



January 26, 2007

MARYLAND PASSES LEGISLATION REQUIRING HOMEOWNERS NOTICES AND STATEMENTS

- BACKGROUND** In MSO® Bulletin dated October 5, 2006, reference was made to Maryland House Bill 1261 relating to Homeowners insurance, requiring that certain notices and statements be provided to homeowners insurance policyholders and applicants. Specifically, notification is required to provide policyholders with 1) an annual statement that summarizes coverages and exclusions, 2) a notice informing policyholders that their policy does not provide coverage for flood, and 3) a statement listing all the optional coverages available.
- MSO ACTION** The House Bill via Maryland Insurance Administration Bulletin 06-21 contained sample versions of these notices and statements that, if used without change, do not require filing with the Department. MSO, subsequently, developed its own versions of these notices and statements that can be used by those companies that specifically follow the coverages, exclusions, and options contained in MSO's program. They include the Annual Summaries of Homeowner's Coverages and Exclusions for HO 2, 3, 4, and 6, Statement of Additional Optional Coverages forms for HO 2, 3, 4, and 6, and a Statement Regarding Flood Insurance. Mobilehomeowner versions were also developed.
- COMPANY ACTION** Companies that use either the MSO versions of the notices or their own variations need to file them with the Maryland Insurance Administration.
- EFFECTIVE DATE** January 1, 2007
- AVAILABILITY** Companies can review the various sections of House Bill 1261 via published MIA Bulletin 06-21, by accessing the Department's website at <http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us/documents/BulletinP&C06-21-HB1261.pdf>
- DISTRIBUTION** The MSO notice and statement forms will be added to the CD-ROM. Affiliated companies will be able to access them through our website: <http://www.msonet.com>.
- QUESTIONS** Contact Dennis Carrigan at (800) 935-6900 or e-mail dcarrigan@msonet.com.