

Commonwealth of Virginia

ALFRED W. GROSS
COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

P. O. BOX 1157
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23218
TELEPHONE: (804) 371-9741
TDD/VOICE: (804) 371-9206

STATE CORPORATION COMMISSION BUREAU OF INSURANCE

October 2, 1996

Administrative Letter 1996-15

TO: All Insurers Authorized to Write Accident and Sickness Insurance in Virginia, and all Health Maintenance Organizations and Health Services Plans Licensed in Virginia

RE: 14 VAC 5-170 - Rules Governing Minimum Standards for Medicare Supplement Policies (formerly Regulation No. 35)

It has recently come to our attention that a number of carriers writing Medicare Supplement coverage in Virginia have failed to comply with the annual premium rate filing requirement referred to in 14 VAC 5-170-120.C. This letter serves as notification that the Bureau has taken action, and will continue to take appropriate action against carriers who do not submit this filing as required. The annual premium rate filing must be submitted **for approval**. A filing is required annually, regardless of whether a rate change is being requested or not. All approval notifications are provided to carriers in writing. Carriers may not assume that a filing which involves no change in rates is automatically approved, and in no instances may a carrier exercise the deemer provision in Virginia Code § 38.2-316.E unless and until the carrier has notified the Commission of its intention to deem the submission approved within the time frame prescribed by this statute.

All annual premium rate filing submissions, as well, as any questions about this issue, should be directed to:

Jacqueline K, Cunningham
Supervisor, Life and Health Forms & Rates Section
Bureau of Insurance
Box 1157
Richmond, Virginia 23218

Sincerely,

Alfred W. Gross
Commissioner of Insurance

AWG/jkc

