



NEWS RELEASE

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Plain Language Bill A Boon for Consumers

People in Colorado who are confused by insurance may get help through a "plain language" bill this legislative session.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. John Kefalas and Sen. Linda Newell, would require insurance policies to be written at or below the tenth grade level. It would apply to private auto and certain health policies.

"The bill is straightforward. We want to be sure your insurance policies are written in understandable language," Rep. Kefalas said.

Colorado's proposed law would spell the end of puzzling words in insurance materials.

"You shouldn't need a law degree to understand your insurance policy," said Sen. Newell. "This bill is simple. Insurance materials must be written in plain language everyone can understand."

DORA's Colorado Division of Insurance helps about 29,000 people every year. Many people call because they do not understand the words in a policy.

"We tell consumers to read material carefully to get the best insurance coverage," said Commissioner Morrison. "This bill makes insurance companies use language for the average person."

HB1166 is scheduled for hearing on March 3.

Examples of language used in insurance policies are available on request.

DORA is dedicated to preserving the integrity of the marketplace and is committed to promoting fair and competitive business environment in Colorado. Consumer protection is our mission.

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