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Alaska Division of Insurance Urges Payment Flexibility for those Affected by the Federal Government Shutdown

The Alaska Division of Insurance advises consumers to initiate conversations with their insurers if they are affected by the federal government shutdown. The Division urges insurers to work with furloughed federal employees and affected contractors by providing flexibility on the timing of premium payments.

Alaska is the state with the highest number of federal workers per capita affected by the government shutdown, which is now in its fifth week. "This is an event that is beyond their control and I am asking that insurers in the Alaska market work with those affected. It's also essential that insurers continue to process claims for those same policyholders, despite their temporary inability to pay premiums," stated Division Director Lori Wing-Heier.

Many Alaska consumers in the Anchorage and Mat-Su area were already financially stressed due to the 7.0 magnitude earthquake that shook the area November 30, 2018.

Director Wing-Heier added that the flexibility she is requesting is only for those payments that would have come due since the shutdown began on December 22, 2018. Wing-Heier asks carriers to work with policyholders in all lines of insurance who are facing challenges due to the shutdown, including homeowners, auto, health, life, and disability.

Consumers with questions about insurance matters can obtain information and assistance by visiting the Division's website (Insurance.Alaska.Gov), calling toll-free 1-800-INSURAK or 907-269-7900 (TTY call 711), or e-mailing: Insurance@Alaska.Gov

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