

Accompanying the second recommendation of the Group Insurance Commission (House, No. 120). Insurance.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year One Thousand Nine Hundred and Ninety-Two.

AN ACT TO FURTHER PREVENT FRAUD, WASTE, AND ABUSE IN STATE GOVERNMENT.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 2 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 1988 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 deleting the last sentence of paragraph (d) and inserting in place
4 thereof the following sentence: —

5 Any person who procures services fraudulently or submits
6 fraudulent claims for himself, and any person who fraudulently
7 enrolls, procures services for, or submits claims for a person who
8 does not meet the definition of dependent shall, upon
9 determination by the commission, and in addition to other civil
10 or criminal penalties which may be imposed, forfeit his eligibility
11 for insurance coverage under this chapter. The commission shall
12 establish the extent and the duration of the forfeiture.

1 SECTION 2. Section 8 of Chapter 32A of the General Laws,
2 as appearing in the 1988 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 adding the following sentence to the fourth paragraph: —

4 The commission or its designee shall have the right at
5 reasonable times and upon reasonable notice to examine the
6 books, records, and other compilations of data of agencies and
7 other governmental entities whose employees or retirees are
8 covered under this chapter for the purpose of ensuring that
9 premiums and any required administrative costs are being
10 properly remitted to the commonwealth.

1 SECTION 3. Chapter 32A of the General Laws, as appearing
2 in the 1988 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out
3 Section 11 and inserting in place thereof the following section: —
4 Section 11. Upon the death of an employee or retired
5 employees insured under this chapter, the surviving spouse, or the
6 surviving dependent if there is no surviving spouse, or the
7 surviving dependent if the surviving spouse subsequently dies,
8 may continue the group general or blanket insurance providing
9 hospital, surgical, medical, dental and other health insurance until
10 the remarriage of said surviving spouse or, if there is no surviving
11 spouse, until the surviving dependent become eligible for other
12 group health coverage; provided, however, that application for
13 such insurance coverage shall be filed with the commission and
14 a method for the payment of premiums shall be determined in
15 accordance with its rules and regulations; and provided, further,
16 that said surviving spouse shall pay ten per cent of the monthly
17 premium for such insurance and the commonwealth shall
18 contribute the remaining ninety per cent of said premium subject,
19 where applicable, to reimbursement as provided under section
20 ten B. However, the surviving spouses of retired employees who
21 marry one another may continue coverage notwithstanding their
22 remarriage. Said commission shall determine the amount of said
23 premium which may be the entire average group for hospital,
24 surgical, medical, dental and other health insurance applicable to
25 an employee, an employee and his dependents, or a premium
26 computed on a basis considered by said commission to be
27 equitable in relation to all insured employees and all former
28 employees who have retired and who have continued such
29 coverage under the provisions of section ten or are insured under
30 the provisions of section ten B.

1 SECTION 4. Section 21 of Chapter 62C of the General Laws
2 as appearing in the 1988 Official Edition, is hereby amended by
3 adding after subsection (b), paragraph (13) the following: —

4 (14) The disclosure of information to the executive director of
5 group insurance commission for the purpose of verifying
6 dependent eligibility for health insurance. Such information shall
7 be limited to information necessary for said purpose and shall not
8 include information about income or sources thereof or any other
9 identifying information appearing on the tax return.