

Oregon Division of Financial Regulation Bulletin No. DFR 2020-8

TO: All property and casualty automobile insurance companies and other interested parties

DATE: April 9, 2020

RE: Guidance regarding personal automobile policies

Purpose

The purpose of this bulletin is to provide guidance consistent with Gov. Kate Brown's Executive Order No. 20-07.

Authority

- ORS 401.165
- ORS 401.168
- ORS 401.175
- ORS 401.188
- ORS 401.192
- Executive Order No. 20-07

Background

On March 8, 2020, Oregon Gov. Kate Brown declared an emergency under ORS 401.165 to address the spread of COVID-19. On March 11, the World Health Organization announced a global pandemic. On March 13, U.S. President Donald Trump declared the outbreak a national emergency.

The outbreak is causing major disruption to consumers and businesses, including normal business activities. Traditionally, personal automobile policies do not cover liability and property damage resulting from commercial activities. However, as restaurants and other businesses are forced to obtain income solely from delivery services, there is an urgent need for insured delivery drivers for the duration of this national emergency.

Guidance

The division is calling on insurers to extend coverage for personal delivery drivers, and to limit the application of commercial delivery exclusions during the COVID-19 outbreak. Insurance carriers are encouraged to file endorsements with the Division of Financial Regulation, to allow for coverage to be broadened for those using personal automobiles to deliver essential goods for a fee. Later, when Gov. Brown formally removes the state of emergency, policyholders must

receive a minimum 30 days' notice of the mid-term reduction in coverage to allow for an orderly wind down of this extension.

This guidance is intended to affect drivers who do not have coverage for deliveries through their personal policies. It is not intended to affect drivers working for transportation network companies.

This bulletin is retroactive to March 17, 2020, the date Gov. Brown signed Executive Order No. 20-07.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lou Savage", written over a horizontal line.

Lou Savage
Administrator
Division of Financial Regulation

April 9, 2020

Date