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Messaging to Reach Underserved Communities

NAIC Special (EX) Committee on Race and Insurance – P/C Workstream, June 3, 2024



UP: A 32 year old 501(c)(3) insurance consumer non-profit

Our website, programming, volunteers and guidance help over 500,000 people each year

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| underscores a larger issue that | | | | | | | | | |



FEBRUARY 6, 2024

Oklahoma insurance rates increase again – proposed legislation could help

Many families in Oklahoma have been opening up their mail to find notices that their insurance rates have gone up again, sometimes by hundreds of dollars. Frustrated drivers and homeowners have to find ways to budget for the added and unwanted cost. "Oklahoma has been...



Storms in California hit homeowners already facing an insurance crisis

The storms pummeling California this week hit a part of the US already being battered by a home insurance crisis. Insurance costs in much of California have become exceedingly high, with some insurers abandoning the market, unwilling to take on the risk presented by the...



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UP Goals:

Help property owners keep their assets protected through insurance products that meet reasonable expectations of coverage

Reach and assist households that are most vulnerable to losing their insurance or being unable to pay increased premiums due to their location and/or limited financial resources

Advance/increase mitigation support and insurance rewards (premium discounts, renewal assurances)

Monitor conditions, disseminate realistic guidance on home insurance

Contribute to problem-solving, sound public policy, innovation, solutions



UPdated tips for current conditions:

- Start shopping right away if you get a non-renewal notice
- Bundle home and auto
- Get help from a professional agent or broker
- Find out your risk score, correct errors
- Make home improvements that reduce risk
- Understand how deductible choices impact premiums AND payouts
- Consider all types of insurer options
- Keep dwelling insured for RCV but trim other coverages as feasible



Start shopping right away

As soon as you get a non-renewal notice, start shopping – don't procrastinate

- CA law requires 75 days notice
- CO law requires 60 days notice
- NAIC model law 720 re: non-renewals requires 30 days





Get help from a professional agent or broker

Seek out an experienced, pro-active insurance agent or broker.

If an agent or broker tells you your only option is a residual market plan, check with at least one other agent or broker.

- Captive vs. Independent
- Surplus/Non-Admitted/Excess/Surplus



Reduce risk/Mitigate

Do as much mitigation as you can to reduce the risk of your home being damaged or destroyed in a severe weather event.

Seek out programs in your community that offer mitigation help and/or grants.

Provide your insurer with documentation of completed mitigation steps and/or your community's risk reduction activities.



Choose deductibles carefully

Get quotes for different deductible levels and make an informed decision:

A higher deductible reduces your premium.

Too high a deductible means your insurance won't cover even a moderate-sized claim.

Do your best to understand how a policy with a wind, and/or roof deductible impact available benefits.



Find out your Risk Score, correct errors

Ask in writing for your risk score, appeal if its based on inaccurate info

Can a consumer change their risk score?

"If a policyholder appeals a score and presents evidence, the insurance carrier can easily request a change to the relevant information, such as the year of construction for a property. The updated score is then automatically generated and made available in the UI, along with an audit trail of any changes made. This functionality not only streamlines the appeals process, but also helps carriers in scenario planning" Zesty A.I.

https://zesty.ai/news/californias-new-wildfire-risk-regulations-your-top-10-question s-answered



Consider all options

If you can't find a name brand insurer willing to insure your home, options include residual market plans and non-admitted (surplus lines) companies

- Non-admitted (no form and rate regulation or guarantee fund), check financial strength

- Find an agent who is knowledge re: residual market details, options



Get quotes for flood, EQ, supplemental

Consider supplemental policies to fill gaps.

- Difference in conditions
- Extra challenging with today's prices





Reduce/eliminate coverage you can live without (e.g. high dollar limits on Contents, Other Structures)

- Feasible? (many carriers include automatic coverages)



Let's reconsider allowing credit scoring

- A NerdWallet rate analysis found that a person with good credit pays \$1,915 per year for homeowners insurance, on average.
- But in most states, someone with poor credit will see an average premium of \$3,320 per year more than 73% more.

Concepts for restoring affordability

<u>The Insure Act</u>: <u>https://schiff.house.gov/imo/media/doc/insure_act.pdf</u> The public reinsurance program created by this legislation would insulate consumers from unrestrained cost increases by offering insurers a transparent, fairly priced public reinsurance alternative for the worst climate-driven catastrophes

Hawaii proposal:

https://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/sessions/session2024/Bills/HB2056_HD

<u>1_.pdf</u> [T]he purpose of this Act is to establish a working group to identify the feasibility of a state-run reinsurance program to offset the liabilities of private reinsurance companies as a means of ensuring affordable coverage for property owners against catastrophic events, such as wildfires or flooding.

Idaho proposal:

https://legislature.idaho.gov/sessioninfo/2024/legislation/H0619/ The purpose of this legislation is to address the challenges consumers are facing in obtaining affordable property coverage due to potential wildfire risk. The bill creates an Idaho Wildfire Risk Reinsurance and Mitigation Pool and board.

Concepts for restoring affordability

<u>Pennsylvania House Bill 735:</u> Established the Flood Insurance Premium Assistance Task Force to review and analyze the law, procedures, practices, processes, and rules relating to the administration of flood insurance and report on the following:

- · Potential programs that provide premium discounts.
- Potential programs that create incentives for local governments to undertake or continue flood mitigation efforts.
- The implementation of necessary changes in statutes or practices relating to the administration of flood insurance.
- How to educate residents about the risk of flooding and ways to mitigate flood occurrences.
- Steps that should be taken to inform residents about options available when purchasing flood insurance; and
- How to increase the number of people that purchase flood insurance.

Coalition for Sustainable Flood Insurance:

White Paper Addressing Risk Rating 2.0 and Impacts on Premium Affordability

https://www.legis.state.pa.us/cfdocs/billInfo/billInfo.cfm?sYear=2023&sInd=0&body=H&type=B&bn=0735 https://csfi.info/portfolio/csfi-releases-white-paper-addressing-risk-rating-2-0-impacts-on-premium-affordability/

UP Preparedness Handouts for Spanish Speaking Households



Seguro contra Inundación para Inguilinos

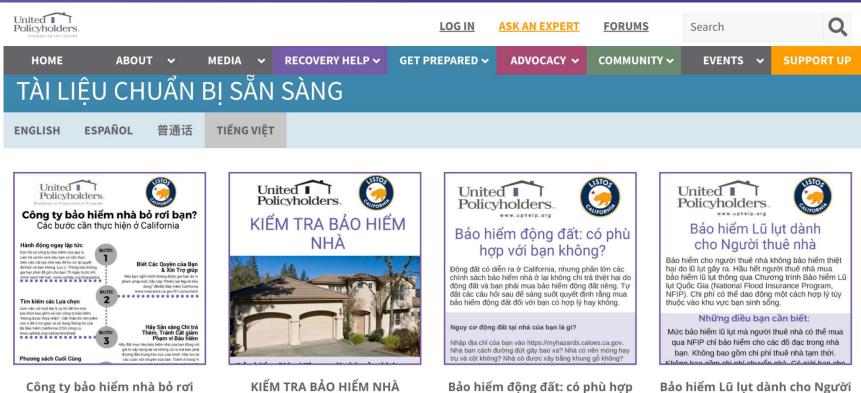
El seguro para inquilinos no cubre los daños e nor inundaciones. La mavoría de





propiedad móvil/pre-fabricada? Enfóquese en obtener un seguro con

UP Preparedness Handouts for Tagalog Speaking Households



với ban không?

thuê nhà

<u>Công ty bảo hiểm nhà bó rơi</u> <u>bạn? Các bước cần thực hiện ở</u> California

Bảo hiểm cho Người thuê nhà

có gì?

Bảo hiểm cơ bản cho người thuê nhà sẽ chi trả cho "đồ

United I T Policyholders Chuyện gì xảy ra với Bảo hiểm Lũ lụt vậy?

Nói chung, thiệt hại do gió hoặc mưa xảy ra tại nhà bạn qua khe hở được bào hiễm theo hợp đồng nhà ở, nhưng thiệt hại do nước dâng/lũ lụt thì không được bào hiểm. Ban có thể mua bào hiểm lũ lut để

UP Preparedness Handouts for Mandarin Speaking Households







UP Preparedness Videos www.uphelp.org/cainsurancehelp



KEEPING YOUR HOME PROTECTED WHEN INSURANCE OPTIONS ARE LIMITED AND EXPENSIVE ≻

If you live in an area where it's hard to find a company that will insure your home, shop diligently and work with a pro-active agent who is current on all available options, including the CA Fair Plan.



Here is a list of UP publications to help you to help you navigate finding insurance in a challenging marketplace:

- > UPdated Home Insurance Shopping Tips (2023)
- > Bach Talk: CALIFORNIA HOME INSURANCE UPDATE 2024
- > California Home Insurance FAQs
- > SLIDE DECK: 4/3/24 CA Home Insurance Guidance
- > Dropped by your home Insurer? Where to go for help in California
- > Understanding different types of insurance companies



UP Preparedness Videos in Spanish www.uphelp.org/get-prepared-videos/

INSURANCE AND DISASTER PREPAREDNESS VIDEOS

ENGLISH



UPdated Home Insurance Shopping Tips





Earthquake Insurance PSA for Renters 1:40

Dropped By Your Insurer? Where to go for help. SPANISH



Earthquake Insurance PSA for Homeowners 1:43



Prepare for Disa



0:30

Renters and Flood Insurance ~ Ready North PSA



/Lo abandonó su aseguradora de vivienda?

California Department of Insurance at:

2. Know your

rights and get















We've got your back when insurance matters

United Policyholders (UP) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) whose mission is to be a trustworthy and useful information resource and a respected voice for consumers of all types of insurance in all 50 states. We don't take money from insurance companies. We give you the straight scoop. Guide you on buying insurance and navigating claims. Fight for your rights.

info@uphelp.org | www.uphelp.org

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Thank you!

Committee members and meeting attendees for your time and attention

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