

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2018 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Third Reader - Revised

House Bill 189
Economic Matters

(Delegate M. Washington)

Finance

Insurance - Slavery Era Insurance Policy Reporting - Repeal

This bill partially repeals Chapter 97 of 2009, which required (1) authorized insurers in the State to submit information related to slaveholder insurance policies to the Maryland Insurance Administration (MIA) and (2) MIA to compile and report the collected information.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: None, as the provisions being repealed are obsolete.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary/Current Law: A “slaveholder insurance policy” is a policy issued to or for the benefit of a slaveholder that insured against a slave’s injury or death. Under Chapter 97, insurers were required to submit information about each slaveholder insurance policy issued in the State by the insurer, or the insurer’s predecessor, during the slavery era (years prior to 1865) by October 1, 2011. MIA was required to compile the information and submit a report to the Governor and the General Assembly by April 1, 2012. The bill repeals these obsolete provisions, as the information has been submitted by most insurers and MIA’s [report](#) was published in April 2012. The bill continues to require (1) MIA to make a copy of the final report available on its website and (2) a copy of the report to be maintained at the Thurgood Marshall Library at the University of Maryland School of Law.

Background: In response to Chapter 97, MIA received information from 883 of the 1,431 insurers authorized to do business in the State during the reporting period. Of the 883 reporting insurers or holding companies, only 27 advised that they were in existence prior to 1865. Of those 27, some found no evidence of slaveholder policies, some advised that any relevant records had been destroyed, and some advised that slaveholder policies had been issued by the insurer but not in Maryland. As of April 2012, 38% of the insurers authorized to do business in Maryland had not submitted a report as required under Chapter 97.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: None.

Information Source(s): Maryland Insurance Administration; Department of Legislative Services

Fiscal Note History: First Reader - January 26, 2018
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