

BEFORE THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

STATE OF GEORGIA

IN THE MATTER OF:

**CHAPTER 120-2-104
PREMIUM RATES AND THE PATIENT
PROTECTION AND AFFORDABLE
CARE ACT**

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DOCKET NUMBER I-13-I-7

ORDER

I. STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS

On July 25, 2013, Notice of Intent to Adopt Rule Changes and Notice of Hearing was given regarding the proposed Regulation Chapter 120-2-104 entitled “Premium Rates and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act,” (Record, Exhibit 1). The purpose of proposed Rule and Regulation 120-2-104 is to implement changes to Title 33 which resulted from the passage of Senate Bill 236, signed by the Governor May 7, 2013. By letter dated August 5, 2013, the Office of the Attorney General opined that the proposed regulation was within this office’s scope of authority (Record, Exhibit 5). Pursuant to O.C.G.A. §50-13-4(e), the proposed regulation was transmitted to Wayne R. Allen, Legislative Counsel for the General Assembly, for assignment to the appropriate standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives (Record, Exhibits 6 and 7).

II. CONSIDERATION OF INTERESTED PARTY COMMENTS

Interested persons were given the opportunity to participate in the proposed rulemaking by submitting their written comments by August 30, 2013, and by making oral comments at the public hearing held September 4, 2013. No written comments were received. Tom Carswell,

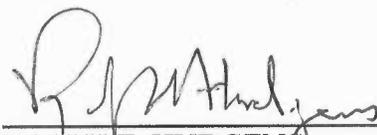
Assistant Director of the Insurance Product Review Division of this office, was the only person to offer oral comments at the hearing.

According to Mr. Carswell, the proposed regulation is necessary to implement recent changes to Title 33. The changes are aimed at ensuring that the public is made aware of the correlation between anticipated increases in health insurance premium rates and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

III. DECISION

WHEREAS no written or oral comments were offered in opposition to the proposed regulation, and **WHEREAS**, this office finds Mr. Carswell's comments in support of the proposed regulation persuasive, **IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that Regulation Chapter 120-2-104 titled, "Premium Rates and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act" a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part by reference, is **HEREBY ADOPTED**.

Given under my Hand and Seal this 6th day of September, 2013.



RALPH T. HUDGENS
INSURANCE AND SAFETY FIRE COMMISSIONER
STATE OF GEORGIA