Section 37

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1986 Replacement Volume and 1990 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 48A - Insurance Code

35.

- (1) The Commissioner may hold hearings for any purpose within the scope of this article deemed by [him] THE COMMISSIONER to be necessary.
- (2) The Commissioner shall hold a hearing if required by any provision, or upon written demand therefor by a person aggrieved by any act, threatened act or failure of the Commissioner to act, or by any report, rule, regulation or order of the Commissioner (other than an order for the holding of a hearing, or an order on hearing or pursuant thereto). Any such demand shall specify the grounds to be relied upon as a basis for the relief to be demanded at the hearing, and unless postponed by mutual consent, such hearing shall be held within thirty (30) consecutive calendar days after receipt by the Commissioner of demand therefor.
- (3) If within such thirty (30) day period the Commissioner does not either (i) grant the hearing, or (ii) issue [his] AN order refusing the hearing, as to such previous report, rule, regulation, or order as to which such person so claims to be aggrieved, then the hearing shall thereby be deemed to have been refused.
- (4) (I) IF A HEARING IS HELD AT THE REQUEST OF A POLICYHOLDER FOR RELIEF, THE POLICYHOLDER SHALL ELECT THE JURISDICTION WHERE THE HEARING SHALL BE HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH SUBPARAGRAPH (II) OF THIS PARAGRAPH.
 - (II) A HEARING MAY BE HELD IN:
- 1. THE COUNTY WHERE THE POLICYHOLDER PRESENTLY RESIDES:
- 2. THE COUNTY WHERE THE POLICYHOLDER RESIDED WHEN THE INSURANCE POLICY WAS ORIGINALLY ISSUED, OR LAST RENEWED OR ENDORSED; OR
 - 3. BALTIMORE CITY.
- (4) (I) FOR PURPOSES OF THIS PARAGRAPH, THE STATE SHALL BE DIVIDED INTO THE FOLLOWING REGIONS:
- <u>1. THE "CENTRAL REGION" INCLUDES BALTIMORE COUNTY, BALTIMORE CITY, HARFORD COUNTY, AND HOWARD COUNTY;</u>