

# Insurance Companies Act 1982

## **1982 CHAPTER 50**

#### **PART II**

#### REGULATION OF INSURANCE COMPANIES

#### Miscellaneous

#### 65 Documents deposited with Secretary of State.

- (1) The Secretary of State shall deposit with the registrar of companies one copy of—
  - (a) any document deposited with the Secretary of State under section 22 above, including any document obtained under subsection (5) of that section;
  - (b) any document deposited with him under section 42(4) or 50(4) above.
- (2) Subject to subsection (3) below, any document deposited under this section or section 25(5) or 26(3) above with the registrar of companies shall be open to inspection and copies thereof may be procured by any person on payment of such fees as the Secretary of State may direct.
- (3) Subsection (2) above shall not apply to any document if it is a copy of a document in respect of which a dispensation has been granted under section 23(2) above.
- (4) Every document deposited with the Secretary of State under this Part of this Act and certified by the registrar of companies to be a document so deposited shall be deemed to be a document so deposited; and every document purporting to be certified by the registrar of companies to be a copy of a document so deposited shall be deemed to be a copy of that document and shall be received in evidence as if it were the original document unless some variation between it and the original is proved.

## **Documents deposited in Northern Ireland.**

Any insurance company which is required to prepare and deliver accounts under Article 3 or 11 of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1978 shall deposit with the registrar of companies in Northern Ireland one copy of—

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- (a) any document deposited with the Secretary of State under section 22(1). 22(2). 22(6). 42(4) or 50(4) above;
- (b) any document supplied by the company to the Secretary of State under section 22(5) above.

## Power to treat certain business as or as not being ordinary long-term insurance business.

- (1) The Secretary of State may, on the application or with the consent of an insurance company to which this Part of this Act applies, by order direct that for the purposes of the application to the company of all or any of the provisions to which this section applies—
  - (a) business of a kind specified in the order, not being ordinary long-term insurance business, shall be treated as being such business; or
  - (b) ordinary long-term insurance business of a kind so specified shall be treated as not being such business.
- (2) An order under subsection (1)(b) above may direct that the business specified in the order shall be treated as falling within a specified class of business.
- (3) An order under this section may be subject to conditions and may be varied or revoked at any time by the Secretary of State.
- (4) The provisions to which this section applies are sections 17 to 20, 25, 28 to 31, 42, 55, 56 and 59(2) of this Act and section 21 of the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 and Schedule 3 to that Act.

## 68 Power to modify Part II in relation to particular companies

- (1) The Secretary of State may, on the application or with the consent of an insurance company to which this Part of this Act applies, by order direct that all or any of the provisions to which this section applies shall not apply to the company or shall apply to it with such modifications as may be specified in the order.
- (2) An order under this section may be subject to conditions.
- (3) An order under this section may be revoked at any time by the Secretary of State; and the Secretary of State may at any time vary any such order on the application or with the consent of the company to which it applies.
- (4) The provisions to which this section applies are sections 16 to 22, 23(1) and 25 to 36 of this Act, the provisions of regulations made for the purposes of any of those sections and the provisions of any valuation regulations.
- (5) In relation to section 31 above, subsection (1) above shall have effect as if the reference to an insurance company to which this Part of this Act applies included a reference to any subordinate company within the meaning of that section of any such insurance company.

## 69 Power to alter insurance company's financial year

The Secretary of State may extend or shorten, for the purposes of this Part of this Act, the duration of any financial year of an insurance company to which this Part of this Act applies.

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#### **70** Service of notices

- (1) Any notice which is by this Part of this Act required to be sent to any policy holder may be addressed and sent to the person to whom notices respecting that policy are usually sent, and any notice so addressed and sent shall be deemed to be notice to the holder of the policy.
- (2) Where any person claiming to be interested in a policy has given to the company notice in writing of his interest, any notice which is by this Part of this Act required to be sent to policy holders shall also be sent to that person at the address specified by him in his notice.
- (3) Any notice to be served on any person by the Secretary of State under section 46, 60 or 61 above may be served by post, and a letter containing that notice shall be deemed to be properly addressed if it is addressed to that person at his last known residence or last known place of business in the United Kingdom.

## 71 Offences under Part II

- (1) Any person who—
  - (a) makes default in complying with sections 28 to 30 or 62(1) above; or
  - (b) in purported compliance with a requirement imposed under section 44 above furnishes information which he knows to be false in a material particular or recklessly furnishes information which is false in a material particular; or
  - (c) causes or permits to be included in—
    - (i) any document copies of which are, by section 22 of this Act, required to be deposited with the Secretary of State;
    - (ii) any notice, statement or certificate served or furnished under or by virtue of section 19(2) or 26(1) above;
    - (iii) any document deposited with the Secretary of State under section 25(4) or 42(4) above;
    - (iv) any statement sent out under section 49(3)(b) above or made available under section 51(2)(c) above,

a statement which he knows to be false in a material particular or recklessly causes or permits to be so included any statement which is false in a material particular,

shall be guilty of an offence.

- (2) Any person guilty of an offence under subsection (1) above shall be liable—
  - (a) on conviction on indictment, to imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years, or to a fine, or to both;
  - (b) on summary conviction—
    - (i) in England and Wales and Northern Ireland, to a fine not exceeding £1,000 or, if it is greater, the prescribed sum within the meaning of section 32 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980;
    - (ii) in Scotland, to a fine not exceeding £1,000 or, if it is greater, the prescribed sum within the meaning of section 289B of the Criminal Procedure (Scotland) Act 1975;

and for the purposes of the application of this subsection in Northern Ireland, the provisions of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 which relate to the sum mentioned in paragraph (b)(i) above shall extend to Northern Ireland.

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- (3) Subject to the following provisions of this section—
  - (a) any insurance company which makes default in complying with, or with a requirement imposed under, any provision of this Part of this Act, being a default for which no penalty is provided by the foregoing provisions of this section; and
  - (b) any other person who makes default in complying with, or with a requirement imposed under, section 26, 29(7), 31, 38, 39, 40, 41, 44, 45, 49(4), 50(4) or 61(1) above,

shall be guilty of an offence and liable, on summary conviction in England and Wales and Scotland to a fine not exceeding level 5 on the standard scale and, on summary conviction in Northern Ireland to a fine not exceeding £400.

- (4) Where a person continues to make default in complying with—
  - (a) section 22(1) or (2), 24(1), 25(4) or 42(4) above; or
  - (b) a requirement imposed under section 43 or 44(1) above,

after being convicted of that default he shall be guilty of a further offence and liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £40 for each day on which the default so continues.

- (5) A person shall not be guilty of an offence by reason of his default in complying with section 61 or 62(1) above if he proves that he did not know that the acts or circumstances by virtue of which he became or ceased to be a controller of the body in question were such as to have that effect.
- (6) Where a person is charged with an offence in respect of his default in complying with a requirement imposed under section 44(2) or (3) above to produce any books or papers it shall be a defence to prove that they were not in his possession or control and that it was not reasonably practicable for him to comply with the requirement.
- (7) An insurance company shall not be guilty of an offence by reason of its default in complying with section 16 or 51 (other than subsection (2)(c) above.