

department. All such advertisements shall be maintained in said file for a period of either four years or until the filing of the next regular report on the examination of the insurer, whichever is the longer period of time.

B. If the department determines that an advertisement has the capacity or tendency to mislead or deceive the public, the department may require an insurer or insurance producer to submit all or any part of the advertising material for review or approval prior to use.

C. In addition to any other penalties provided by the laws of this state, an insurer or producer that violates a requirement of this regulation shall be guilty of a violation of Part XXVI, Unfair Trade Practices, of the Louisiana Insurance Code, which regulates the trade practices on the business of insurance by defining and providing for the determination of all acts, methods, and practices which constitute unfair methods of competition and unfair or deceptive acts and practices in this state, and to prohibit the same.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1228 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2366 (November 2002), LR 44:1448 (August 2018).

#### **§4119. Conflict with Other Rules**

A. It is not intended that these rules conflict with or supersede any rules currently in force or subsequently adopted in this state governing specific aspect of the sale or replacement of life insurance including, but not limited to, rules dealing with life insurance cost comparison indices, deceptive practices in the sale of life insurance, and replacement of life insurance policies. Consequently, no disclosure required under any such rules shall be deemed to be an advertisement within the meaning of these rules.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

#### **§4121. Severability**

A. If any Section, term or provision of this rule shall be adjudged invalid for any reason, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate any other Section, term or provision of this rule, and the remaining Sections, terms and provisions shall be and remain in full force and effect.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. Title 22, Section 3.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1224 (December 1996).

#### **§4123. Effective Date**

A. This revised regulation shall become effective upon final publication in the *Louisiana Register* and shall apply to any life insurance or annuity advertisement intended for dissemination in this state on or after the effective date.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S.

22:3.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Office of the Commissioner, LR 22:1229 (December 1996), amended LR 28:2366 (November 2002).

## **Chapter 45. Regulation**

### **63—Prohibitions on the Use of Medical Information and Genetic Test Results**

#### **§4501. Purpose**

A. The purpose of this regulation is to establish the statutory prohibitions on the use of medical information including pregnancy tests, genetic tests and related genetic test information by health insurers, third-party administrators, and insurance agents.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998).

#### **§4503. Authority**

A. This regulation is issued pursuant to the authority vested in the Commissioner of Insurance under R.S. 22:11, 22:971, 22:258, 22:242(7), 22:1964(22) and (23), 22:1022, and 22:1023 of the *Insurance Code*.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, 22:971, 22:258, 22:242(7), 22:1964(22) and (23), 22:1022, and 22:1023 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:360 (March 2020).

#### **§4505. Definitions**

*Collection*—obtaining a DNA sample or samples for the purpose of determining inherited or individual characteristics that can be utilized to predict the development of medical conditions in the future. *Collection* shall not mean diagnostic or medical treatment information about an existing medical condition or the prior medical condition of a person applying for or being covered by a health benefit plan.

*Compulsory Disclosure*—any disclosure of genetic information mandated or required by federal or state law in connection with a judicial, legislative, or administrative proceeding.

*DNA*—deoxyribonucleic acid including mitochondrial DNA, complementary DNA, as well as any DNA derived from ribonucleic acid (RNA). *DNA* shall not mean any medical procedure or test utilized in the practice of medicine for the purpose of diagnosing or treating a medical illness or health related condition.

*Disclose*—to convey or to provide access to genetic information to a person other than the individual.

*Family*—includes an individual's blood relatives and any legal relatives, including a spouse or adopted child, who may have a material interest in the genetic information of the

individual. For purposes of providing individual or group health care coverage, the term *family* shall not be used to prevent the collection of reasonable medical information about individuals applying for health insurance coverage to perform medical underwriting based on existing or past medical conditions of those persons being insured, except *genetic information* as defined herein.

*Family History/Pedigree*—the medical history of blood relatives of an individual that is used to predict the possibility of developing a medical condition in the future. The term shall not include the medical history of an insured or applicant for coverage under a health benefit plan.

*Genetic Analysis*—the process of characterizing genetic information from a human tissue sample and does not include the performance of medical tests, including but not limited to blood tests, in the diagnosis or treatment of a medical condition.

*Genetic Characteristic*—any gene or chromosome, or alteration thereof, that is scientifically or medically believed to cause a disease, disorder, or syndrome, or to be associated with a statistically significant increased risk of development of a disease, disorder or syndrome. The term shall not apply to identification or disclosure of an individual's gender for the purposes of obtaining or maintaining insurance or establishing insurance rates.

*Genetic Information*—all information about genes, gene products, inherited characteristics, or family history/pedigree that is expressed in common language and

1. *Genetic Information* shall include each of the following:

- a. an individual's genetic test;
- b. the genetic tests of the family members of an individual;
- c. the manifestation of a disease or disorder in family members of an individual;
- d. with respect to an individual or family member of an individual who is a pregnant woman, genetic information of any fetus or embryo carried by such pregnant woman; and with respect to an individual or family member of an individual utilizing an assisted reproductive technology, genetic information of any embryo legally held by the individual or family member.

2. *Genetic Information* does not include the medical history of an individual insured or applicant for health care coverage and shall not mean information about the sex or age of any individual.

*Genetic Services*—a genetic test, genetic counseling, including obtaining, interpreting, or assessing genetic information, or genetic education.

*Genetic Test*—any test for determining the presence or absence of genetic characteristics in an individual, including tests of nucleic acids, such as DNA, RNA, and mitochondrial DNA, chromosomes, or proteins in order to diagnose or identify a genetic characteristic or that detects

genotypes, mutation, or chromosomal changes. The determination of a genetic characteristic shall not include any diagnosis of the presence of disease, disability, or other existing medical condition. Genetic test shall not mean an analysis of proteins or metabolites that either:

1. does not detect genotypes, mutations, or chromosomal changes;
2. is directly related to a manifested disease, disorder, or pathological condition that could be reasonably detected by a health care professional with appropriate training and expertise in the field of medicine involved.

*Health Benefit Plan*—any health insurance policy, plan, or health maintenance organization subscriber agreement issued for delivery in this state under a valid certificate of authority and does not include life, disability income, or long-term care insurance.

*Individual*—the source of a human tissue sample from which a DNA sample is extracted or genetic information is characterized.

*Individual Identifier*—a name, address, Social Security number, health insurance identification number, or similar information by which the identity of an individual can be determined with reasonable accuracy, either directly or by reference to other available information. Such term does not include characters, numbers, or codes assigned to an individual or a DNA sample that cannot singly be used to identify an individual.

*Insurer*—any hospital, health, or medical expense insurance policy, hospital or medical service contract, employee welfare benefit plan, health and accident insurance policy, or any other insurance contract of this type, including a group insurance plan, or any policy of group, family group, blanket, or association health and accident insurance, a self-insurance plan, health maintenance organization, and preferred provider organization, including insurance agents and third-party administrators, which delivers or issues for delivery in this state an insurance policy or plan. The term *insurer* does not include any individual or entity that does not hold a valid certificate of authority to issue, for delivery in this state, an insurance policy or plan. A certificate of authority to issue an insurance policy or plan for delivery shall not include a license or certificate to act as a preferred provider organization, insurance agent, or third-party administrator.

*Person*—all persons other than the individual or authorized agent acting on behalf of the individual, who is the source of a tissue sample and shall include a family, corporation, partnership, association, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision or agency, and any other legal or commercial entity. This shall not prevent any licensed insurance agent duly authorized to act on behalf of the individual, from completing and submitting health insurance application documents required to apply for coverage under a health policy or plan.

*Research*—scientific investigation that includes systematic development and testing of hypotheses for the

purpose of increasing knowledge.

**Storage**—retention of a DNA sample or of genetic information for an extended period of time after the initial testing process. The term does not include medical history information about insureds or persons applying for coverage under a health benefit plan.

**Underwriting Purposes**—rules for or determination of eligibility, including enrollment and continued eligibility, for benefits under the plan or coverage; the computation of premium or contribution amounts under the plan or coverage; and other activities related to the creation, renewal, or replacement of a contract or policy issued by an insurer.

**AUTHORITYNOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, 22:971, 22:258, 22:242(7), 22:1964(22) and (23), 22:1022, and 22:1023 of the *Insurance Code*.

**HISTORICALNOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:361 (March 2020).

#### **§4507. Applicability and Scope**

A. Except as otherwise specifically provided, the requirements of this regulation apply to all issuers of health care policies or contracts of insurance, or health maintenance organization subscriber agreements issued for delivery in the state of Louisiana. The requirements of this regulation shall not impinge upon the normal practice of medicine or reasonable medical evaluation of an individual's medical history for the purpose of providing or maintaining health insurance coverage. The requirements of this regulation address the use of medical information, including use of genetic tests, and genetic information for the purpose of issuing, renewing, or establishing premiums for health coverage. The provisions of this regulation do not apply to any actions of an insurer or third parties dealing with an insurer taken in the ordinary course of business in connection with the sale, issuance or administration of a life, disability income, long-term care, or critical illness insurance policy. For the purpose of this Section, "critical illness" insurance policy shall mean health insurance providing a principle sum of benefit following diagnosis of specifically named perils.

**AUTHORITYNOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, 22:971, 22:258, 22:242(7), 22:1964(22) and (23), 22:1022, and 22:1023 of the *Insurance Code*.

**HISTORICALNOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:361 (March 2020).

#### **§4509. Prohibitions on the Use of Pregnancy Test Results**

A. Any insurer shall be authorized to request medical information that verifies the pregnancy of an insured or individual applying for coverage under a health benefit plan. The results of any prenatal test, other than the determination of pregnancy, shall not be used as the basis to:

1. terminate, restrict, limit, or otherwise apply conditions to the coverage under the policy or plan, or restrict the sale of the policy or plan in force;

2. cancel or refuse to renew the coverage under the policy or plan in force;

3. deny coverage or exclude an individual or family member from coverage under the policy or plan in force;

4. impose a rider that excludes coverage for certain benefits or services under the policy or plan in force;

5. establish differentials in premium rates or cost sharing for coverage under the policy or plan in force;

6. otherwise discriminate against an insured individual or insured family member in the provision of insurance.

**AUTHORITYNOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

**HISTORICALNOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1121 (June 1998).

#### **§4511. Requirements for Release of Genetic Test and Related Medical Information**

A. A general authorization for the release of medical records or medical information shall not be construed as an authorization for disclosure of genetic information. No insurer shall seek to obtain genetic information from an insured or applicant or from a DNA sample, without first obtaining written informed consent from the individual or authorized representative. To be valid, an authorization to disclose the results of a genetic test shall:

1. be in writing, signed by the individual and dated on the date of such signature;

2. identify the person permitted to make the disclosure;

3. describe the specific genetic information to be disclosed;

4. identify the person to whom the information is to be disclosed;

5. describe with specificity the purpose for which the disclosure is being made;

6. state the date upon which the authorization will expire, which in no event shall be more than 60 days after the date of the authorization;

7. include a statement that the authorization is subject to revocation at any time before the disclosure is actually made or the individual is made aware of the details of the genetic information;

8. include a statement that the authorization shall be invalid if used for any purpose other than the described purpose for which the disclosure is made.

B. A copy of the authorization shall be provided to the individual. An individual may revoke or amend the authorization in whole or in part, at any time. In complying with the provisions of this Section, the record holder is responsible for assuring only authorized information is released to insurers with respect to medical records that contain genetic information. The requirements of this

Section shall not act to impede or otherwise impinge upon the ability of the patient's attending physician to provide appropriate and medically necessary treatment or diagnosis of a medical condition. Nothing in this Section shall exempt a covered entity from the requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 pertaining to the collection, use, or disclosure of genetic information, which for purposes of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, is defined as "health information" under 42 U.S.C. § 1320d(4)(b) and 42 U.S.C. § 1320d-9.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:361 (March 2020).

#### **§4513. Prohibitions on the Use of Medical Information and Genetic Test Results**

A. No insurer shall require an applicant for coverage under a policy or plan, or an individual or family member who is presently covered under a policy or plan, to be the subject of a genetic test, release genetic test information, or to be subjected to questions relating to the medical conditions of persons not being insured under such policy or plan.

B. All insurers shall, in the application or enrollment information required to be provided by the insurer to each applicant concerning a policy or plan, include a written statement disclosing the rights of the applicant. Such statements shall be printed in 10-point type or greater with a heading in all capital letters that states: YOUR RIGHTS REGARDING THE RELEASE AND USE OF GENETIC INFORMATION. Disclosure statements must be approved by the Department of Insurance as complying with the requirements of R.S. 22:1023 prior to utilization.

C.1. No insurer shall request, require, or purchase genetic information either:

a. of an individual or family member of an individual for underwriting purposes.

b. with respect to any individual or family member of an individual prior to such individual's enrollment under the plan or coverage in connection with such enrollment.

2. If an insurer offering health insurance coverage in the individual or group market obtains genetic information incidental to the requesting, requiring, or purchasing of other information concerning any individual, such request, requirement, or purchase shall not be considered a violation of Subparagraph 1.b. of this Subsection if such request, requirement, or purchase is not in violation of Subparagraph 1.a. of this Subsection.

D.1. No insurer shall request or require that an individual, a family member of such individual, or a group member undergo a genetic test.

2. Paragraph 1 of this Subsection shall not be construed to limit the authority of a health care professional

who is providing health care services to an individual to request that such individual undergo a genetic test.

E.1. No insurer shall establish rules for eligibility, including continued eligibility, of any individual or an individual's family member to enroll or continue enrollment based on genetic information.

2. Nothing in Paragraph 1 of this Subsection or in Subparagraphs C.1.a and b of this Section shall be construed to preclude an insurer from establishing rules for eligibility for an individual to enroll in individual health insurance coverage based on the manifestation of a disease or disorder in that individual or in a family member of such individual where such family member is covered under the policy that covers such individual.

F.1. No insurer shall impose any preexisting condition exclusion on the basis of genetic information of an individual, family member of an individual, or group member.

2. Nothing in Paragraph 1 of this Subsection or in Subparagraphs C.1.a. and b. of this Section shall be construed to preclude an insurer offering coverage in the individual market from imposing any preexisting condition exclusion for an individual with respect to health insurance coverage on the basis of a manifestation of a disease or disorder in that individual.

G1. No insurer shall adjust premium or contribution amounts for an individual or group health plan on the basis of genetic information concerning the individual or a family member of the individual.

2. Nothing in Paragraph 1 of this Subsection shall be construed to preclude an insurer offering health insurance coverage in the individual market from adjusting premium or contribution amounts for an individual on the basis of a manifestation of a disease or disorder in that individual, or in a family member of such individual where such family member is covered under the policy that covers such individual. In such case, the manifestation of a disease or disorder in one individual cannot also be used as genetic information about other individuals covered under the policy issued to such individual and to further increase premium or contribution amounts.

3. Nothing in Paragraph 1 of this Subsection shall be construed to preclude an insurer offering health insurance coverage in connection with a group health plan from increasing the premium for an employer based upon the manifestation of a disease or disorder of an individual who is enrolled in the plan. In such case, the manifestation of a disease or disorder in one individual cannot also be used as genetic information about other group members and to further increase the premium for the employer.

H.1. Nothing in Paragraph D.1 of this Subsection shall be construed to preclude an insurer offering health insurance coverage in the individual or group market from obtaining and using the results of a genetic test in making a determination regarding payment, as such term is defined for the purposes of applying the regulations promulgated by the



secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services under Part C of Title XI of the Social Security Act and Section 264 of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, consistent with Subsections E and F of this Subsection.

2. For purposes of Paragraph 1 of this Subsection, an insurer offering health insurance coverage in the individual or group market may request only the minimum amount of information necessary to accomplish the intended purpose.

I. Notwithstanding Paragraph D.1 of this Subsection, an insurer offering health insurance coverage in the individual or group market may request, but not require, that an individual, family member of an individual, or a group member undergo a genetic test if each of the following conditions is met.

1. The request is made pursuant to research that complies with Part 46 of Title 45, Code of Federal Regulations, or equivalent federal regulations, and any applicable state or local law or regulations for the protection of human subjects in research.

2. The insurer clearly indicates to each individual, or in the case of a minor child, to the legal guardian of such child, to whom the request is made both that:

- a. compliance with the request is voluntary;
- b. noncompliance will have no effect on enrollment status or premium, or contribution amounts.

3. No genetic information collected or acquired under this Subsection shall be used for underwriting purposes.

4. The insurer notifies the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services in writing that the issuer is conducting activities pursuant to the exception provided for under this Subsection, including a description of the activities conducted.

5. The insurer complies with such other conditions as the secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services may by regulation require for activities conducted under this Subsection.

J. The results of any genetic test, including genetic test information, shall not be used as the basis to:

1. terminate, restrict, limit, or otherwise apply conditions to the coverage of an individual or family member under the policy or plan, or restrict the sale of the policy or plan to an individual or family member;
2. cancel or refuse to renew the coverage of an individual or family member under the policy or plan;
3. deny coverage or exclude an individual or family member from coverage under the policy or plan;
4. impose a rider that excludes coverage for certain benefits or services under the policy or plan;
5. establish differentials in premium rates or cost sharing for coverage under the policy or plan;
6. otherwise discriminate against an individual or

family member in the provision of insurance.

**AUTHORITYNOTE:** Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:3, 22:10, 22:2014, 22:2002(7), 22:214(22) and (23), 22:213.6, and 22:213.7 of the *Insurance Code*.

**HISTORICALNOTE:** Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:362 (March 2020).

#### **§4515. General Provisions**

A. The requirements of this Section shall not apply to the genetic information obtained:

1. by a state, parish, municipal, or federal law enforcement agency for the purposes of establishing the identity of a person in the course of a criminal investigation or prosecution;
2. to determine paternity;
3. to determine the identity of deceased individuals;
4. for anonymous research where the identity of the subject will not be released because it is confidential;
5. pursuant to newborn screening requirements established by state or federal law;
6. as authorized by federal law for the identification of persons;
7. by the Department of Social Services or by a court having juvenile jurisdiction as set forth in *Children's Code* Article 302 for the purposes of child protection investigations or neglect proceedings.
8. For treatment, payment, and healthcare operations by an insurer consistent with the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act and its related regulations.
9. For maintenance of information by an insurer in accordance with record retention requirements.

B. An applicant/insured's genetic information is the property of the applicant/insured. No person shall retain genetic information without first obtaining authorization from the applicant/insured or a duly authorized representative, unless retention is:

1. for the purposes of a criminal or death investigation or criminal or juvenile proceeding;
2. to determine paternity.

C. For purposes of R.S. 22:1023, any person who acts without proper authorization to collect a DNA sample for analysis, or willfully discloses genetic information without obtaining permission from the individual or patient as required under this regulation, shall be liable to the individual for each such violation in an amount equal to:

1. any actual damages sustained as a result of the unauthorized collection, storage, analysis, or disclosure, or \$50,000, whichever is greater;
2. treble damages, in any case where such a violation resulted in profit or monetary gain;

3. the costs of the action together with reasonable attorney fees as determined by the court, in the case of a successful action to enforce any liability under R.S. 22:1023.

D. Any person who, either through a request, the use of persuasion, under threat, or under a promise of a reward, willfully induces another to collect, store or analyze a DNA sample in violation; or willfully collects, stores, or analyzes a DNA sample; or willfully discloses genetic information in violation of R.S. 22:1023 shall be liable to the individual for each such violation in an amount equal to:

1. any actual damages sustained as a result of the collection, analysis, or disclosure, or \$100,000, whichever is greater;

2. the costs of the action together with reasonable attorney fees as determined by the court, in the case of a successful action under R.S. 22:1023.

E. The discrimination against an insured in the issuance, payment of benefits, withholding of coverage, cancellation, or nonrenewal of a policy, contract, plan or program based upon the results of a genetic test, receipt of genetic information, or a prenatal test other than one used for the determination of pregnancy shall be treated as an unfair or deceptive act or practice in the business of insurance under R.S. 22:1964.

F. This regulation became effective June 20, 1998; however, the amendments to this regulation will become effective upon final publication in the *Louisiana Register*.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:11, 22:971, 22:258, 22:242(7), 22:1964(22) and (23), 22:1022, and 22:1023 of the *Insurance Code*.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1120 (June 1998), amended LR 46:363 (March 2020).

## Chapter 47. Regulation 64—Vehicle Mechanical Breakdown Insurers Cancellation Provisions

### §4701. Purpose

A. The purpose of this regulation is to implement standard cancellation requirements in all vehicle mechanical breakdown contracts, and to ensure that all such contracts (hereafter sometimes referred to as "policies") issued, delivered or used in Louisiana are drafted in a more consistent and streamlined manner.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:1811, R.S. 22:3 and R.S. 49:950 et seq.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1123 (June 1998).

### §4703. Authority

A. This regulation is promulgated under the authority granted the commissioner by R.S. 22:1811, R.S. 22:3 and R.S. 49:950 et seq.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:1811, R.S. 22:3 and R.S. 49:950 et seq.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of

Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1123 (June 1998).

### §4705. Applicability and Scope

A. This regulation shall apply to all vehicle mechanical breakdown contracts that are in force and to insurers issuing, for delivery or use, vehicle mechanical breakdown contracts in Louisiana.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:1811, R.S. 22:3 and R.S. 49:950 et seq.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1123 (June 1998).

### §4707. Cancellation Standards

A. The following standards shall govern the requirements for the cancellation provisions of vehicle mechanical breakdown contracts.

1. All Mechanical Breakdown Insurance contracts having terms of greater than six months shall be cancelable and refundable upon request of the insured.

2. The refund method to be used shall be the sum of the digits (Rule of 78s) or a refund method that will be more favorable to the insured.

3. The return factor is determined by the number of unused months or the number of unused miles, and shall be based on the full premium (including commissions) paid by the insured.

a. The number of months shall mean the number of months from the effective date of the policy until the expiration date of the policy.

b. The number of miles shall mean the sum of the number of miles on the odometer at the time of purchase and the policy mileage limit.

4. A cancellation fee, not to exceed \$50, may be charged, provided such fee is disclosed to the purchaser at the time of policy purchase.

5. The method of refund and any cancellation fee, shall be fully disclosed to the insured at or before the time of policy purchase by having such information printed in the policy form and the policy application, which shall be agreed to in writing, by the insured.

6. In calculating any refund requested by the insured, no deduction shall be allowed for any claim that has been paid under the contract being canceled.

7. If cancellation is requested in writing by the insured within 30 days from the date of purchase, full refund, minus the cancellation fee, if any, shall be made.

AUTHORITYNOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 22:1811, R.S. 22:3 and R.S. 49:950 et seq.

HISTORICALNOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Insurance, Commissioner of Insurance, LR 24:1123 (June 1998).

### §4709. Failure to Comply

A. In addition to any other penalties provided by the Louisiana Insurance Code relating to the regulation of Vehicle Mechanical Breakdown (VMB) insurers, any VMB insurer found to have violated the requirements of this regulation, may be issued a cease and desist order pursuant