPORT.—
- (a) Beginning October 1, 2025, every rate filing requesting

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a rate change for residential property coverage from a property insurer must include a rate transparency report for acceptance for use or modification by the office. The office may accept the rate transparency report for filing, or if the office finds that the report fails to provide the required information in concise and plain language that aids consumers in their understanding of insurance, or finds the report to be misleading, the office must return the rate transparency report to the property insurer for modification. The office's acceptance of the report for use or modification may not be deemed approval pursuant to s. 627.062. The report must be compiled in a uniform format prescribed by the commission and must include a graphical representation identifying a percentage breakdown of rating factors anticipated by the company, book, or program affected by the filing.

- (b) Along with an offer of coverage and upon renewal, an insurer must provide the corresponding copy of the rate transparency report for the consumers' offered rate to aid consumers in their understanding of insurance. If the report has not been accepted for use or modified by the office, the report must indicate that it is preliminary and subject to modification by the office.
- (c) The rate transparency report must include the following categories of the book or program at the cumulative level:
- 1. The percentage of the total rate factor associated with the cost of reinsurance.
- 2. The percentage of the total rate factor associated with the cost of claims.
- 3. The percentage of the total rate factor associated with the defense containment and costs.

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- 40 4. The percentage of the total rate factor associated with 41 fees and commissions.
  - 5. The percentage of the rate factor associated with profit and contingency of the insurer.
  - 6. Any other categories deemed necessary by the office or commission.

An estimated percentage of the influence of each listed factor provided must equal 100 percent.

- (d) The insurer shall provide the rate transparency report to the office upon the filing of a rate change with the office.
- (e) In addition to the categories required in paragraph (c), the rate transparency report must also include the following information:
- 1. Any major adverse findings by the office for the previous 3 calendar years.
- 2. Whether the insurer uses affiliated entities to perform functions of the insurer.
- 3. Contact information, including a telephone number, hours of service, and e-mail address, for the Division of Consumer Services of the department.
  - 4. Contact information for the office.
- 5. Address for the website for public access to rate filing and affiliate information outlined in subsection (3).
- 6. Any changes in the total insured value from the last policy period.
- (f) The office shall define, in concise and plain language, any terms used in the rate transparency report to aid consumers in their understanding of insurance.

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- (3) WEBSITE FOR PUBLIC ACCESS TO RATE FILING INFORMATION.-
- (a) The office shall establish and maintain a comprehensive resource center on its website which uses concise and plain language to aid consumers in their understanding of insurance. The website must include substantive information on the current and historical dynamics of the market, data concerning the financial condition and market conduct of insurance companies, and insurance options available to consumers. At a minimum, the website must contain the following:
- 1. Reports, using graphical information whenever possible, which outline information about the state of the market and adverse and positive trends affecting it.
- 2. Tools that aid consumers in finding insurers, including, but not limited to, a listing of all companies actively doing business in this state which includes each company's address, website, and all phone numbers and e-mail addresses to be used by insureds and applicants for coverage.
- 3. Tools that aid consumers in selecting the coverages beneficial to them, including, but not limited to:
- a. Educational materials that explain the types of coverage in residential property insurance policies; the difference between replacement cost reimbursement and actual cash value reimbursement; a glossary of common terms used in policies; and a comparison of the coverage, terms, conditions, and exclusions contained in different homeowners and dwelling fire forms.
- b. Answers to commonly asked questions about residential property insurance coverage.
  - 4. Information about mitigation credits and the My Safe

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Florida Home Program, as well as other credits and discounts insurers may offer beyond wind mitigation.

- 5. Access to the rate transparency report, annual statements, market conduct information, and other information related to each insurer.
- 6. Information on the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation takeout process, the clearinghouse, and general information as reported by the office.
- 7. Information on the claims process, including, but not limited to:
- a. Clear, step-by-step guidance on how to file a claim, what to expect during the claim process, and timelines for resolution of a claim.
- b. The obligations of insurers and insureds related to claim reporting, claim handling, communications regarding claims, claim investigations, claim decisions, and claim payments.
- c. For each insurer with active policies in this state, the means by which to report a claim, including any phone numbers, e-mail addresses, and website addresses, used for claim reporting.
- 119 8. Information on consumer protection, including, but not 120 limited to:
  - a. The rights of insureds under Florida law related to obtaining coverage; coverage renewals, nonrenewals, and cancellations; and mandated offers of coverage.
- 124 b. Information on how to file consumer complaints with the 125 Division of Consumer Services in the Department of Financial 126 Services.

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- 9. Information on news and updates relevant to consumers regarding this state's residential property insurance market, including regulatory changes, information on insurers that enter or exit the market, and industry trends.
- 10. Disaster preparedness information directly related to insurance, prepared by the office or by the Division of Emergency Management.
- 11. (a) With respect to any residential property rate filing, the office shall provide the following information on a publicly accessible Internet website:
  - a.1. The overall rate change requested by the insurer.
- b.2. The rate change approved by the office along with all of the actuary's assumptions and recommendations forming the basis of the office's decision.
- c.3. Certification by the office's actuary that, based on the actuary's knowledge, his or her recommendations are consistent with accepted actuarial principles.
- d. Whether the insurer uses affiliated entities to perform administrative, claims handling, or other functions of the insurer and, if so, the total percentage of direct written premium paid to the affiliated entities by the insurer in the preceding calendar year.
- (b) For any rate filing, regardless of whether or not the filing is subject to a public hearing, the office shall provide on its website a means for any policyholder who may be affected by a proposed rate change to send an e-mail regarding the proposed rate change. Such e-mail must be accessible to the actuary assigned to review the rate filing.
  - (c) The statewide average requested rate change and final



approved statewide average rate change within a filing is not a trade secret as defined in s. 688.002 or s. 812.081(1) and is not subject to the public records exemption for trade secrets provided in s. 119.0715 or s. 624.4213.

(d) County rating examples submitted to the office through the rate collection system for the purposes of displaying rates on the office website are not a trade secret as defined in s. 688.002 or s. 812.081(1) and are not subject to the public records exemption for trade secrets provided in s. 119.0715 or s. 624.4213.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to consumer transparency for homeowners' insurance; amending s. 627.0621, F.S.; requiring that certain rate filings with the Office of Insurance Regulation from residential property insurers include rate transparency reports; providing for acceptance or rejection by the office of such reports; providing construction; providing requirements for such reports; requiring insurers to provide such reports to consumers; requiring that the report indicate that it is preliminary and subject to modification by the office under certain circumstances; requiring the office to define terms



used in such reports; requiring the office to
establish and maintain a comprehensive resource center
on its website; providing requirements for the
resource center; specifying that certain information
is not a trade secret and is not subject to certain
public records exemptions; providing an effective
date.