

**CHAPTER 110****(SB 187)**

AN ACT relating to insurance premium surcharges.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

Section 1. KRS 136.392 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) (a) Every domestic, foreign, or alien insurer, other than life and health insurers, which is either subject to or exempted from Kentucky premium taxes as levied pursuant to the provisions of either KRS 136.340, 136.350, 136.370, or 136.390, shall charge and collect a surcharge of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) upon each one hundred dollars (\$100) of premium, assessments, or other charges, except for those municipal premium taxes, made by it for insurance coverage provided to its policyholders, on risk located in this state, whether the charges are designated as premiums, assessments, or otherwise. The premium surcharge shall be collected by the insurer from its policyholders at the same time and in the same manner that its premium or other charge for the insurance coverage is collected. The premium surcharge shall be disclosed to policyholders pursuant to administrative regulations promulgated by the commissioner of insurance. However, no insurer or its agent shall be entitled to any portion of any premium surcharge as a fee or commission for its collection. On or before the twentieth day of each month, each insurer shall report and remit to the Revenue Cabinet, on forms as it may require, all premium surcharge moneys collected by it during its preceding monthly accounting period less any moneys returned to policyholders as applicable to the unearned portion of the premium on policies terminated by either the insured or the insurer. Insurers with an annual liability of less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for each of the previous two (2) calendar years may report and remit to the Revenue Cabinet all premium surcharge moneys collected on a calendar year basis on or before the twentieth (20th) day of January of the following calendar year. The funds derived from the premium surcharge shall be deposited in the State Treasury, and shall constitute a fund allocated for the uses and purposes of the Firefighters Foundation Program fund (KRS 95A.220 and 95A.262) and the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund (KRS 15.430).
- (b) Effective July 1, 1992, the surcharge rate in paragraph (a) of this subsection shall be adjusted by the secretary of revenue to a rate calculated to provide sufficient funds for the uses and purposes of the Firefighters Foundation Program fund as prescribed by KRS 95A.220 and 95A.262 and the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund as prescribed by KRS 15.430 for each fiscal year. The rate shall be calculated using as its base the number of local government units eligible for participation in the funds under applicable statutes as of January 1, 1994. To allow the secretary of revenue to calculate an appropriate rate, the secretary for the Public Protection and Regulation Cabinet and the secretary for the Justice Cabinet shall certify to the secretary of revenue, no later than January 1, of each year, the estimated budgets for the respective funds specified above, including any surplus moneys in the funds, which shall be incorporated into the consideration of the adjusted rate for the next biennium. As soon as practical, the secretary of revenue shall advise the commissioner of insurance of the new rate and the commissioner shall inform the affected insurers. The rate adjustment process shall continue on a biennial basis.

- (2) Within five (5) days after the end of each month, all insurance premium surcharge proceeds deposited in the State Treasury as set forth in this section shall be paid by the State Treasurer into the Firefighters Foundation Program fund trust and agency account and the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund trust and agency account. The amount paid into each account shall be proportionate to each fund's respective share of the total deposits, pursuant to KRS 42.190. Moneys deposited to the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund trust and agency account shall not be disbursed, expended, encumbered or transferred by any state official for uses and purposes other than those prescribed by KRS 15.410 to 15.500, except that beginning with fiscal year 1994-95, through June 30, 1999, moneys remaining in the account at the end of the fiscal year in excess of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) shall lapse. On and after July 1, 1999, moneys in this account shall not lapse. Money deposited to the Firefighters Foundation Program fund trust and agency account shall not be disbursed, expended, encumbered, or transferred by any state official for uses and purposes other than those prescribed by KRS 95A.200 to 95A.300, except that beginning with fiscal year 1994-95, through June 30, 1999, moneys remaining in the account at the end of the fiscal year in excess of three million dollars (\$3,000,000) shall lapse, but moneys in the revolving loan fund established in KRS 95A.262 shall not lapse. On and after July 1, 1999, moneys in this account shall not lapse.
- (3) Insurance premium surcharge funds collected from the policyholders of any domestic mutual company, cooperative, or assessment fire insurance company shall be deposited in the State Treasury, and shall be paid monthly by the State Treasurer into the Firefighters Foundation Program fund trust and agency account as provided in KRS 95A.220 to 95A.262. However, insurance premium surcharge funds collected from policyholders of any mutual company, cooperative, or assessment fire insurance company which transfers its corporate domicile to this state from another state after July 15, 1994, shall continue to be paid into the Firefighters Foundation Program fund and the Law Enforcement Foundation Program fund as prescribed.
- (4) *No later than July 1 of each year, the Department of Insurance shall provide the Revenue Cabinet with a list of all Kentucky-licensed property and casualty insurers and the amount of premium volume collected by the insurer for the preceding calendar year as set forth on the annual statement of the insurer. No later than September 1 of each year, the Revenue Cabinet shall calculate an estimate of the premium surcharge due from each insurer subject to the insurance premium surcharge imposed pursuant to this section, based upon the surcharge rate imposed pursuant to this section and the amount of the premium volume for each insurer as reported by the Department of Insurance. The Revenue Cabinet shall compare the results of this estimate with the premium surcharge paid by each insurer during the preceding year, and shall provide the Legislative Research Commission, the Commission on Fire Protection Personnel Standards and Education, the Kentucky Law Enforcement Council, and the Department of Insurance with a report detailing its findings on a cumulative basis. In accordance with KRS 131.190, the cabinet shall not identify or divulge the confidential tax information of any individual insurer in this report.*

Approved March 28, 2002