SENATE BILL 185

C4, J5 2lr0012 (PRE–FILED)

By: Chair, Finance Committee (By Request – Departmental – Maryland Insurance Administration)

Requested: October 4, 2021

Introduced and read first time: January 12, 2022

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

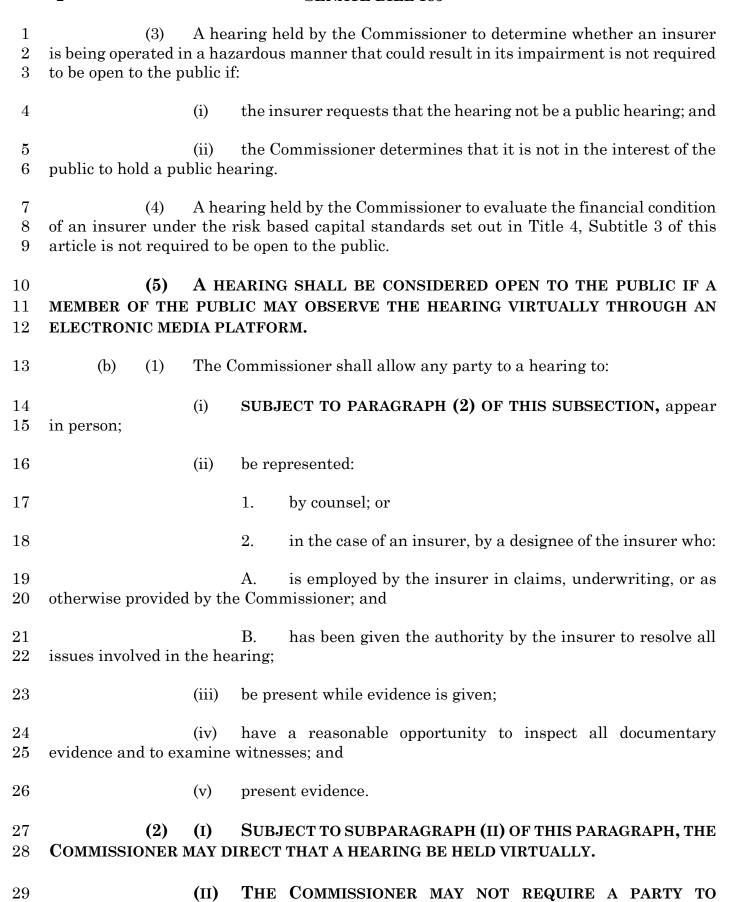
1 AN ACT concerning

2

1	Maryl	and	Insurance A	Adminis	tration –	Virtua	l Hearings	
---	-------	-----	-------------	---------	-----------	--------	------------	--

- FOR the purpose of requiring that hearings held by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner be considered open to the public if a member of the public can observe the hearing virtually through an electronic media platform; authorizing the Commissioner to direct that a hearing be held virtually, subject to certain limitations; and generally
- 7 relating to virtual hearings held by the Maryland Insurance Commissioner.
- 8 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
- 9 Article Insurance
- 10 Section 2–213
- 11 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 12 (2017 Replacement Volume and 2021 Supplement)
- 13 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
- 14 That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:
- 15 Article Insurance
- 16 2–213.
- 17 (a) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, all hearings shall be 18 open to the public in accordance with § 8–505 of the State Government Article.
- 19 (2) A hearing held by the Commissioner that relates to a filing under Title
- 20 11 of this article is not required to be open to the public.

30



PARTICIPATE VIRTUALLY IN A HEARING IF THE PARTY DEMONSTRATES THAT IT IS

1 UNABLE TO EXERCISE ANY OF THE RIGHTS UNDER PARAGRAPH (1)(II) THROUGH (V) 2 OF THIS SUBSECTION BY APPEARING VIRTUALLY.

- 3 **[**(2)**] (3)** On request of a party, the Commissioner shall issue subpoenas 4 to compel attendance of witnesses or production of evidence on behalf of the party.
- 5 (c) The Commissioner shall allow any person that was not an original party to a 6 hearing to become a party by intervention if:
- 7 (1) the intervention is timely; and
- 8 (2) the financial interests of the person will be directly and immediately 9 affected by an order of the Commissioner resulting from the hearing.
- 10 (d) Formal rules of pleading or evidence need not be observed at a hearing.
- 11 (e) (1) On timely written request by a party to a hearing, the Commissioner 12 shall have a full stenographic record of the proceedings made by a competent reporter at 13 the expense of that party.
- 14 (2) If the stenographic record is transcribed, a copy shall be given on 15 request to any other party to the hearing at the expense of that party.
- 16 (3) If the stenographic record is not made or transcribed, the Commissioner shall prepare an adequate record of the evidence and proceedings.
- SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2022.