

# **SB 893\_MAMIC\_UNF.pdf**

Uploaded by: Bryson Popham

Position: UNF

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March 3, 2025

The Honorable Pam Beidle, Chair  
Senate Finance Committee  
3 East Miller Senate Office Building  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401

RE: Senate Bill 893 - Insurance - Enforcement, Impaired Entities, Homeowner's Insurance Policies, and Unfair Claim Settlement Practices – Revisions - UNFAVORABLE

Dear Chair Beidle and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Maryland Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (MAMIC), we respectfully oppose Senate Bill 893.

As you may recall, MAMIC is comprised of 12 mutual insurance companies that are headquartered in Maryland and neighboring states. Approximately one-half of our members are domiciled in Maryland, and are key contributors and employers in our local communities. Together, MAMIC members offer a wide variety of insurance products and services and provide coverage for thousands of Maryland citizens.

Senate Bill 893 essentially rewrites practices already authorized of the Maryland Insurance Commissioner governing the subject of unfair claims practices by insurers; however, the bill is highly prescriptive and would force the Commissioner to utilize procedures that may be different, costly to implement and less effective than current practices.

The bill takes the concept of a market conduct examination, and essentially mandates review of an insurer's claims-handling practices under certain circumstances.

Currently, the Maryland Insurance Administration has discretionary authority to determine when the conduct of an insurer requires closer examination. This flexibility permits the Commissioner to allocate limited resources to those areas that are most in need of closer scrutiny. By contrast, Senate Bill 893 substitutes a rigid legislative formula that may thwart the effectiveness of current procedures at the Agency.

For these reasons, MAMIC respectfully requests an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 893.

Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bryson Popham". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Bryson" and last name "Popham" clearly legible.

Bryson Popham

# **SB 893 Home policies UNF 030525 FIN APCIA .pdf**

Uploaded by: Nancy Egan

Position: UNF



**American Property Casualty Insurance  
Association**

**Senate Finance Committee**

**SB 893 Insurance - Enforcement, Impaired  
Entities, Homeowner's Insurance Policies, and  
Unfair Claim Settlement**

**Practices – Revisions**

**March 5, 2025**

**Unfavorable**

The American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA) is a national trade organization whose members write approximately 71.4% of the total property casualty market in Maryland. Senate Bill 893 provides for enhanced market conduct provisions which is already an area where the Maryland Insurance Administration has authority. In addition, the bill is dedicating many resources to homeowner carriers specifically towards hurricanes which while is understandable is not as widespread as Florida on which this legislation was based.

The Maryland Insurance Administration already has broad authority to conduct market conduct exams. Here are the relevant statutes.

**MD Code, Insurance, s 2-205. Examination of insurers, rating organizations, and health maintenance**

**organizations. (Maryland Insurance Administration – Enforcement.)**

Analysis defined

(a) In this section, "analysis" means a process by which the Commissioner collects and analyzes

information from filed schedules, surveys, required reports specified in subsection (b) of this section,

and other sources in order to:

(1) develop an understanding of the affairs, transactions, accounts, records, assets, and financial

condition of the entities specified in subsection (b) of this section; or

(2) identify or investigate patterns or practices of the entities specified in subsection (b) of this section.

Analysis or examination done by Commissioner

**(b) (1) Whenever the Commissioner considers it advisable, the Commissioner shall conduct an analysis**

**or examine the affairs, transactions, accounts, records, assets, and financial condition of each:**

**(i) authorized insurer;**

**(ii) management company of an authorized insurer;**

**(iii) subsidiary owned or controlled by an authorized insurer;**

**(iv) rating organization; or**

**(v) authorized health maintenance organization.**

**(2) The Commissioner shall examine each domestic insurer and health maintenance organization at**

**least once every 5 years.**

**MD ADC 31.04.20.04. Market Conduct Action.**

A. Whenever the Commissioner has the authority to conduct an analysis, examination, or investigation of

a person's business practices, the Commissioner may conduct a market conduct action.

**B. The Commissioner may conduct a market conduct action:**

**(1) Based on a complaint;**

**(2) As authorized by law;**

**(3) Whenever the Commissioner considers it is advisable; or**

**(4) With other states.**

C. If the Commissioner determines information is needed from a person to conduct a market conduct

action, in accordance with Regulation .05 of this chapter:

(1) The Commissioner shall request the information; and

(2) The person shall provide the information.

D. The Commissioner may participate in a market conduct action with one or more other states to

determine if a Maryland law has been violated by the person subject to the market conduct action.

In addition, any insured who is having difficulty with a claim, has the right to file a complaint

with the Maryland Insurance Administration. I have provided a link here for more information.  
<https://insurance.maryland.gov/Consumer/Pages/FileAComplaint.aspx>

This bill is unnecessary. For these reasons, APCIA urges the Committee to provide an unfavorable report on Senate Bill 843.

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