A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO INSURANCE.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Chapter 431, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is
- 2 amended by adding a new section to article 10E to be
- 3 appropriately designated and to read as follows:
- 4 "\$431:10E- Claims for additional living expenses under
- 5 homeowners insurance policies; states of emergency. (a) In the
- 6 event of a loss under a homeowners insurance policy issued or
- 7 renewed on or after January 1, 2026, for which the insured has
- 8 made a claim for additional living expenses, the insurer shall
- 9 provide the insured with a list of items that the insurer
- 10 believes may be covered under the policy as additional living
- 11 expenses. The list may include a statement that the list is not
- 12 intended to include all items covered under the policy, but only
- 13 those that are commonly claimed. Each insurer may use a list
- 14 developed by the insurance commissioner.
- 15 (b) If a covered loss occurs during a state of emergency
- 16 declared pursuant to section 127A-14, coverage for additional
- 17 living expenses shall be for a period of not less than



- 1 twenty-four months from the inception of the loss; provided that
- 2 the coverage for additional living expenses shall be subject to
- 3 other policy provisions. An insurer shall grant an extension of
- 4 up to twelve additional months, for a total of thirty-six
- 5 months, if an insured acts in good faith and is reasonably
- 6 delayed due to a lack of necessary construction materials or
- 7 available contractors to perform the necessary work. Additional
- 8 six-month extensions shall be provided to policyholders for good
- 9 cause.
- 10 (c) No policy that provides coverage for additional living
- 11 expenses shall limit the policyholder's right to recovery if the
- 12 insured premises is rendered uninhabitable by a covered peril.
- 13 An insurer may, in lieu of making living expense payments,
- 14 provide a reasonable alternative remedy that addresses the
- 15 property condition that precludes reasonable habitation of the
- 16 <u>insured premises</u>. The additional living expenses coverage
- 17 pursuant to this section shall not apply to any utility's public
- 18 safety power shutdown event involving the deenergization of a
- 19 portion of the electrical distribution or transmission system to
- 20 reduce the risk of wildfire ignition.

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1 (d) For a loss that is otherwise not subject to 2 subsections (b) or (c), in the event of a state of emergency declared pursuant to section 127A-14 that is related to a 3 4 covered peril and accompanied by an order of civil authority 5 restricting access to the applicable premises, additional living 6 expenses coverage shall be provided for at least two weeks. 7 Additional two-week extensions shall be provided to a 8 policyholder for good cause; provided that each extension shall 9 be subject to any other applicable policy provision." 10 SECTION 2. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2050.

Report Title:

Property Insurance; Claims for Additional Living Expenses; Homeowners Insurance Policies; States of Emergency

Description:

Establishes requirements for insurers relating to claims for additional living expenses under homeowners insurance policies, including situations where losses are incurred during a state of emergency. Effective 7/1/2050. (SD1)

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