MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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119th MAINE LEGISLATURE

FIRST REGULAR SESSION-1999

Legislative Document

No. 1409

S.P. 470

In Senate, February 18, 1999

An Act to Clarify Discounts to Nonsmokers in Health Insurance Premium Rates.

Reference to the Committee on Banking and Insurance suggested and ordered printed.

JOY J. O'BRIEN Secretary of the Senate

Presented by Senator NUTTING of Androscoggin.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:
Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2736-C, sub-§2, ¶D, as amended by PL 1995,
c. 177, §1, is further amended to read:
D. A carrier may vary the premium rate due to age, smeking
status, occupation or industry, and geographic area only
under the following schedule and within the listed percentage bands.
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(1) For all policies, contracts or certificates that
are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State between December 1, 1993 and
July 14, 1994, the premium rate may not deviate above
or below the community rate filed by the carrier by
more than 50%.
(2) For all policies, contracts or certificates that
are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued
or renewed in this State between July 15, 1994 and July
14, 1995, the premium rate may not deviate above or
below the community rate filed by the carrier by more
than 33%.
(2) Man -11 maliation markets and an Aleksahara Nach
(3) For all policies, contracts or certificates that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued
or renewed in this State after July 15, 1995, the
premium rate may not deviate above or below the
community rate filed by the carrier by more than 20%.
Sec. 2. 24-A MRSA §2736-C, sub-§2, ¶F is enacted to read:
F. In addition to any other variance authorized under this
subsection, a carrier may vary the premium rate due to
smoking status for all policies, contracts or certificates
that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued
or renewed in this State after the effective date of this
paragraph as long as the premium rate does not deviate above or below the community rate filed by the carrier by more
than 15%.
C. 2 24 4 MIDGA 92000 D. 1. 92 MD
Sec. 3. 24-A MRSA 82808-B. sub-82. TD. as amended by PI. 1997.

D. A carrier may vary the premium rate due to age, smeking status, occupation or industry, and geographic area only under the following schedule and within the listed

c. 445, §14 and affected by §32, is further amended to read:

percentage bands.

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For all policies, contracts or certificates that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued 2 or renewed in this State between July 15, 1993 and July 4 14, 1994, the premium rate may not deviate above or below the community rate filed by the carrier by more than 50%. 6 For all policies, contracts or certificates that 8 (2) are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State between July 15, 1994 and July 10 14, 1995, the premium rate may not deviate above or 12 below the community rate filed by the carrier by more than 33%. 14 (3) For all policies, contracts or certificates that 16 are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued or renewed in this State after July 15, 1995, the 18 premium rate may not deviate above or below the community rate filed by the carrier by more than 20%, 20 except as provided in paragraph D-1. Sec. 4. 24-A MRSA §2808-B, sub-§2, ¶D-1, as enacted by PL 1997, 22 c. 445, §14 and affected by §32, is amended to read: 24 With respect to eligible groups that employed, on 26 average, 25 to 50 eligible employees in the preceding calendar year, a carrier may vary the premium rate due to age, smeking-status, occupation or industry and geographic area only under the following schedule and within the listed 30 percentage bands. For all policies, contracts or certificates that 32 are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued 34 or renewed in this State in 1998, the premium rate may not deviate above or below the community rate filed by 36 the carrier by more than 40%. 38 For all policies, contracts or certificates that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued 40 or renewed in this State in 1999, the premium rate may not deviate above or below the community rate filed by 42 the carrier by more than 30%. 44 For all policies, contracts or certificates that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued 46 or renewed in this State after January 1, 2000, the premium rate may not deviate above or below the 48 community rate filed by the carrier by more than 20%.

Sec. 5.	24-A	MRSA	§2808-B,	sub-§2,	¶ G	is	enacted	to	read:
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2 G. In addition to any other variance authorized under this subsection, a carrier may vary the premium rate due to smoking status for all policies, contracts or certificates that are executed, delivered, issued for delivery, continued 6 or renewed in this State after the effective date of this paragraph as long as the premium rate does not deviate above 8 or below the community rate filed by the carrier by more than 15%.

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SUMMARY

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This bill clarifies the ability of insurers to offer premium discounts based on the smoking status of insureds.