Second Regular Session Seventy-fourth General Assembly STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 24-1121.01 Christy Chase x2008

HOUSE BILL 24-1440

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Velasco,

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Gonzales,

House Committees

Senate Committees

Business Affairs & Labor

A BILL FOR AN ACT CONCERNING REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPERTY AND CASUALTY INSURERS OFFERING INSURANCE POLICIES IN THE STATE TO PROVIDE CERTAIN DOCUMENTS TO THEIR INSUREDS.

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at http://leg.colorado.gov.)

The bill repeals requirements for insurers that issue commercial and personal automobile, homeowners, and renters insurance policies (insurers) to provide certain policy documents in an insured's selected language of choice and instead requires insurers, starting January 1, 2026, to:

- Provide insureds with a summary document that is in a form specified by the commissioner of insurance by rule that explains the coverages and exclusions under the policy, that specifies the coverages and exclusions the insured selected and rejected, and that is in either English or Spanish, based on the choice of the insured; and
- Offer insureds or applicants for insurance a form to select to receive the summary document in either English or Spanish.

If an insurer fails to comply with the requirements of the bill with regard to an automobile insurance policy, the insured may elect to void any mandatory coverage rejections or exclusions in the automobile insurance policy, may recover reasonable attorney fees and costs incurred for reinstating or rewriting the coverage, and is not required to pay any premium for the policy period applicable for the reinstated or rewritten coverage.

1 Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 10-4-122 as

3 follows:

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4 10-4-122. Policy summary of major provisions - choice of

5 language - penalty for insurer noncompliance - rules - definitions.

6 (1) (a) (I) ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026, AN INSURER THAT ISSUES

7 INSURANCE POLICIES IN THIS STATE SHALL PROVIDE TO AN INSURED UNDER

8 AN INSURANCE POLICY ISSUED BY THE INSURER, IN A WRITTEN OR

ELECTRONIC FORMAT AS DETERMINED BY THE COMMISSIONER, A

10 SUMMARY DOCUMENT THAT:

11 (A) PROVIDES A GENERAL EXPLANATION OF THE COVERAGES AND

12 EXCLUSIONS UNDER THE INSURANCE POLICY, CONSISTENT WITH THE

REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 10-4-111;

14 (B) INCLUDES THE COVERAGES SELECTED BY THE INSURED UNDER

15 THE INSURANCE POLICY;

(C) FOR AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE POLICIES, INCLUDES ANY

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| 1 | MANDATORY COVERAGES REJECTED BY THE INSURED AND ANY |
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| 2 | EXCLUSIONS SELECTED BY THE INSURED PURSUANT TO SECTION $10-4-630$; |
| 3 | $(D) \ \ Is \ \text{In the language selected by the insured or applicant}$ |
| 4 | FOR A NEW OR RENEWAL INSURANCE POLICY PURSUANT TO SUBSECTION (2) |
| 5 | OF THIS SECTION; AND |
| 6 | (E) IS IN THE FORM PRESCRIBED BY THE COMMISSIONER BY RULE. |
| 7 | (II) By December 31, 2024, the commissioner, by rule, shall |
| 8 | CREATE AND APPROVE A SUMMARY DOCUMENT FORM FOR INSURERS TO |
| 9 | USE TO COMPLY WITH THIS SUBSECTION (1). |
| 10 | (b) WITH REGARD TO A SUMMARY DOCUMENT THAT AN INSURER |
| 11 | PROVIDES TO AN INSURED: |
| 12 | (I) THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES |
| 13 | ONLY; |
| 14 | (II) THE ACTUAL TERMS OF THE INSURED'S INSURANCE POLICY |
| 15 | PREVAIL OVER THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT; |
| 16 | (III) IN THE CASE OF A DISPUTE, THE INSURANCE POLICY IS |
| 17 | CONTROLLING, AND A COURT SHALL RELY ON THE ENGLISH-LANGUAGE |
| 18 | VERSION OF THE INSURANCE POLICY TO RESOLVE THE DISPUTE; |
| 19 | (IV) THE INFORMATION IN THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT DOES NOT |
| 20 | CREATE RIGHTS OR OBLIGATIONS ON THE PART OF THE INSURER, THE |
| 21 | INSURED, THE PRODUCER, OR THE STATE; AND |
| 22 | (V) THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT IS NOT INTENDED TO BE A |
| 23 | SUBSTITUTE FOR THE ACTUAL INSURANCE POLICY WRITTEN IN ENGLISH. |
| 24 | (2) (a) AN INSURER THAT ISSUES INSURANCE POLICIES IN THIS |
| 25 | STATE ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026, SHALL: |
| 26 | (I) OFFER AN APPLICANT FOR A NEW OR RENEWAL INSURANCE |
| 27 | POLICY A FORM TO SELECT THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT DESCRIBED IN |

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| 1 | SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IN EITHER ENGLISH OR SPANISH; AND |
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| 2 | (II) Provide the offer and the form in English and Spanish. |
| 3 | (b) FOR NEW INSURANCE POLICIES ISSUED ON OR AFTER JANUARY |
| 4 | 1,2026, the insurer shall offer the form described in subsection |
| 5 | (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO THE APPLICANT AT THE TIME OF APPLICATION |
| 6 | FOR THE INSURANCE POLICY. FOR RENEWAL INSURANCE POLICIES, THE |
| 7 | INSURER SHALL OFFER THE FORM ONCE, AT THE FIRST RENEWAL OF THE |
| 8 | INSURANCE POLICY THAT ARISES ON OR AFTER JANUARY 1, 2026; EXCEPT |
| 9 | THAT, IF THE INSURER PREVIOUSLY OFFERED THE FORM TO THE INSURED AT |
| 10 | THE TIME OF APPLICATION FOR A NEW INSURANCE POLICY, THE INSURER IS |
| 11 | NOT REQUIRED TO OFFER THE FORM AT THE TIME OF RENEWAL OF THAT |
| 12 | INSURANCE POLICY. |
| 13 | (c) IF THE APPLICANT FOR A NEW OR RENEWAL INSURANCE POLICY |
| 14 | RETURNS THE FORM DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION TO |
| 15 | THE INSURER INDICATING A LANGUAGE SELECTION, THE INSURER SHALL |
| 16 | PROVIDE THE SUMMARY DOCUMENT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS |
| 17 | SECTION IN THE LANGUAGE THE APPLICANT SELECTS. IF THE APPLICANT |
| 18 | DOES NOT RETURN THE FORM TO THE INSURER WITHIN SIXTY DAYS AFTER |
| 19 | RECEIVING THE FORM, THE INSURER MAY PROVIDE THE SUMMARY |
| 20 | DOCUMENT DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION IN ENGLISH. |
| 21 | (3) (a) On and after January 1, 2026, if an insurer fails to |
| 22 | COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION, ANY WRITTEN |
| 23 | REJECTIONS OF MANDATORY COVERAGES OR EXCLUSIONS PURSUANT TO |
| 24 | SECTION 10-4-630 ARE VOIDABLE AT THE INSURED'S ELECTION. IF THE |
| 25 | INSURED ELECTS TO VOID THE COVERAGE REJECTION OR EXCLUSION: |
| 26 | (I) THE INSURED MAY RECOVER REASONABLE ATTORNEY FEES AND |
| 27 | COURT COSTS INCURRED IN REINSTATING OR REWRITING THE COVERAGE; |

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| 1 | AND |
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| 2 | (II) THE INSURER SHALL NOT REQUIRE THE INSURED TO PAY ANY |
| 3 | PREMIUM DURING THE POLICY PERIOD APPLICABLE FOR THE REINSTATED |
| 4 | OR REWRITTEN COVERAGE. |
| 5 | (b) IF THE INSURED DOES NOT REJECT COVERAGE IN FUTURE POLICY |
| 6 | PERIODS, THE INSURER MAY CHARGE A PREMIUM FOR THE COVERAGE IN |
| 7 | FUTURE POLICY PERIODS. |
| 8 | (4) As used in this section: |
| 9 | (a) "Insurance policy" means a commercial automobile, |
| 10 | PERSONAL AUTOMOBILE, HOMEOWNERS, OR RENTERS POLICY OF |
| 11 | INSURANCE. |
| 12 | (b) "PRODUCER" HAS THE SAME MEANING AS "INSURANCE |
| 13 | PRODUCER" AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 10-2-103 (6). |
| 14 | SECTION 2. In Colorado Revised Statutes, repeal 10-3-1119. |
| 15 | SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly finds, |
| 16 | determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate |
| 17 | preservation of the public peace, health, or safety or for appropriations for |
| 18 | the support and maintenance of the departments of the state and state |
| 19 | institutions. |

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