

THE INSURANCE CODE OF 1956 (EXCERPT)
Act 218 of 1956

500.3909 Option to purchase inflation protection; summary of coverage; applicability of section.

Sec. 3909.

(1) An insurer shall not offer a long-term care insurance policy unless the insurer also offers to the policyholder, in addition to any other inflation protection, the option to purchase a policy that provides for benefit levels to increase with benefit maximums or reasonable durations that are meaningful to account for reasonably anticipated increases in the costs of long-term care services covered by the policy. Insurers shall offer to each policyholder, at the time of purchase, the option to purchase a policy with an inflation protection feature no less favorable than 1 of the following:

(a) Increases benefit levels annually in a manner so that the increases are compounded annually at a rate not less than 5%.

(b) Guarantees the insured individual the right to periodically increase benefit levels without providing evidence of insurability or health status so long as the option for the previous period has not been declined. The amount of the additional benefit shall be not less than the difference between the existing policy benefit and that benefit compounded annually at a rate of at least 5% for the period beginning with the purchase of the existing benefit and extending until the year in which the offer is made.

(c) Covers a specified percentage of actual or reasonable charges and does not include a maximum specified indemnity amount or limit.

(2) If the policy is issued to a group, the required offer in subsection (1) shall be made to the group policyholder. However, if the policy is issued to a group defined in section 3901(c)(iv) other than to a continuing care retirement community, the offering shall be made to each proposed certificate holder.

(3) Insurers shall include all of the following information in or with the summary of coverage:

(a) A graphic comparison of the benefit levels of a policy that increases benefits over the policy period with a policy that does not increase benefits. The graphic comparison shall show benefit levels over at least a 20-year period.

(b) Any expected premium increases or additional premiums to pay for automatic or optional benefit increases. If premium increases or additional premiums will be based on the attained age of the applicant at the time of the increase, the insurer shall also disclose the magnitude of the potential premiums the applicant would need to pay at ages 75 and 85 for benefit increases. An insurer may use a reasonable hypothetical, or a graphic demonstration, for the purposes of this disclosure.

(4) This section does not apply to life insurance products that accelerate the death benefit to provide long-term care benefits.

History: Add. 1992, Act 84, Imd. Eff. June 2, 1992

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