

General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Amendment

LCO No. 7599



Offered by: SEN. HARDING, 30th Dist. SEN. SAMPSON, 16th Dist. SEN. PERILLO J., 21st Dist.

To: Subst. Senate Bill No. 1469

File No. 382

Cal. No. 233

"AN ACT CONCERNING MEDICAL DEBT."

After the last section, add the following and renumber sections and
 internal references accordingly:

"Sec. 501. Section 38a-1 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

5 Terms used in this title, <u>and sections 502 and 503 of this act</u>, unless it 6 appears from the context to the contrary, shall have a scope and 7 meaning as set forth in this section.

8 (1) "Affiliate" or "affiliated" means a person that directly, or indirectly 9 through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by or is 10 under common control with another person.

(2) "Alien insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or
organized or constituted within or under the laws of any jurisdiction or
country without the United States.

(3) "Annuities" means all agreements to make periodical payments where the making or continuance of all or some of the series of the payments, or the amount of the payment, is dependent upon the continuance of human life or is for a specified term of years. This definition does not apply to payments made under a policy of life insurance.

20 (4) "Commissioner" means the Insurance Commissioner.

(5) "Control", "controlled by" or "under common control with" means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract other than a commercial contract for goods or nonmanagement services, or otherwise, unless the power is the result of an official position with the person.

(6) "Domestic insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by,
incorporated, organized or constituted within or under the laws of this
state.

30 (7) "Domestic surplus lines insurer" means any domestic insurer that
31 has been authorized by the commissioner to write surplus lines
32 insurance.

(8) "Foreign country" means any jurisdiction not in any state, districtor territory of the United States.

(9) "Foreign insurer" means any insurer that has been chartered by or
organized or constituted within or under the laws of another state or a
territory of the United States.

38 (10) "Insolvency" or "insolvent" means, for any insurer, that it is 39 unable to pay its obligations when they are due, or when its admitted 40 assets do not exceed its liabilities plus the greater of: (A) Capital and 41 surplus required by law for its organization and continued operation; 42 or (B) the total par or stated value of its authorized and issued capital 43 stock. For purposes of this subdivision "liabilities" shall include but not be limited to reserves required by statute or by regulations adopted by
the commissioner in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 or
specific requirements imposed by the commissioner upon a subject
company at the time of admission or subsequent thereto.

48 (11) "Insurance" means any agreement to pay a sum of money, 49 provide services or any other thing of value on the happening of a 50 particular event or contingency or to provide indemnity for loss in 51 respect to a specified subject by specified perils in return for a 52 consideration. In any contract of insurance, an insured shall have an 53 interest which is subject to a risk of loss through destruction or 54 impairment of that interest, which risk is assumed by the insurer and 55 such assumption shall be part of a general scheme to distribute losses 56 among a large group of persons bearing similar risks in return for a 57 ratable contribution or other consideration.

(12) "Insurer" or "insurance company" includes any person or
combination of persons doing any kind or form of insurance business
other than a fraternal benefit society, and shall include a receiver of any
insurer when the context reasonably permits.

(13) "Insured" means a person to whom or for whose benefit an insurer makes a promise in an insurance policy. The term includes policyholders, subscribers, members and beneficiaries. This definition applies only to the provisions of this title and does not define the meaning of this word as used in insurance policies or certificates.

67 (14) "Life insurance" means insurance on human lives and insurances 68 pertaining to or connected with human life. The business of life 69 insurance includes granting endowment benefits, granting additional 70 benefits in the event of death by accident or accidental means, granting 71 additional benefits in the event of the total and permanent disability of 72 the insured, and providing optional methods of settlement of proceeds. 73 Life insurance includes burial contracts to the extent provided by 74 section 38a-464.

(15) "Mutual insurer" means any insurer without capital stock, themanaging directors or officers of which are elected by its members.

(16) "Person" means an individual, a corporation, a partnership, a
limited liability company, an association, a joint stock company, a
business trust, an unincorporated organization or other legal entity.

80 (17) "Policy" means any document, including attached endorsements
81 and riders, purporting to be an enforceable contract, which
82 memorializes in writing some or all of the terms of an insurance
83 contract.

84 (18) "State" means any state, district, or territory of the United States.

85 (19) "Subsidiary" of a specified person means an affiliate controlled86 by the person directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediaries.

(20) "Unauthorized insurer" or "nonadmitted insurer" means an
insurer that has not been granted a certificate of authority by the
commissioner to transact the business of insurance in this state or an
insurer transacting business not authorized by a valid certificate.

91 (21) "United States" means the United States of America, its territories
92 and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the District of
93 Columbia.

94 Sec. 502. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) For the purposes of this 95 section and section 503 of this act:

96 (1) "Actuarial value" means a level of coverage provided by a health
97 plan design that is offered as a percentage of the full value of the benefits
98 provided under such plan;

99 (2) "Commercial domicile" means the headquarters of a trade or
100 business that is the place from which such trade or business is
101 principally managed and directed;

102 (3) "Employer member" means an entity domiciled in this state or that

maintains such entity's commercial domicile in this state, is a member
of a sponsoring association and employs more than one individual in
this state. "Employer member" may include such employer member's
sponsoring association, provided such sponsoring association is
domiciled in this state and employs more than one individual in this
state;

(4) "ERISA" means the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of110 1974, as amended from time to time;

(5) "Health benefit plan" means a contract, certificate or agreement offered, delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state by a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust to provide, deliver, arrange for, pay for or reimburse any of the costs of the diagnosis, prevention, treatment, cure or relief of a health condition, illness, injury or disease. "Health benefit plan" does not include insurance products;

(6) "Health enhancement program" has the same meaning asprovided in section 38a- 477*ll* of the general statutes;

(7) "Participating employee" means any employee of a participating
employer that enrolls in a health benefit plan offered by a self-funded
multiple employer welfare arrangement trust;

(8) "Participating employer" means any employer member thatparticipates in a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement;

(9) "Preexisting conditions provision" has the same meaning asprovided in section 38a-476 of the general statutes;

(10) "Self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement" means a
program established or maintained on behalf of employer members and
offered by a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
for the purpose of providing one or more health benefit plans for such
employer member's employees and such employees' dependents;

(11) "Self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangementmeans any trust established by a sponsoring association in according		
134 with subsection (e) of section 503 of this act;		
 (12) "Sponsoring association" means any industry trade group other trade group with employer members representing multipl 		
other trade group with employer members representing multiple trades		
137 domiciled in this state that (A) is organized and has a		
138 constitution or bylaws, (B) has not less than five hundred employ139 not less than twenty-five employer members, and (C) has		
not less than twenty-five employer members, and (C) has been		
maintained in good faith for not less than the immediately preceding		
141 five years for purposes other than obtaining or providing insura		
142 (13) "Value-based health benefit plan design" means any r		
term in a health benefit plan that is designed to increase the quality of		
144 covered benefits or health care services while reducing the cost		
145 health benefit plan or health care services.		
146 Sec. 503. (NEW) (<i>Effective October 1, 2025</i>) (a) No person, othe		
147 self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trus		
148 establish or operate a self-funded multiple employer		
149 arrangement in this state.		
150 (b) Any self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement		
151 prior to establishing a self-funded multiple employer		
152 arrangement in this state, shall apply for and obtain a license f		
153 commissioner. The commissioner shall issue a license to su		
154 funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, provide		
155 trust satisfies all licensing requirements applicable to a health in		
156 company pursuant to chapter 698 of the general statutes. Up		
157 issuance of a license by the commissioner to a self-funded r		
158 employer welfare arrangement trust, in accordance with the pro-		

159 of this subsection, such trust shall comply with all requirements 160 applicable to health insurance companies set forth in title 38a of the

161 general statutes, and any regulations adopted by the commissioner, in

162 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes.

(c) (1) The commissioner shall not issue a license to a self-funded
multiple employer welfare arrangement trust pursuant to subsection (b)
of this section, unless such trust has an initial combined capital and
surplus of not less than four million dollars.

(2) Beginning on April 1, 2026, any self-funded multiple employer
welfare arrangement trust that meets the licensing requirements
pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection and subsection (b) of this
section may offer a health benefit plan to participating employees of one
or more participating employers.

(d) Any health benefit plan issued by a self-funded multiple
employer welfare arrangement trust that covers participating
employees of one or more participating employers shall:

(1) Provide coverage for (A) essential health benefits as defined in the
Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended
from time to time, or regulations adopted thereunder, and (B) the group
state-mandated coverage requirements under chapter 700c of the
general statutes;

(2) Offer to each participating employer health benefit plans with a
minimum level of coverage designed to provide health benefits that are
actuarially equivalent, respectively, to not less than sixty per cent, not
less than sixty-eight per cent and not less than seventy-eight per cent of
the full actuarial value of the benefits provided under each health
benefit plan;

(3) Not limit or exclude coverage for any individual by imposing apreexisting conditions provision on such individual;

(4) Not establish discriminatory rules based on the health status of an
individual related to health benefit plan eligibility, or rate or
contribution requirements;

191 (5) Establish base rates formed on an actuarially sound, modified 192 community rating methodology that considers the pooling of all 193 participating employees' claims;

(6) Utilize each participating employer's risk profile to determine
rates by actuarially adjusting above or below established base rates, and
utilize pooling or reinsurance of individual large claims to reduce the
adverse impact on any specific participating employer's rates. The selffunded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust shall establish the
applicable pooling point, which shall consistently apply to all such
participating employers;

201 (7) Utilize actuarially sound underwriting methodologies for pricing202 and renewing health benefit plans for participating employers;

203 (8) Adopt and maintain underwriting guidelines for evaluating
204 applicants and accepting such applicants as new participating
205 employers;

206 (9) Adopt and maintain renewal methodologies, which may be207 reviewed by the commissioner;

(10) Use surplus in excess of an amount to be determined by the
commissioner on an annual basis, to reduce health benefit plan
contribution amounts paid by participating employers and
participating employees;

(11) Make any health benefit plan available to all participating
employers regardless of any factor relating to the health status of such
participating employer or individuals eligible for coverage through any
participating employer;

(12) (A) Implement value-based health benefit plan design and valuebased contracting by administering programs, which may include, but
need not be limited to, centers of excellence, wellness programs, health
enhancement programs, alternative payment models, chronic disease
navigation and patient-centered medical homes. (B) Beginning on
August 1, 2026, each self-funded multiple employer welfare
arrangement trust shall annually report, on a form provided by the

223 Insurance Commissioner, such implementation of value-based health 224 benefit plan design and value-based contracting pursuant to this 225 subdivision. Such report to the Insurance Commissioner shall include 226 the following: (i) A description of such value-based health benefit plan 227 design and value-based contracting programs; (ii) the number of 228 participating employees enrolled in such value-based health benefit 229 plan design and value-based contracting programs; (iii) the percentage 230 of dollars spent on such value-based health benefit plan design and 231 value-based contracting programs; and (iv) a description that explains 232 how such value-based health benefit plan design and value-based 233 contracting programs lower costs for participating employees enrolled 234 in such programs; and

(13) With regard to participating employees, comply with the
notification requirements set forth in sections 38a-591c to 38a-591g,
inclusive, of the general statutes with respect to utilization review and
benefit determinations of a benefit request or claim.

(e) A sponsoring association shall form a self-funded multiple
employer welfare arrangement trust that shall establish, maintain and
offer health benefit plans for the self-funded multiple employer welfare
arrangement. Such trust shall be authorized to sell health benefit plans
to participating employers exclusively through insurance producers
licensed in accordance with chapter 702 of the general statutes, provided
such trust meets the following conditions:

(1) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
shall be subject to ERISA and any regulations or standards prescribed
by the United States Department of Labor pertaining to multiple
employer welfare arrangements;

(2) A Form M-1 shall be filed each year by such trust with the United
States Department of Labor. For purposes of this subdivision, "Form M1" means an annual report required by the United States Department of
Labor for multiple employer welfare arrangements that includes, but is
not limited to, the following: (A) Identification of the sponsoring

_	sSB 1469 Amendment
255 256 257	association and the self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust; and (B) a description of the health benefit plans offered through such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust;
258 259	(3) Any organizational documents for a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust shall:
260 261	(A) State that such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust is sponsored by the sponsoring association;
262 263 264	(B) State that the purpose of such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust is to provide health benefit plans to eligible employers;
265 266 267 268 269 270 271	(C) Provide that self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust funds shall be used for the benefit of eligible employers through (i) self-funding of claims or the purchase of reinsurance, or any combination thereof, and (ii) defraying the costs and expenses of administering and operating such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust and any health benefit plan issued by such trust;
272 273	(D) Limit participation in any health benefit plan to eligible employers;
274 275 276 277 278 279 280 281	(E) Establish and maintain a board of trustees, composed of not less than five trustees, that shall have fiscal control over such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust for the purpose of managing all health benefit plans established, maintained and offered by such self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust. Any board of trustees shall have the authority to contract with any licensed administrator or service company to administer the daily operations of the health benefit plans;
282	(F) Implement a process for the election of trustees to the board of

(G) Require each trustee to discharge such trustee's duties inaccordance with generally accepted fiduciary standards;

(4) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
shall establish and maintain reserves in accordance with any financial
and solvency requirements applicable to health insurance companies set
forth in title 38a of the general statutes, and any regulations adopted by
the commissioner, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the
general statutes;

(5) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
shall purchase and maintain an insurance policy providing coverage for
stop-loss insurance for each health benefit plan with retention levels
determined in accordance with actuarial principles from insurers
licensed to transact the business of insurance in this state;

297 (6) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust 298 shall purchase and maintain an aggregate stop-loss insurance policy 299 with an attachment point equal to one hundred twenty-five per cent of 300 losses. The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust 301 may submit a written request to the commissioner to modify the 302 aggregate stop-loss policy. Not later than thirty calendar days after the 303 commissioner receives such request, the commissioner shall issue a 304 decision granting or denying such request;

305 (7) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
306 shall purchase and maintain commercially reasonable fiduciary liability
307 insurance from insurers licensed to transact the business of insurance in
308 this state;

(8) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
shall purchase and maintain commercially reasonable directors' and
officers' liability insurance from insurers licensed to transact the
business of insurance in this state;

(9) The self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trustshall purchase and maintain a bond in an amount and form approved

315 by the commissioner; and

(10) No self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust
shall include in its name the words "insurance", "insurer", "underwriter",
"mutual" or any other word or term or combination of words or terms
that is descriptive of an insurance company or insurance business,
unless the context of such words or terms indicates that such self-funded
multiple employer welfare arrangement trust is not an insurance
company and is not transacting the business of insurance.

323 (f) Any board of trustees established pursuant to subsection (e) of this324 section shall:

(1) Operate any health benefit plan in accordance with the fiduciary
standards set forth in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, P.L.
116-260, as amended from time to time, and all other generally accepted
fiduciary standards;

329 (2) Pay all costs assessed by the commissioner in accordance with title 330 38a of the general statutes. Such board of trustees shall have the 331 authority to collect fees on a pro rata basis from the participating 332 employers. No self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement 333 trust shall be subject to (A) the health and welfare fee required under 334 section 19a-7 of the general statutes, (B) the public health fee required 335 under section 19a-7p of the general statutes, (C) any payment required 336 under section 38a-48 of the general statutes, or (D) the premium tax 337 required under section 12-202 of the general statutes.

338 (g) Each participating employer shall be (1) liable for such 339 participating employer's allocated share of the liabilities arising under a 340 health benefit plan provided by the self-funded multiple employer 341 welfare arrangement trust, as determined by the board of trustees, and 342 (2) jointly and severally liable for additional amounts if the annual 343 health benefit plan subscription amounts paid by all participating 344 employers of such plan result in a deficit of funds for the self-funded 345 multiple employer welfare arrangement trust. Each participating

employer's liability under this subsection shall not be assessed toparticipating employees of such participating employer.

348 (h) Health benefit plan documents issued by any self-funded multiple 349 employer welfare arrangement trust to participating employers shall 350 have the following statement printed on the first page in fourteen-point 351 boldface type: "This health benefit plan is provided by a trust 352 established to provide health benefit plans to employees of employees 353 participating in a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement. This health benefit plan is not insurance and is not offered through an 354 355 insurance company. This health benefit plan is not required to comply 356 with certain federal market requirements for health insurance, and is 357 not required to comply with certain state laws for health insurance. Each 358 participating employer shall be liable for such participating employer's 359 allocated share of the liabilities of the trust under all health benefit plans 360 offered by the trust, as determined by the board of trustees. Each 361 participating employer shall be jointly and severally liable for additional 362 amounts if the annual health benefit plan subscription amounts paid by 363 all participating employers and participating employees of such 364 participating employer result in a deficit of funds for the trust and for 365 any assessments by state regulators. The trust's financial statements 366 shall be made available upon request by any participating employer in 367 the self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement.".

368 (i) Health benefit plan documents issued by any self-funded multiple 369 employer welfare arrangement trust to participating employees shall 370 have the following statement printed on the first page in fourteen-point 371 boldface type: "This health benefit plan is provided by a trust 372 established to provide health benefit plans to employees of employers 373 participating in a self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement, 374 including your employer. This health benefit plan is not insurance and 375 is not offered through an insurance company. This health benefit plan is 376 not required to comply with certain federal market requirements for 377 health insurance, and is not required to comply with certain state laws 378 for health insurance. Your employer shall be liable for such employer's

379 allocated share of the liabilities of the trust under all health benefit plans 380 offered by the trust, as determined by the board of trustees. Your 381 employer shall be jointly and severally liable for additional amounts if 382 the annual health benefit plan subscription amounts paid by all 383 participating employers and participating employees of such 384 participating employer result in a deficit of funds for the trust and for 385 any assessments by state regulators. The trust's financial statements 386 shall be made available to you upon request. The Consumer Affairs 387 Division within the Insurance Department is available to assist you with 388 questions that you may have concerning this health benefit plan.". The 389 notice shall include the telephone number and electronic mail address 390 for the Consumer Affairs Division.

(j) No self-funded multiple employer welfare arrangement trust shall
be subject to the Connecticut Insurance Guaranty Association pursuant
to sections 38a-836 to 38a-853, inclusive, of the general statutes.

(k) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the
provisions of this section.

Sec. 504. Section 38a-567 of the general statutes is repealed and the
following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective April 1, 2026*):

Health insurance plans, associations of small employers and other insurance arrangements covering small employers and insurers and producers marketing such plans and arrangements shall be subject to the following provisions:

(1) (A) Any such plan or arrangement shall be offered on a
guaranteed issue basis with respect to all eligible employees or
dependents of such employees, at the option of the small employer,
policyholder or contractholder, as the case may be.

(B) Any such plan or arrangement shall be renewable with respect to
all eligible employees or dependents at the option of the small employer,
policyholder or contractholder, as the case may be, except: (i) For

410 nonpayment of the required premiums by the small employer, 411 policyholder or contractholder; (ii) for fraud or misrepresentation of the 412 small employer, policyholder or contractholder or, with respect to coverage of individual insured, the insureds or their representatives; 413 414 (iii) for noncompliance with plan or arrangement provisions; (iv) when 415 the number of insureds covered under the plan or arrangement is less 416 than the number of insureds or percentage of insureds required by 417 participation requirements under the plan or arrangement; or (v) when 418 the small employer, policyholder or contractholder is no longer actively 419 engaged in the business in which it was engaged on the effective date of 420 the plan or arrangement.

421 (C) Renewability of coverage may be effected by either continuing in 422 effect a plan or arrangement covering a small employer or by 423 substituting upon renewal for the prior plan or arrangement the plan or 424 arrangement then offered by the carrier that most closely corresponds 425 to the prior plan or arrangement and is available to other small 426 employers. Such substitution shall only be made under conditions 427 approved by the commissioner. A carrier may substitute a plan or 428 arrangement as set forth in this subparagraph only if the carrier effects 429 the same substitution upon renewal for all small employers previously 430 covered under the particular plan or arrangement, unless otherwise 431 approved by the commissioner. The substitute plan or arrangement 432 shall be subject to the rating restrictions specified in this section on the 433 same basis as if no substitution had occurred, except for an adjustment 434 based on coverage differences.

(D) Any such plan or arrangement shall provide special enrollment periods (i) to all eligible employees or dependents as set forth in 45 CFR 147.104, as amended from time to time, and (ii) for coverage under such plan or arrangement ordered by a court for a spouse or minor child of an eligible employee where request for enrollment is made not later than thirty days after the issuance of such court order.

(2) (A) As used in this subdivision, "grandfathered plan" has the same
meaning as "grandfathered health plan" as provided in the Patient

sSB 1469 Amendment			
Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended from time			
4 to time.			
5 (B) With respect to grandfathered plans issued to small employers			
except as a member of an association of small employers, the premium			
rates charged or offered shall be established on the basis of a single pool			
of all grandfathered plans, adjusted to reflect one or more of the			
following classifications:			
0 (i) Age, provided age brackets of less than five years shall not be			
1 utilized;			
2 (ii) Gender;			
3 (iii) Geographic area, provided an area smaller than a county shal			
4 not be utilized;			
5 (iv) Industry, provided the rate factor associated with any industry			
classification shall not vary from the arithmetic average of the highest			
7 and lowest rate factors associated with all industry classifications by			
8 greater than fifteen per cent of such average, and provided further, the			
9 rate factors associated with any industry shall not be increased by more			
0 than five per cent per year;			
1 (v) Group size, provided the highest rate factor associated with group			
2 size shall not vary from the lowest rate factor associated with group size			
3 by a ratio of greater than 1.25 to 1.0;			
4 (vi) Administrative cost savings resulting from the administration of			
5 an association group plan or a plan written pursuant to section 5-259			
6 provided the savings reflect a reduction to the small employer carrier's			
7 overall retention that is measurable and specifically realized on items			
8 such as marketing, billing or claims paying functions taken on directly			
9 by the plan administrator or association, except that such savings may			
0 not reflect a reduction realized on commissions;			
1 (vii) Savings resulting from a reduction in the profit of a carrier tha			

writes small business plans or arrangements for an association group
plan or a plan written pursuant to section 5-259, provided any loss in
overall revenue due to a reduction in profit is not shifted to other small
employers; and

(viii) Family composition, provided the small employer carrier shall
utilize only one or more of the following billing classifications: (I)
Employee; (II) employee plus family; (III) employee and spouse; (IV)
employee and child; (V) employee plus one dependent; and (VI)
employee plus two or more dependents.

481 (C) (i) With respect to nongrandfathered plans issued to small 482 employers, except as a member of an association of small employers, the 483 premium rates charged or offered shall be established on the basis of a 484 single pool of all nongrandfathered plans, adjusted to reflect one or 485 more of the following classifications:

486 (I) Age, in accordance with a uniform age rating curve established by487 the commissioner; <u>or</u>

488 (II) Geographic area, as defined by the commissioner.

(ii) Total premium rates for family coverage for nongrandfathered
plans shall be determined by adding the premiums for each individual
family member, except that with respect to family members under
twenty-one years of age, the premiums for only the three oldest covered
children shall be taken into account in determining the total premium
rate for such family.

(iii) Premium rates for employees and dependents for
nongrandfathered plans shall be calculated for each covered individual
and premium rates for the small employer group shall be calculated by
totaling the premiums attributable to each covered individual.

(iv) Premium rates for any given plan may vary by (I) actuarially
justified differences in plan design, and (II) actuarially justified amounts
to reflect the policy's provider network and administrative expense

502 differences that can be reasonably allocated to such policy.

503 (3) No small employer carrier or producer shall, directly or indirectly,504 engage in the following activities:

505 (A) Encouraging or directing small employers to refrain from filing 506 an application for coverage with the small employer carrier because of 507 the health status, claims experience, industry, occupation or geographic 508 location of the small employer, except the provisions of this 509 subparagraph shall not apply to information provided by a small 510 employer carrier or producer to a small employer regarding the carrier's 511 established geographic service area or a restricted network provision of 512 a small employer carrier; or

(B) Encouraging or directing small employers to seek coverage from
another carrier because of the health status, claims experience, industry,
occupation or geographic location of the small employer.

516 (4) No small employer carrier shall, directly or indirectly, enter into 517 any contract, agreement or arrangement with a producer that provides 518 for or results in the compensation paid to a producer for the sale of a 519 health benefit plan to be varied because of the health status, claims 520 experience, industry, occupation or geographic area of the small 521 employer. A small employer carrier shall provide reasonable 522 compensation, as provided under the plan of operation of the program, 523 to a producer, if any, for the sale of a health care plan. No small 524 employer carrier shall terminate, fail to renew or limit its contract or 525 agreement of representation with a producer for any reason related to 526 the health status, claims experience, occupation, or geographic location 527 of the small employers placed by the producer with the small employer 528 carrier.

529 (5) No small employer carrier or producer shall induce or otherwise 530 encourage a small employer to separate or otherwise exclude an 531 employee from health coverage or benefits provided in connection with 532 the employee's employment. (6) No small employer carrier or producer shall disclose (A) to a small
employer the fact that any or all of the eligible employees of such small
employer have been or will be reinsured with the pool, or (B) to any
eligible employee or dependent the fact that he has been or will be
reinsured with the pool.

(7) If a small employer carrier enters into a contract, agreement or
other arrangement with another party to provide administrative,
marketing or other services related to the offering of health benefit plans
to small employers in this state, the other party shall be subject to the
provisions of this section.

(8) The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the
provisions of chapter 54, setting forth additional standards to provide
for the fair marketing and broad availability of health benefit plans to
small employers.

(9) Any violation of subdivisions (3) to (7), inclusive, of this section
and of any regulations established under subdivision (8) of this section
shall be an unfair and prohibited practice under sections 38a-815 to 38a830, inclusive.

551 Sec. 505. Subsection (a) of section 38a-9 of the general statutes is 552 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 553 1, 2025):

554 (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 4-8, there shall be a 555 Division of Consumer Affairs within the Insurance Department, which 556 division shall act on the Insurance Commissioner's behalf and at his 557 direction in order to carry out his responsibilities under this title with 558 respect to such matters. The division shall receive and review 559 complaints from residents of this state concerning their insurance 560 problems and problems arising out of multiple employer welfare 561 arrangement health benefit plans, as defined in section 502 of this act, 562 including claims disputes, and serve as a mediator in such disputes in 563 order to assist the commissioner in determining whether statutory

564 requirements and contractual obligations within the commissioner's 565 jurisdiction have been fulfilled. There shall be a director of said division, 566 who shall be provided with sufficient staff. The division shall serve to 567 coordinate all appropriate facilities in the department in addressing 568 such complaints, and conduct any outreach programs deemed 569 necessary to properly inform and educate the public on insurance 570 matters. The director shall submit quarterly reports to the 571 commissioner, which shall state the number of complaints received by 572 the division in such calendar quarter, the Connecticut premium or 573 premium equivalent volume of the appropriate line of each insurance 574 company or multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, as defined in 575 section 502 of this act, against which a complaint has been filed, the 576 types of complaints received, and the number of such complaints which 577 have been resolved. Such reports shall be published every six months 578 and copies shall be made available to any interested resident of this state 579 upon request. The commissioner shall report, in accordance with section 580 11-4a, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having 581 cognizance of matters relating to insurance on or before January 582 fifteenth annually, concerning the findings of such reports and 583 suggestions for legislative initiatives to address recurring problems.

584 Sec. 506. Section 38a-14 of the general statutes is repealed and the 585 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

586 (a) For the purposes of this section, "company" means any insurance 587 company, multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, as defined in 588 section 502 of this act, or health care center doing business in this state, 589 any corporation or association collecting data utilized by any such 590 insurance company in the underwriting of insurance policies and any 591 corporation organized under any law of this state or having an office in 592 this state, which corporation is engaged in, or claiming or advertising 593 that it is engaged in, organizing or receiving subscriptions for or 594 disposing of stock of, or in any manner aiding or taking part in the 595 formation or business of, an insurance company or companies, or that is 596 holding the capital stock of one or more insurance corporations for the 597 purpose of controlling the management thereof, as voting trustees or598 otherwise.

599 (b) The commissioner shall, as often as the commissioner deems it 600 expedient, examine into the affairs of any company. In scheduling and 601 determining the nature, scope and frequency of the examinations, the 602 commissioner shall consider such matters as the results of financial 603 statement analyses and ratios, changes in management or ownership, 604 actuarial opinions, reports of independent certified public accountants 605 and such other criteria as set forth in the examiners' handbook adopted 606 by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners and in effect 607 at the time the commissioner exercises discretion under this section.

608 (c) (1) To carry out examinations under this section, the commissioner 609 may appoint one or more competent persons as examiners, who shall 610 not be officers of, connected with or interested in any company, other 611 than as policyholders. The commissioner may engage the services of 612 attorneys, appraisers, independent actuaries, independent certified 613 public accountants or other professionals and specialists as examiners 614 to assist the commissioner in conducting the examinations under this 615 section, the cost of which shall be borne by the company that is the 616 subject of the examination.

617 (2) In conducting the examination, the commissioner, the 618 commissioner's actuary or any examiner authorized by the 619 commissioner may examine, under oath, the officers and agents of such 620 a company, and all persons deemed to have material information 621 regarding the company's property or business. Each such company or 622 its officers and agents shall produce the books and papers in its or their 623 possession, relating to its business or affairs, and any other person may 624 be required to produce any book or paper in such person's custody that 625 is deemed to be relevant to such examination, for inspection by the 626 commissioner, the commissioner's actuary or examiners. The officers 627 and agents of the company shall facilitate the examination and aid the 628 examiners in making the same so far as it is in their power to do so. The 629 refusal of any company, by its officers, directors, employees or agents,

to submit to examination or to comply with any reasonable written request of the examiners shall be grounds for suspension of, refusal of or nonrenewal of any license or authority held by the company to engage in an insurance or other business subject to the commissioner's jurisdiction. Any such proceedings for suspension, revocation or refusal of any license or authority shall be conducted pursuant to subsection (c) of section 38a-41.

(3) In conducting the examination, the examiner shall observe those
guidelines and procedures set forth in the examiners' handbook
adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners. The
commissioner may also adopt such other guidelines or procedures as
the commissioner may deem appropriate.

642 (d) In lieu of an examination under this section of any foreign or alien 643 insurer licensed in this state, the commissioner may accept an 644 examination report on such insurer prepared by the insurance 645 department for the insurer's state of domicile or port-of-entry state if (1) 646 such state's insurance department was, at the time of the examination, 647 accredited under the National Association of Insurance Commissioners' 648 financial regulation standards and accreditation program, or (2) the 649 examination is performed under the supervision of an accredited 650 insurance department or with the participation of one or more 651 examiners who are employed by such an accredited state insurance 652 department and who, after a review of the examination workpapers and 653 report, state under oath that the examination was performed in a 654 manner consistent with the standards and procedures required by their 655 insurance department.

(e) (1) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit the
commissioner's authority to terminate or suspend any examination in
order to pursue legal or regulatory action pursuant to the insurance
laws of this state. Findings of fact and conclusions made pursuant to any
examination shall be prima facie evidence in any legal or regulatory
action.

(2) Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to limit the
commissioner's authority in such legal or regulatory action to use and,
if appropriate, to make public any final or preliminary examination
report, any examiner or company workpapers or other documents, or
any other information discovered or developed during the course of any
examination.

668 (3) Not later than sixty days following completion of the examination, 669 the examiner in charge shall file, under oath, with the Insurance 670 Department a verified written report of examination. Upon receipt of 671 the verified report, the Insurance Department shall transmit the report 672 to the company examined, together with a notice that shall afford the 673 company examined a reasonable opportunity, not to exceed thirty days, 674 to make a written submission or rebuttal with respect to any matters 675 contained in the examination report. Not later than thirty days after the 676 period allowed for the receipt of written submissions or rebuttals, the 677 commissioner shall fully consider and review the report, together with 678 any written submissions or rebuttals and any relevant portions of the 679 examiner's workpapers and enter an order: (A) Adopting the 680 examination report as filed or with modification or corrections. If the 681 examination report reveals that the company is operating in violation of 682 any law, regulation or prior order of the commissioner, the 683 commissioner may order the company to take any action the 684 commissioner considers necessary and appropriate to cure such 685 violation; (B) rejecting the examination report with directions to the 686 examiners to reopen the examination for purposes of obtaining 687 additional data, documentation or information, and refiling pursuant to 688 this subdivision; or (C) calling for an investigatory hearing with not less 689 than twenty days' notice to the company for purposes of obtaining 690 additional documentation, data, information and testimony.

(4) (A) The commissioner shall transmit the examination report
adopted pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of this
subsection or a summary thereof to the company examined, together
with any recommendations or written statements from the

695 commissioner or the examiner. The secretary of the board of directors or 696 similar governing body of the company shall provide a copy of the 697 report or summary to each director and shall certify to the 698 commissioner, in writing, that a copy of the report or summary has been 699 provided to each director.

(B) Not later than one hundred twenty days after receiving the report
or summary, the chief executive officer or the chief financial officer of
the company examined shall present the report or summary to the
company's board of directors or similar governing body at a regular or
special meeting.

(f) (1) All orders entered pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (e)
of this section shall be accompanied by findings and conclusions
resulting from the commissioner's consideration and review of the
examination report, relevant examiner workpapers and any written
submissions or rebuttals. The findings and conclusions that form the
basis of any such order of the commissioner shall be subject to review as
provided in section 38a-19.

712 (2) Any investigatory hearing conducted under subparagraph (C) of 713 subdivision (3) of subsection (e) of this section by the commissioner or 714 the commissioner's authorized representative, shall be conducted as a 715 nonadversarial confidential investigatory proceeding as necessary for 716 the resolution of any inconsistencies, discrepancies or disputed issues 717 apparent (A) upon the filed examination report, (B) raised by or as a 718 result of the commissioner's review of relevant workpapers, or (C) by 719 the written submission or rebuttal of the company. Not later than 720 twenty days after the conclusion of any such hearing, the commissioner 721 shall enter an order pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (3) of 722 subsection (e) of this section. The commissioner shall not appoint an 723 examiner as an authorized representative to conduct the hearing. The 724 hearing shall proceed expeditiously with discovery by the company 725 limited to the examiner's workpapers that tend to substantiate any 726 assertions set forth in any written submission or rebuttal. The 727 commissioner or the commissioner's authorized representative may

728 issue subpoenas for the attendance of any witnesses or the production 729 of any documents deemed relevant to the investigation, whether under 730 the control of the department, the company or other persons. The 731 documents produced shall be included in the record and testimony 732 taken by the commissioner or the commissioner's authorized 733 representative shall be under oath and preserved for the record. 734 Nothing contained in this section shall require the department to 735 disclose any information or records that would indicate or show the 736 existence or content of any investigation or activity of a criminal justice 737 agency. The hearing shall proceed with the commissioner or the 738 commissioner's authorized representative posing questions to the 739 persons subpoenaed. Thereafter, the company and the Insurance 740 Department may present testimony relevant to the investigation. Cross-741 examination shall be conducted only by the commissioner or the 742 commissioner's authorized representative. The company and the 743 Insurance Department shall be permitted to make closing statements 744 and may be represented by counsel of their choice.

(g) The commissioner may, if the commissioner deems it in the public
interest, publish any such report, or the result of any such examination
contained therein, in one or more newspapers of the state.

748 (h) The commissioner shall, at least once in every five years, visit and 749 examine the affairs of each domestic insurer, domestic health care 750 center, domestic fraternal benefit society, multiple employer welfare 751 arrangement trust, as defined in section 502 of this act and foreign and 752 alien insurer doing business in this state. Notwithstanding subdivision 753 (1) of subsection (c) of this section, no domestic insurer or such other 754 domestic entity subject to examination under this section shall pay as 755 costs associated with the examination the salaries, fringe benefits or 756 travel and maintenance expenses of examining personnel of the 757 Insurance Department engaged in such examination if such domestic 758 insurer or domestic entity is otherwise liable to assessment levied under 759 section 38a-47, except that a domestic insurer or such other domestic 760 entity shall pay the travel and maintenance expenses of examining

personnel of the Insurance Department when such insurer or entity isexamined outside the state.

763 (i) Nothing contained in this section shall prevent or be construed as 764 prohibiting the commissioner from disclosing the content of an 765 examination report, preliminary examination report or results, or any 766 matter relating thereto, to the Insurance Department of this or any other 767 state or country, or to law enforcement officials of this or any other state 768 or to any agency of the federal government at any time, so long as such 769 agency or office receiving the report or matters relating thereto agrees, 770 in writing, to hold such report and matters relating thereto confidential.

771 (j) All workpapers, recorded information, documents and copies 772 thereof produced by, obtained by or disclosed to the commissioner or 773 any other person in the course of an examination made under this 774 section shall be confidential, shall not be subject to subpoena and shall 775 not be made public by the commissioner or any other person, except to 776 the extent provided in subsection (i) of this section. The commissioner 777 may grant access to such workpapers, recorded information, documents 778 and copies thereof to the National Association of Insurance 779 Commissioners, provided said association agrees, in writing, to hold 780 such workpapers, recorded information, documents and copies thereof 781 confidential.

(k) (1) The commissioner may from time to time engage, on an
individual basis, the services of qualified actuaries, certified public
accountants or other similar individuals who are independently
practicing their professions, even though said persons may from time to
time be similarly employed or retained by persons subject to
examination under this section.

(2) No cause of action shall arise nor shall any liability be imposed
against the commissioner, the commissioner's authorized
representatives or any examiner appointed by the commissioner for any
statements made or conduct performed in good faith while carrying out
the provisions of this section.

(3) No cause of action shall arise, nor shall any liability be imposed
against any person for the act of communicating or delivering
information or data to the commissioner or the commissioner's
authorized representative examiner pursuant to an examination made
under this section, if such act of communication or delivery was
performed in good faith and without fraudulent intent or the intent to
deceive.

(4) This section shall not abrogate or modify in any way any common
law or statutory privilege or immunity heretofore enjoyed by any
person identified in subdivision (2) of this subsection.

(5) A person identified in subdivision (2) of this subsection shall be
entitled to an award of attorney's fees and costs if such person is the
prevailing party in a civil action for libel, slander or any other relevant
tort arising out of activities in carrying out the provisions of this section
and the party bringing the action was not substantially justified in doing
so. For purposes of this section, a proceeding is "substantially justified"
if it had a reasonable basis in law or fact at the time that it was initiated.

810 Sec. 507. Section 38a-15 of the general statutes is repealed and the 811 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

812 (a) The commissioner shall, as often as the commissioner deems it 813 expedient, undertake a market conduct examination of the affairs of any 814 insurance company, health care center, multiple employer welfare 815 arrangement trust, as defined in section 502 of this act, third-party 816 administrator, as defined in section 38a-720, or fraternal benefit society 817 doing business in this state. Any such examination may be conducted in 818 accordance with the procedures and definitions set forth in the National 819 Association of Insurance Commissioners' Market Regulation 820 Handbook.

(b) To carry out the examinations under this section, the
commissioner may appoint, as market conduct examiners, one or more
competent persons, who shall not be officers of, or connected with or

824 interested in, any insurance company, health care center, multiple 825 employer welfare arrangement trust, third-party administrator or 826 fraternal benefit society, other than as a policyholder. In conducting the 827 examination, the commissioner, the commissioner's actuary or any 828 examiner authorized by the commissioner may examine, under oath, 829 the officers and agents of such insurance company, health care center, 830 multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, third-party administrator 831 or fraternal benefit society and all persons deemed to have material 832 information regarding the company's, center's, multiple employer 833 welfare arrangement trust's, administrator's or society's property or business. Each such company, center, multiple employer welfare 834 835 arrangement trust, administrator or society, its officers and agents, shall 836 produce the books and papers, in its or their possession, relating to its 837 business or affairs, and any other person may be required to produce 838 any book or paper in such person's custody, deemed to be relevant to 839 the examination, for the inspection of the commissioner, the 840 commissioner's actuary or examiners, when required. The officers and 841 agents of the company, center, multiple employer welfare arrangement 842 trust, administrator or society shall facilitate the examination and aid 843 the examiners in making the same so far as it is in their power to do so.

844 (c) Each market conduct examiner shall make a full and true report 845 of each market conduct examination made by such examiner, which 846 shall comprise only facts appearing upon the books, papers, records or 847 documents of the examined company, center, multiple employer 848 welfare arrangement trust, administrator or society or ascertained from 849 the sworn testimony of its officers or agents or of other persons 850 examined under oath concerning its affairs. The examiner's report shall 851 be presumptive evidence of the facts therein stated in any action or 852 proceeding in the name of the state against the company, center, 853 multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, administrator or society, 854 its officers or agents. The commissioner shall grant a hearing to the 855 company, center, multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, 856 administrator or society examined before filing any such report and may 857 withhold any such report from public inspection for such time as the

commissioner deems proper. The commissioner may, if the
commissioner deems it in the public interest, publish any such report,
or the result of any such examination contained therein, in one or more
newspapers of the state.

(d) (1) All the expense of any examination made under the authority
of this section, other than examinations of domestic insurance
companies and domestic health care centers, shall be paid by the
company, center, <u>multiple employer welfare arrangement trust</u>,
administrator or society examined.

867 (2) No domestic insurance company or domestic health care center 868 subject to an examination under this section shall pay as costs associated 869 with the examination the salaries, fringe benefits or travel and 870 maintenance expenses of examining personnel of the Insurance 871 Department engaged in such examination if such domestic insurance 872 company or domestic health care center is otherwise liable to 873 assessment levied under section 38a-47, except that domestic insurance 874 companies and domestic health care centers examined outside the state 875 shall pay the travel and maintenance expenses of such examining 876 personnel.

(e) (1) No cause of action shall arise nor shall any liability be imposed
against the commissioner, the commissioner's authorized representative
or any examiner appointed or engaged by the commissioner for any
statements made or conduct performed in good faith while carrying out
the provisions of this section.

(2) No cause of action shall arise nor shall any liability be imposed against any person for the act of communicating or delivering information or data pursuant to an examination made under the authority of this section to the commissioner, the commissioner's authorized representative or an examiner if such communication or delivery was performed in good faith and without fraudulent intent or the intent to deceive. 891 any person identified in subdivision (1) of this subsection.

892 (f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or prohibit 893 the commissioner from disclosing at any time the content or results of 894 an examination report or a preliminary examination report or any 895 matter relating to such report, to (1) the insurance regulatory officials of 896 this state or any other state or country, (2) law enforcement officials of 897 this or any other state, or (3) any agency of this or any other state or of 898 the federal government, provided such officials or agency receiving the 899 report or matters relating to the report agrees, in writing, to hold such 900 report or matters confidential.

901 (g) All workpapers, recorded information, documents and copies 902 thereof produced by, obtained by or disclosed to the commissioner or 903 any other person in the course of an examination made under the 904 authority of this section shall be confidential, shall not be subject to 905 subpoena and shall not be made public by the commissioner or any 906 other person, except to the extent provided in subsection (f) of this 907 section. The commissioner may grant access to such workpapers, 908 recorded information, documents and copies to the National 909 Association of Insurance Commissioners, provided said association 910 agrees, in writing, to hold such workpapers, recorded information, 911 documents and copies thereof confidential.

912 Sec. 508. Subsection (a) of section 19a-755a of the general statutes is
913 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*914 1, 2025):

915 (a) As used in this section:

(1) "All-payer claims database" means a database that receives and
stores data from a reporting entity relating to medical insurance claims,
dental insurance claims, pharmacy claims and other insurance claims
information from enrollment and eligibility files.

_	sSB 1469 Amendment		
920	(2) (A) "Reporting entity" means:		
921	(i) An insurer, as described in section 38a-1, <u>as amended by this act</u> ,		
922	licensed to do health insurance business in this state;		
923	(ii) A health care center, as defined in section 38a-175;		
924	(iii) An insurer or health care center that provides coverage under		
925	Part C or Part D of Title XVIII of the Social Security Act, as amended		
926	from time to time, to residents of this state;		
927	(iv) A third-party administrator, as defined in section 38a-720;		
928	(v) A pharmacy benefits manager, as defined in section 38a-479aaa;		
929	(vi) A hospital service corporation, as defined in section 38a-199;		
930	(vii) A nonprofit medical service corporation, as defined in section		
931	38a-214;		
932	(viii) A fraternal benefit society, as described in section 38a-595, that		
933	transacts health insurance business in this state;		
934	(ix) A dental plan organization, as defined in section 38a-577;		
935	(x) A preferred provider network, as defined in section 38a-479aa;		
936	[and]		
937	(xi) Any other person that administers health care claims and		
938	payments pursuant to a contract or agreement or is required by statute		
939	to administer such claims and payments <u>; and</u>		
940	(xii) A multiple employer welfare arrangement trust, as defined in		
941	section 502 of this act.		
942	(B) "Reporting entity" does not include an employee welfare benefit		
943	plan, as defined in the federal Employee Retirement Income Security		
944	Act of 1974, as amended from time to time, that is also a trust established		
945	pursuant to collective bargaining subject to the federal Labor		

946 Management Relations Act.

947 (3) "Medicaid data" means the Medicaid provider registry, health
948 claims data and Medicaid recipient data maintained by the Department
949 of Social Services.

(4) "CHIP data" means the provider registry, health claims data and
recipient data maintained by the Department of Social Services to
administer the Children's Health Insurance Program."

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:				
Sec. 501	October 1, 2025	38a-1		
Sec. 502	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	New section		
Sec. 503	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	New section		
Sec. 504	April 1, 2026	38a-567		
Sec. 505	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	38a-9(a)		
Sec. 506	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	38a-14		
Sec. 507	<i>October</i> 1, 2025	38a-15		
Sec. 508	October 1, 2025	19a-755a(a)		