

# **Bureau of Insurance - Maine Department of Professional & Financial Regulations**

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## **Maine Insurance Superintendent Asks Insurers to Work With Furloughed Federal Workers**

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*Augusta -*

Maine Insurance Superintendent Eric Cioppa is requesting that insurers work with furloughed federal employees by providing flexibility on the timing of premium payments.

"Many federal workers, as well as contractors, have been affected by the federal shutdown that is now in its fifth week," Cioppa stated. "This is an event that is out of their control and I am asking that insurers in the Maine market work with those affected in whatever way they can."

"It's equally important that insurers continue to process claims for those same policyholders, despite their temporary inability to pay premiums."

"Policyholders affected by the shutdown, who are having trouble paying premiums on time, should initiate conversations with their insurers about the possibility of modified payment schedules, especially if they are in danger of having a policy cancelled," Cioppa said.

The Superintendent added that the flexibility he is requesting is only for those payments that would have come due since the shutdown began on December 22, 2018.

Cioppa urged 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 Bureau website ([www.maine.gov/insurance](http://www.maine.gov/insurance)), calling toll-free 1-800-300-5000 (TTY call Maine Relay 711), or e-mailing [Insurance.PFR@maine.gov](mailto:Insurance.PFR@maine.gov).

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