

*Board shall be authorized to extend the period of filing any of the documents to accompany the notice upon proper cause.*

*(b) The Commissioner, the provisions of any other law relating to the confidential nature of any reports or information furnished to or filed with the Department of Motor Vehicles notwithstanding, may furnish the Board upon its request, for such use, utilization, and purposes as the Board deems reasonably appropriate to administer this part and discharge its functions hereunder, any reports or information filed by any person or persons claiming benefits under the provisions of this part, that the Commissioner has with regard to any accident, any operator or owner of a motor vehicle involved in any accident, and as to any automobile or motor vehicle liability insurance or bond carried by any operator or owner of any motor vehicle.*

*§ 7-607. Investigation and defense of claims.*

*(a) The Board shall assign to insurers for investigation and defense, all default actions described in Section 7-616 and all actions against the Board brought under Section 7-620 through 7-623 of this Article.*

*(b) Any time after the receipt of notice of intention to make a claim as provided in Section 7-606, the Board also may assign those of the claims as in the judgment of the Board it is advisable to investigate, to insurers for the purpose of making investigation. At any time after receipt of notice of the institution of any action against the operator or owner of a motor vehicle as provided in Section 7-606, the Board also may assign the actions in its judgment it is advisable to defend, to insurers for the purpose of conducting the defense.*

*(c) All assignments made under this section shall be made to insurers in proportion to their premium writings subject to assessment hereunder. Each insurer at its own expense shall (1) make such investigation as may be appropriate of any claim or action and (2) cause to be conducted on behalf of the fund the defense of any action assigned to it.*

*(d) After consultation with insurers the Commissioner of Insurance shall approve a reasonable plan for an equitable apportionment among the insurers of claims against operators and owners of motor vehicles, for investigations and defense, in accordance with this subtitle. When the plan has been approved all insurers shall subscribe thereto and participate therein.*

*(e) If, in the opinion of the Board, any insurer fails or neglects to provide a prompt and adequate investigation of claims or actions assigned, or fails or neglects to provide an adequate defense or otherwise fails to act in the public interest in handling assignments, not less than thirty days after written notice to the principal office of such insurer it may designate an alternate insurance company from the Unsatisfied Claim and Judgment Fund's regular insurance company assignment list to make the investigation and also designate an attorney to conduct the defense, all at the expense of the first designated insurer. Upon making the designation, the Board shall notify the first designated insurer as to the name and address of the alternate insurer and attorney, and shall advise the first desig-*