

DRAFT INSURANCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2015

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Insurance (Amendment) Bill

Bill No. /2015.

Read the first time on .

A BILL
intituled

An Act to amend the Insurance Act (Chapter 142 of the 2002 Revised Edition).

Be it enacted by the President with the advice and consent of the Parliament of Singapore, as follows:

Short title and commencement

1. This Act may be cited as the Insurance (Amendment) Act 2015 and shall come into operation on such date as the Minister may, by notification in the *Gazette*, appoint.

Amendment of section 1A

2. Section 1A of the Insurance Act is amended by inserting, immediately after the definition of “substantial shareholder”, the following definition:

“ “supervisor”, in relation to a licensed financial adviser or exempt financial adviser, has the same meaning as in the Financial Advisers Act (Cap. 110);”.

Amendment of heading above section 14

3. The Insurance Act is amended by deleting the sub-heading immediately before section 14 and substituting the following heading:

“Deposits, registers of policies, insurance funds, web aggregator and certain insurance policies”.

New section 33A, section 33B and section 33C

4. The Insurance Act is amended by inserting, immediately after section 33, the following sections:

“Information to be furnished by licensed insurers relating to the web-aggregator

34. – (1) Without prejudice to the generality of section 33, the Authority may, by regulations or notice in writing, require a licensed insurer or class of licensed insurers, to furnish to the Authority or such persons as the Authority may prescribe or specify by notice in writing, with information for the purposes of publication on a web aggregator.

(2) In this section, “web aggregator” means an internet portal or domain in the Internet which the Authority or such person as the Authority may appoint, creates, develops or operates, or any combination of the foregoing and on which information to assist the public or a member of the public in the purchase of a policy may be published from time to time.

(4) Nothing in this section shall prevent the Authority or such persons as the Authority may require, from preparing and publishing consolidated statements aggregating such information as may be furnished under this section.

(5) Any licensed insurer which –

(a) fails or neglects to furnish any information as required by the Authority under this section; or

(b) in purported compliance with any requirement under this section, does not use due care to secure that any information furnished is not false or misleading in any material particular, and the information which he

furnished is false or misleading in a material particular, shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$[].

(8) Any licensed insurer which persistently furnishes inaccurate information, which is not false or misleading in a material particular, to the Authority under this section shall be guilty of an offence and shall be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding \$[].

Fees payable by licensed insurers for web aggregator

35. – (1) Every licensed insurer shall pay to the Authority such fees as may be prescribed and in such manner as may be specified by the Authority, for or in connection with the web aggregator.

(2) The Authority may prescribe different fees for each licensed insurer or class of licensed insurers in connection with the operation or use of the web-aggregator and any fees so prescribed need not bear any relationship to the costs of services provided by the Authority in relation to the web-aggregator.

(3) In this section “web aggregator” has the same meaning as in section 34(2).

(4) The Authority may, where it considers appropriate in a particular case, waive, refund or remit the whole or any part of any fee paid or payable under subsection (1).

Manufacture and offer of certain life policies

36. – (1) Every licensed insurer shall manufacture and offer such types of life policies in Singapore as the Authority may prescribe and in such form and manner as the Authority may specify,

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), the Authority may prescribe the characteristics of, the terms or conditions of, or benefits to be or likely to be derived from the types of life policies, and the manner of distribution or sale of the life policies.”.

Amendment of section 64

5. Section 64 of the Insurance Act is amended –

- (a) by deleting the word “and” in paragraph (b) of subsection (1A);
- (b) by deleting “.” in paragraph (c) of subsection (1A) and substituting with “;”;
and
- (c) by inserting, immediately after paragraph (c) of subsection (1A), the following paragraphs:
 - “(d) the remuneration (including any commissions) paid by an insurer to a licensed financial adviser, exempt financial adviser, representative or supervisor, including the manner and method of remuneration; and

- (e) affecting, for the purposes of this Act, any duty, right, obligation or performance of any person under contract in relation to the remuneration (including any commissions) provided by an insurer to a licensed financial adviser, exempt financial adviser, representative or supervisor.”.

Savings and transitional provision

6. The Minister may, in relation to any provision of this Act, for a period of 2 years after the date of commencement of that provision, prescribe by regulations published in the *Gazette* such provisions of a savings or transitional nature consequent on the enactment of that provision as he considers necessary or expedient.