



1201 NW Wall Street, Bend OR 97703 P 541-382-7772 F 541-388-5403

March 10, 2021

TO: House Business and Labor Committee

Re: **House Bill 3272**

Mr. Chair and Members of the Committee:

I am Patrick O'Keefe of Cascade Insurance Center in Bend, Oregon. I am strongly opposed to sections 4 and 6 of HB 3272.

Section 4 will allow second lawsuits against insurers and others involved in the claims process. This will encourage litigation and clog the court system. More importantly, through inflated settlement demands, it will increase underlying costs of the insurance claims process. This will raise insurance premiums by quite a bit, as has been shown in other states which have these laws. This is counter to efforts to revive Oregon's economy after the current pandemic.

Section 6 will impose new duties on insurance producers. Agents are well regulated through Oregon statute. The Insurance Commissioner can already take our license for:

- (a) Providing incorrect, misleading, incomplete or materially untrue information in the license application.
- (b) Violating any insurance laws, or violating any rule, subpoena or order of the director...
- (c) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license through misrepresentation or fraud.
- (d) Improperly withholding, misappropriating or converting any moneys or properties received in the course of doing insurance business.
- (e) Intentionally misrepresenting the terms of an actual or proposed insurance contract or application for insurance.
- (f) Having been convicted of a felony, of a misdemeanor involving dishonesty or breach of trust...
- (g) Having admitted or been found to have committed any unfair trade practice or fraud related to insurance.
- (h) Using fraudulent, coercive or dishonest practices, or demonstrating incompetence, untrustworthiness or financial irresponsibility in the conduct of business in this state or elsewhere.
- (i) Cancellation, revocation, suspension or refusal to renew by any state of a license...
- (j) Cancellation, revocation, suspension or refusal to renew by any state...was related to the business of an adjuster or an insurance producer or consultant, or if dishonesty, fraud or deception was involved.
- (k) Forging another person's name to an application for insurance or to any document related to an insurance transaction.
- (L) Improperly using notes or any other reference material to complete an examination for an insurance license.
- (m) Knowingly accepting insurance business from an individual who is not licensed.
- (n) Error by the director in issuing or renewing a license.
- (o) Failing to pay a civil penalty assessed by the director that has become final...
- (p) Failing to pay any fee or charge to the director.
- (q) Failing to comply with continuing education requirements applicable to the license...

Please vote **NO** on HB 3272. Thank you for your consideration.

Patrick O'Keefe
Cascade Insurance Center, Bend, OR
patrick@cascadeinsure.com
541-382-7772