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By: Craddick (Senate Sponsor - Hancock)
                                                                                                                    H.B. No. 3370
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           (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2017; May 10, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; May 22, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0;
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           May 22, 2017, sent to printer.)
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                                                               COMMITTEE VOTE
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1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-9	Hancock	X			
1-10	Creighton	Χ			
1-11	Campbell	Χ			
1-12	Estes	Χ			
1-13	Nichols			X	
1-14	Schwertner	X			
1-15	Taylor of Galveston	Χ			
1-16	Whitmire	Χ			
1-17	Zaffirini	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 3370 By: Hancock

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED 1-20 AN ACT

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1-21 relating to certain disclosures and notices required for certain life insurance policies.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 1101, Insurance Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. DISCLOSURES AND NOTICES RELATING TO LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES WITH NON-GUARANTEED ELEMENTS

Sec. 1101.201. PURPOSE. This subchapter is intended to provide standards for disclosures relating to life insurance policies subject to this subchapter and to recognize that a purpose of those life insurance policies is to provide insurance coverage at a lower initial premium than might otherwise be obtainable from the insurer if the insurer were not allowed to change the premium during the life of the policy.

Sec. 1101.202. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies to a life insurance policy issued by an insurer, as defined by Section 1102.001, that contains non-guaranteed elements that may change at the discretion of the insurer.

(b) This subchapter does not apply to:

(1) group life insurance without se identifiable accounts for insureds; or

(2) a life insurance policy in which the separately

assumes all risk and contractually guarantees a death benefit in exchange for a guaranteed premium set at the time of the policy's issuance.

Sec. 1101.203. DISCLOSURES AFTER ISSUANCE OF POLICY. (a) Subject to Section 1101.204, and unless the change is made pursuant to a previously implemented current cost of insurance schedule, if an insurer increases a non-guaranteed element in or decreases the credited interest rate for a policy after the policy's issuance, the insurer must provide a written notice to the policy owner disclosing:

the non-guaranteed element that is being changed;

(2) the value of the non-guaranteed element before and after the proposed change;

1-55 or 1-56 (3) the maximum minimum guaranteed value, applicable, of the non-guaranteed element stated in the policy, if 1-57 1-58 any;

(4) the effective date of the change;(5) a comparison of the change to the current and

C.S.H.B. No. 3370 maximum or minimum guaranteed elements, as applicable, if any, 2-1 2-2 stated in the policy; and

(6) the options available to the policy owner under

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the policy.

(b) The notice under Subsection (a) must include the insurer's phone number and e-mail address and the following statement in at least 12-point bold type:

"IMPORTANT NOTICE: An increase in a non-guaranteed element or a decrease in the credited interest rate will have an adverse impact on the longevity and value of your policy. You should request an illustration of the impact of this change on your policy."

(c) Except as provided by this subsection, notice required by Subsection (a) must be given not later than the 90th day before the date the change is applied. For a decrease in the credited interest rate for a policy, notice required by Subsection (a) may be given at the time that the decrease is applied.

(d) If a policy owner affirmatively requests a loan, partial surrender, or other action on the policy that might impact the longevity of the policy, the insurer must provide to the policy owner in writing, not later than the 10th day after the date the owner makes the request, the insurer's phone number and e-mail address and the following statement in at least 12-point bold type:

"IMPORTANT NOTICE: Your recent request will have an impact on the longevity and value of your policy. You should request an illustration of the impact of this change on your policy."

(e) Regardless of whether any non-guaranteed elements are changed, an insurer that issues a policy subject to this subchapter must provide to the policy owner at least annually an illustration

containing elements specified by the commissioner by rule.

Sec. 1101.204. NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT OF CERTAIN CHANGES TO NON-GUARANTEED ELEMENTS. (a) Not later than the 180th day before the effective date of an increase in a non-quaranteed element in an individual's policy or certificate subject to this subchapter, other than an increase pursuant to a previously implemented current cost of insurance schedule, the insurer must provide notice to the department if:

except as provided by Subsection (b), the increase (1)in the non-guaranteed element will result in an aggregate increase in the cost of insurance rate that is greater than 40 percent of the

cost of insurance rate for the preceding year; and

(2) the increase will be applied to a policy issued in

this state. (b)

The commissioner by rule may adopt a lower percentage increase in a cost of insurance rate for which an insurer must provide notice to the department under Subsection (a), but the percentage adopted may not be lower than 20 percent.

The notice under Subsection (a) must include: (C)

(1) the specific approved policy form for which the insurer will implement the increase;

(2) a copy of the disclosure to be provided under Section 1101.203 to each owner whose policy was issued in this state;

information on the classes of owners who will (3) receive the disclosure;

sufficient information for the department determine if the increase is actuarially justified;

if applicable, sufficient information (5) demonstrate compliance with the nonforfeiture values under Chapter 1105 for the increased premium; and

information necessary to determine if (6) any other the increase will comply with the standards in this code.

Not later than the 60th day after receipt of (d) under this section, the commissioner may:

(1) disapprove the proposed if increase the commissioner determines that the increase is not actuarially justified or not in compliance with this code and provide the insurer with a description in adequate detail of the changes necessary to avoid disapproval; or

(2) withdraw approval under Section 1701.055 of the

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If the commissioner does not take action under Subsection (d), the insurer may provide the disclosure required by Section 1101.203 and apply the proposed increase in the non-guaranteed element in the policy.

Sec. 1101.205. RULES. (a) The commissioner may adopt rules

as necessary to implement this subchapter.

(b) The commissioner by rule may exempt certain types of life insurance policies from one or more of the requirements of this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Subchapter E, Chapter 1101, Insurance Code, as added by this Act, applies only to an increase in a non-guaranteed element or a decrease in a credited interest rate that is applied to an insurance policy on or after January 1, 2018.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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