

Newspaper readers will see an abundance of insurance statements

A law change will require a greater number of insurance abstract statements to be published in North Dakota newspapers this year.

During the 69th Legislative Assembly, the North Dakota Legislature enacted House Bill 1398, which modified the publishing requirements for insurance companies doing business in North Dakota. The change nearly doubles the number of companies required to publish these financial statements, and requires all companies to publish in all eight judicial districts.

These publications have occurred in North Dakota newspapers for decades, but readers will notice significantly more than usual. Last year, all of the abstracts were distributed only

to newspapers with the largest circulation in each judicial district. Prior to 2025, all newspapers shared equally in making these publications.

Traditionally, the notices were published in May, but so far, only about half have complied by supplying their information.

"This will require publication of these notices in batches, possibly stretching into July," said Cecile Wehrman, executive director of the North Dakota Newspaper Association.

Under N.D.C.C. § 26.1-03-10 as amended by House Bill 1398, an insurance company shall submit an abstract of the annual statement on the form prescribed by the commissioner. This abstract must be published at least three times in a newspaper of general circulation and evenly distributed for publication across all newspapers operating in each

of the state's eight judicial districts. Proof of publication must be filed with the commissioner within four months after the filing of the annual statement.

"These changes came about as a means of restoring publication to all newspapers in the state, rather than concentrating publication only in the largest newspapers, as had been directed by the insurance commissioner," said Wehrman.

Payment for publication of these notices comes from the insurance companies. No tax dollars are involved.

The purpose of the statements is to provide consumers information about the financial stability of companies people pay premiums to for property/casualty, life and health insurance.

What are all these insurance statements?

During the 69th Legislative Assembly, the North Dakota Legislature enacted House Bill 1398, which modified the publishing requirements for insurance companies doing business in North Dakota, as it relates to publication of the Company Abstract of Statement.

Under N.D.C.C. § 26.1-03-10 as amended by House Bill 1398, an insurance company shall submit an abstract of the annual statement on the form prescribed by the commissioner.

This abstract must be published at least three times in a newspaper of general circulation and evenly distributed for publication across all newspapers operating in each of the state's eight judicial districts. Proof of publication must be filed with the commissioner within

four months after the filing of the annual statement.

The modifications made under House Bill 1398 during the 69th Legislative Assembly require all insurance companies to publish their Abstract in all eight judicial districts.

Payment for publication of these notices comes from the insurance company, not state government.

"Community is the spirit that draws people together." — Unknown

Insurance Companies Statement of Condition

Table with 5 columns of financial data for different insurance companies: Addison Insurance Company, PreferredOne Insurance Company, PartnerRe America Insurance Company, United Fire & Casualty Company, and Northwest G F Mutual Insurance Company. Each column lists assets, liabilities, and surplus.

Table with 5 columns of business performance data for the same five insurance companies, showing direct premiums earned, losses incurred, and accident/health direct premiums.

STATE OF NORTH DAKOTA OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

I, Jon Godfread, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true Abstract of Statement, as officially filed by the Company in this office.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of this office at Bismarck, the first day of March, A.D. 2026 (SEAL). JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance

WHEREAS, the above corporation duly organized under the laws of its state or country of domicile, has filed in this office a sworn statement exhibiting its condition and business for the year ending December 31, 2025 conformable to the requirements of the laws of this State regarding the business of insurance and

WHEREAS, the said company has filed in this office a duly certified copy of its charter with certificate of organization in compliance with the requirements of insurance law aforesaid, NOW THEREFORE, I, JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance of the State of North Dakota, pursuant to the provisions of said laws, do hereby certify that the above named company is fully empowered through its authorized agents and representatives, to transact its appropriated business of authorized insurance in the state according to the laws thereof, until the 30th day of April, A.D. 2027.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Bismarck this first day of March, A.D., 2026 (SEAL) JON GODFREAD, Commissioner of Insurance (May 6, 13, 27)