98TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2013 and 2014

HB2393

by Rep. Norine Hammond

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

215 ILCS 5/143a

from Ch. 73, par. 755a

Amends the Illinois Insurance Code. Deletes the provision that requires each insurer, with respect to the initial renewal, reinstatement, or reissuance of a policy of motor vehicle property damage liability insurance, to provide present policyholders with information regarding availability of uninsured motor vehicle property damage coverage, the premium therefor, and a brief description of the coverage in writing.

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1 AN ACT concerning insurance.

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

4 Section 5. The Illinois Insurance Code is amended by 5 changing Section 143a as follows:

6 (215 ILCS 5/143a) (from Ch. 73, par. 755a)

7 Sec. 143a. Uninsured and hit and run motor vehicle 8 coverage.

9 No policy insuring against loss resulting from (1)liability imposed by law for bodily injury or death suffered by 10 any person arising out of the ownership, maintenance or use of 11 a motor vehicle that is designed for use on public highways and 12 that is either required to be registered in this State or is 13 14 principally garaged in this State shall be renewed, delivered, or issued for delivery in this State unless coverage is 15 16 provided therein or supplemental thereto, in limits for bodily 17 injury or death set forth in Section 7-203 of the Illinois Vehicle Code for the protection of persons insured thereunder 18 19 who are legally entitled to recover damages from owners or operators of uninsured motor vehicles and hit-and-run motor 20 vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness or disease, 21 22 including death, resulting therefrom. Uninsured motor vehicle coverage does not apply to bodily injury, sickness, disease, or 23

death resulting therefrom, of an insured while occupying a 1 2 motor vehicle owned by, or furnished or available for the regular use of the insured, a resident spouse or resident 3 relative, if that motor vehicle is not described in the policy 4 5 under which a claim is made or is not a newly acquired or 6 replacement motor vehicle covered under the terms of the policy. The limits for any coverage for any vehicle under the 7 policy may not be aggregated with the limits for any similar 8 9 coverage, whether provided by the same insurer or another 10 insurer, applying to other motor vehicles, for purposes of 11 determining the total limit of insurance coverage available for 12 bodily injury or death suffered by a person in any one 13 accident. No policy shall be renewed, delivered, or issued for 14 delivery in this State unless it is provided therein that any 15 dispute with respect to the coverage and the amount of damages 16 shall be submitted for arbitration to the American Arbitration 17 Association and be subject to its rules for the conduct of arbitration hearings as to all matters except medical opinions. 18 As to medical opinions, if the amount of damages being sought 19 20 is equal to or less than the amount provided for in Section 7-203 of the Illinois Vehicle Code, then the current American 21 22 Arbitration Association Rules shall apply. If the amount being 23 sought in an American Arbitration Association case exceeds that amount as set forth in Section 7-203 of the Illinois Vehicle 24 Code, then the Rules of Evidence that apply in the circuit 25 26 court for placing medical opinions into evidence shall govern.

Alternatively, disputes with respect to damages and 1 the 2 coverage shall be determined in the following manner: Upon the insured requesting arbitration, each party to the dispute shall 3 select an arbitrator and the 2 arbitrators so named shall 4 5 select a third arbitrator. If such arbitrators are not selected within 45 days from such request, either party may request that 6 7 the arbitration be submitted to the American Arbitration 8 Association. Any decision made by the arbitrators shall be 9 binding for the amount of damages not exceeding \$50,000 for 10 bodily injury to or death of any one person, \$100,000 for 11 bodily injury to or death of 2 or more persons in any one motor 12 vehicle accident, or the corresponding policy limits for bodily injury or death, whichever is less. All 3-person arbitration 13 cases proceeding in accordance with any uninsured motorist 14 15 coverage conducted in this State in which the claimant is only 16 seeking monetary damages up to the limits set forth in Section 17 7-203 of the Illinois Vehicle Code shall be subject to the following rules: 18

(A) If at least 60 days' written notice of the intention to offer the following documents in evidence is given to every other party, accompanied by a copy of the document, a party may offer in evidence, without foundation or other proof:

(1) bills, records, and reports of hospitals,
 doctors, dentists, registered nurses, licensed
 practical nurses, physical therapists, and other

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healthcare providers;

2 (2) bills for drugs, medical appliances, and 3 prostheses;

(3) property repair bills or estimates, when identified and itemized setting forth the charges for labor and material used or proposed for use in the repair of the property;

(4) a report of the rate of earnings and time lostfrom work or lost compensation prepared by an employer;

10 (5) the written opinion of an opinion witness, the 11 deposition of a witness, and the statement of a witness 12 that the witness would be allowed to express if 13 testifying in person, if the opinion or statement is 14 made by affidavit or by certification as provided in 15 Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure;

16 (6) any other document not specifically covered by
17 any of the foregoing provisions that is otherwise
18 admissible under the rules of evidence.

19 Any party receiving a notice under this paragraph (A) 20 may apply to the arbitrator or panel of arbitrators, as the case may be, for the issuance of a subpoena directed to the 21 22 author or maker or custodian of the document that is the 23 subject of the notice, requiring the person subpoenaed to 24 produce copies of any additional documents as may be 25 related to the subject matter of the document that is the 26 subject of the notice. Any such subpoena shall be issued in substantially similar form and served by notice as provided
 by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 204(a)(4). Any such subpoena
 shall be returnable not less than 5 days before the
 arbitration hearing.

5 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of Supreme Court 6 Rule 213(g), a party who proposes to use a written opinion 7 of an expert or opinion witness or the testimony of an 8 expert or opinion witness at the hearing may do so provided 9 a written notice of that intention is given to every other 10 party not less than 60 days prior to the date of hearing, 11 accompanied by a statement containing the identity of the 12 witness, his or her qualifications, the subject matter, the basis of the witness's conclusions, and his or her opinion. 13

14 (C) Any other party may subpoen athe author or maker of 15 a document admissible under this subsection, at that 16 party's expense, and examine the author or maker as if 17 under cross-examination. The provisions of Section 2-1101 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be applicable to 18 19 arbitration hearings, and it shall be the duty of a party 20 requesting the subpoena to modify the form to show that the 21 appearance is set before an arbitration panel and to give 22 the time and place set for the hearing.

(D) The provisions of Section 2-1102 of the Code of
Civil Procedure shall be applicable to arbitration
hearings under this subsection.

26 (2) No policy insuring against loss resulting from

1 liability imposed by law for property damage arising out of the 2 ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle shall be renewed, delivered, or issued for delivery in this State with 3 respect to any private passenger or recreational motor vehicle 4 5 that is designed for use on public highways and that is either 6 required to be registered in this State or is principally garaged in this State and is not covered by collision insurance 7 under the provisions of such policy, unless coverage is made 8 9 available in the amount of the actual cash value of the motor 10 vehicle described in the policy or \$15,000 whichever is less, 11 subject to a \$250 deductible, for the protection of persons 12 insured thereunder who are legally entitled to recover damages 13 from owners or operators of uninsured motor vehicles and 14 hit-and-run motor vehicles because of property damage to the 15 motor vehicle described in the policy.

16 There shall be no liability imposed under the uninsured 17 motorist property damage coverage required by this subsection if the owner or operator of the at-fault uninsured motor 18 vehicle or hit-and-run motor vehicle cannot be identified. This 19 20 subsection shall not apply to any policy which does not provide primary motor vehicle liability insurance for liabilities 21 22 arising from the maintenance, operation, or use of а 23 specifically insured motor vehicle.

Each insurance company providing motor vehicle property damage liability insurance shall advise applicants of the availability of uninsured motor vehicle property damage

coverage, the premium therefor, and provide a brief description 1 2 of the coverage. Each insurer, with respect to the initial renewal, reinstatement, or reissuance of a policy of motor 3 vehicle property damage liability insurance shall 4 -provide 5 present policyholders with the same information in writing. That information need be given only once and shall not be 6 7 in any subsequent renewal, reinstatement required or 8 reissuance, substitute, amended, replacement or supplementary 9 policy. No written rejection shall be required, and the absence 10 of a premium payment for uninsured motor vehicle property 11 damage shall constitute conclusive proof that the applicant or 12 policyholder has elected not to accept uninsured motorist 13 property damage coverage.

14 An insurance company issuing uninsured motor vehicle 15 property damage coverage may provide that:

16 (i) Property damage losses recoverable thereunder 17 shall be limited to damages caused by the actual physical 18 contact of an uninsured motor vehicle with the insured 19 motor vehicle.

(ii) There shall be no coverage for loss of use of the
 insured motor vehicle and no coverage for loss or damage to
 personal property located in the insured motor vehicle.

(iii) Any claim submitted shall include the name and
address of the owner of the at-fault uninsured motor
vehicle, or a registration number and description of the
vehicle, or any other available information to establish

1 2 that there is no applicable motor vehicle property damage liability insurance.

3 Any dispute with respect to the coverage and the amount of damages shall be submitted for arbitration to the American 4 5 Arbitration Association and be subject to its rules for the conduct of arbitration hearings or for determination in the 6 7 following manner: Upon the insured requesting arbitration, 8 each party to the dispute shall select an arbitrator and the 2 9 arbitrators so named shall select a third arbitrator. If such 10 arbitrators are not selected within 45 days from such request, 11 either party may request that the arbitration be submitted to 12 American Arbitration Association. Any arbitration the proceeding under this subsection seeking recovery for property 13 14 damages shall be subject to the following rules:

(A) If at least 60 days' written notice of the
intention to offer the following documents in evidence is
given to every other party, accompanied by a copy of the
document, a party may offer in evidence, without foundation
or other proof:

(1) property repair bills or estimates, when
identified and itemized setting forth the charges for
labor and material used or proposed for use in the
repair of the property;

(2) the written opinion of an opinion witness, the
deposition of a witness, and the statement of a witness
that the witness would be allowed to express if

testifying in person, if the opinion or statement is made by affidavit or by certification as provided in Section 1-109 of the Code of Civil Procedure;

4 (3) any other document not specifically covered by
5 any of the foregoing provisions that is otherwise
6 admissible under the rules of evidence.

7 Any party receiving a notice under this paragraph (A) may apply to the arbitrator or panel of arbitrators, as the 8 9 case may be, for the issuance of a subpoena directed to the 10 author or maker or custodian of the document that is the 11 subject of the notice, requiring the person subpoenaed to 12 produce copies of any additional documents as may be related to the subject matter of the document that is the 13 14 subject of the notice. Any such subpoena shall be issued in 15 substantially similar form and served by notice as provided 16 by Illinois Supreme Court Rule 204(a)(4). Any such subpoena 17 shall be returnable not less than 5 days before the arbitration hearing. 18

19 (B) Notwithstanding the provisions of Supreme Court 20 Rule 213(g), a party who proposes to use a written opinion 21 of an expert or opinion witness or the testimony of an 22 expert or opinion witness at the hearing may do so provided 23 a written notice of that intention is given to every other 24 party not less than 60 days prior to the date of hearing, 25 accompanied by a statement containing the identity of the 26 witness, his or her qualifications, the subject matter, the

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basis of the witness's conclusions, and his or her opinion.

2 (C) Any other party may subpoen athe author or maker of 3 a document admissible under this subsection, at that party's expense, and examine the author or maker as if 4 5 under cross-examination. The provisions of Section 2-1101 of the Code of Civil Procedure shall be applicable to 6 7 arbitration hearings, and it shall be the duty of a party 8 requesting the subpoena to modify the form to show that the 9 appearance is set before an arbitration panel and to give 10 the time and place set for the hearing.

(D) The provisions of Section 2-1102 of the Code of
Civil Procedure shall be applicable to arbitration
hearings under this subsection.

14 (3) For the purpose of the coverage the term "uninsured motor vehicle" includes, subject to the terms and conditions of 15 16 the coverage, a motor vehicle where on, before or after the 17 accident date the liability insurer thereof is unable to make payment with respect to the legal liability of its insured 18 19 within the limits specified in the policy because of the entry 20 by a court of competent jurisdiction of an order of rehabilitation or liquidation by reason of insolvency on or 21 after the accident date. An insurer's extension of coverage, as 22 23 provided in this subsection, shall be applicable to all accidents occurring after July 1, 1967 during a policy period 24 25 in which its insured's uninsured motor vehicle coverage is in 26 effect. Nothing in this Section may be construed to prevent any 1 2 insurer from extending coverage under terms and conditions more favorable to its insureds than is required by this Section.

3 In the event of payment to any person under the (4) coverage required by this Section and subject to the terms and 4 5 conditions of the coverage, the insurer making the payment shall, to the extent thereof, be entitled to the proceeds of 6 7 any settlement or judgment resulting from the exercise of any 8 rights of recovery of the person against any person or 9 organization legally responsible for the property damage, 10 bodily injury or death for which the payment is made, including 11 the proceeds recoverable from the assets of the insolvent 12 insurer. With respect to payments made by reason of the 13 coverage described in subsection (3), the insurer making such payment shall not be entitled to any right of recovery against 14 15 the tort-feasor in excess of the proceeds recovered from the 16 assets of the insolvent insurer of the tort-feasor.

(5) This amendatory Act of 1967 shall not be construed to terminate or reduce any insurance coverage or any right of any party under this Code in effect before July 1, 1967. This amendatory Act of 1990 shall not be construed to terminate or reduce any insurance coverage or any right of any party under this Code in effect before its effective date.

(6) Failure of the motorist from whom the claimant is legally entitled to recover damages to file the appropriate forms with the Safety Responsibility Section of the Department of Transportation within 120 days of the accident date shall create a rebuttable presumption that the motorist was uninsured
 at the time of the injurious occurrence.

3 (7) An insurance carrier may upon good cause require the 4 insured to commence a legal action against the owner or 5 operator of an uninsured motor vehicle before good faith 6 negotiation with the carrier. If the action is commenced at the 7 request of the insurance carrier, the carrier shall pay to the 8 insured, before the action is commenced, all court costs, jury 9 fees and sheriff's fees arising from the action.

10 The changes made by this amendatory Act of 1997 apply to 11 all policies of insurance amended, delivered, issued, or 12 renewed on and after the effective date of this amendatory Act 13 of 1997.

14 (Source: P.A. 93-485, eff. 1-1-04.)