

By: Carona

S.B. No. 183

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain inquiries made by the Texas Department of Insurance to insurers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 38.001, Insurance Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (e) and (f) to read as follows:

(c) A person receiving an inquiry under Subsection (b) shall respond to the inquiry in writing not later than the 15th [~~10th~~] day after the date the inquiry is received. If the department receives written notice from the person that additional time is required to respond to the inquiry, the department shall grant a 15-day extension of the time to respond to the inquiry.

(e) The department shall maintain a record of all inquiries made by the department under this section.

(f) The department shall provide a biennial report to the legislature that:

(1) summarizes the nature of all inquiries made by the department under this section;

(2) estimates the financial cost of those inquiries to the recipients; and

(3) outlines specifically how those inquiries were necessary for the public good or for the proper discharge of the department's duties.

1           SECTION 2.   The changes in law made by this Act apply only to  
2   an inquiry made by the Texas Department of Insurance on or after the  
3   effective date of this Act.   An inquiry made before the effective  
4   date of this Act is governed by the law in effect immediately before  
5   the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect  
6   for that purpose.

7           SECTION 3.   This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.