



*Synopsis of Senate Committee Amendments**

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Legislative Service Commission

Sub. H.B. 421

124th General Assembly
(S. Insurance, Commerce & Labor)

Mergers and acquisitions under the Holding Company Systems Law

Adopts new procedures, similar to existing procedures for adjudication hearings under the Administrative Procedure Act, for the conduct of public hearings on mergers and other acquisitions that result in the control of a domestic insurer;

Requires the Superintendent of Insurance to send notice of the hearing to the insurer and acquiring parties by personal service, certified mail, e-mail, or another method designed to ensure and confirm receipt of the notice;

Lists the information that must be included in the notice, relating to the party's right to a hearing, representation at the hearing, and the production and presentation of evidence and witnesses;

Requires the hearing to be held at the offices of the Superintendent between 7 and 10 days after the notice is sent, however, the hearing may not be held if notice is not received at least 3 days prior to the hearing;

Provides for postponements and continuances of the hearing upon the request of an acquiring party or the Superintendent's own motion;

Allows the Superintendent to appoint a hearing officer to conduct the hearing, provides for the submission of the report of the hearing officer's finding and recommendations to the Superintendent and the acquiring party, and requires an acquiring party to file written objections to the hearing officer's report with the Superintendent within 3 days after its receipt of a copy of the report.

Provides that an order of disapproval issued by the Superintendent may be appealed to the Court of Common Pleas of Franklin County.

* This synopsis does not address amendments that may have been adopted on the Senate floor.

Conforms certain provisions in the Holding Company Systems Law to the federal "Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act."

Minimum interest rate under the Standard Nonforfeiture Law for Individual Deferred Annuities

Reduces the interest rate from 3% to 1½%, at which net considerations, partial withdrawals, and partial surrenders are accumulated for purposes of determining minimum nonforfeiture amounts on certain annuity contracts *issued* by life insurance companies *on or after the bill's effective date and before September 1, 2004*.

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