



RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: April 27, 2020

TIME: 12:23 PM

WSR 20-10-021

Agency: Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC)

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) _____

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The purpose of this emergency regulation to address the impact of COVID-19 and the Governor's Stay Home – Stay Healthy Emergency Proclamation on licensed insurance producers by enabling licensed producers who have been impacted by COVID-19 to have more time to renew their producer licenses and pay the required renewal fee. This will also ensure that the producers who have been impacted by COVID-19 do not accrue late fees because they are unable to promptly renew their licenses.

Insurance Commissioner Matter Number R-2020-03.

Citation of rules affected by this order:

- New:
- Repealed:
- Amended: WAC 284-17-423.
- Suspended:

Statutory authority for adoption: RCWs 48.01.030, 48.02.060, 48.17.005, and 48.17.170.

Other authority: None

EMERGENCY RULE

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding: Given the extraordinary impact of the COVID-19 outbreak and its impact on Washington businesses, Governor Jay Inslee issued Emergency Proclamation 20-25 on March 23, 2020 prohibiting all people in Washington State from leaving their homes or participating in social, spiritual and recreational gatherings of any kind regardless of the number of participants prohibits. On April 2, 2020 the Governor extended the time frame for the Proclamation by issuing Proclamation 20-25.1. During this time and possibly thereafter, it has become more difficult for licensed insurance producers to timely renew their producer licenses and pay the required renewal fee. To ensure that these individuals will not be burdened further by fees accrued for late renewal, it is necessary to provide for renewal extensions for licensed insurance producers impacted by COVID-19. Observing notice and comment rulemaking would not serve the public interest because it would deny relief to individuals whose licenses expire in the interim, limiting the number of producers available to help consumers during a time of unprecedented interest in insurance procurement and claims filing.

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

| | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Federal statute: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Federal rules or standards: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Recently enacted state statutes: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

| | | | | | |
|-----|--|---------|----------|----------|-----|
| New | | Amended | <u>1</u> | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|--|---------|----------|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|

The number of sections adopted using:

| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----|-----|---------|-----|----------|-----|
| Negotiated rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Pilot rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |
| Other alternative rule making: | New | ___ | Amended | ___ | Repealed | ___ |

Date Adopted: April 27, 2020

Name: Mike Kreidler

Title: Insurance Commissioner

Signature:



AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 18-22-069, filed 11/1/18, effective 12/17/18)

WAC 284-17-423 Term of initial and reinstated individual license. (1) Initial and reinstated individual licenses are valid from their date of issuance until the end of the licensee's next birth month plus one year. Additional licenses issued to the same active licensee will be on the same renewal cycle as the first license issued to that licensee.

(2) The renewal date of a business entity license is based on the date of application. The license is valid for two years. Additional licenses issued to the same active licensee will be on the same renewal cycle as the first license issued to that licensee. If a licensee's insurance license expires between March 1, 2020, and June 30, 2020, and the licensee has experienced a hardship related to COVID-19, the licensee's insurance license expiration date will be extended until July 31, 2020, if the licensee submits a request for an extension by email to licinfo@oic.wa.gov.