

JOHN F. KING Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire

Two Martin Luther King Jr. Drive West Tower, Suite 702 Atlanta, Georgia 30334

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release May 3, 2023 Contact: Weston Burleson, 404-232-1388 Twitter: @GA_DOI Facebook: @GeorgiaDOI Instagram: @GeorgiaDOI

GOVERNOR KEMP SIGNS LEGISLATION GIVING INSURANCE COMMISSIONER MORE AUTHORITY OVER AUTO RATES

ATLANTA – Insurance and Safety Fire Commissioner John F. King announced today that Governor Kemp has signed legislation reforming how private auto insurance rates are filed in Georgia.

House Bill 221 gives the Commissioner the ability to review all car insurance rate filings before they go into effect, closing a loophole that insurers <u>had previously exploited</u> to increase rates by as much as 25 percent in a single filing.

"Heading into this legislative session, we made it a priority to push for legislation giving our office more authority over car insurance rate filings that impact hardworking Georgia families," said Commissioner King. "This legislation will allow us to review all filings before they go into effect – while at the same time guaranteeing speed to market, which is critical for the industry."

House Bill 221 keeps the Commissioner's "prior approval" authorities over mandatory minimum limits filings, while giving him 60 days to review all other filings. This legislation will go into effect on July 1.

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The mission of the Office Commissioner of Insurance and Safety Fire is to protect Georgia families by providing access to vital insurance products and safe buildings through fair regulation that creates economic opportunities for all Georgians.