

General Assembly

Raised Bill No. 6967

January Session, 2025

LCO No. 4631



Referred to Committee on INSURANCE AND REAL ESTATE

Introduced by: (INS)

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ASSIGNMENT OF POST-LOSS HOMEOWNERS AND COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INSURANCE BENEFITS AND HOME IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTORS AND SALESPERSONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2026*) (a) As used in this section:
- 2 (1) "Assignee" means any person who is assigned any post-loss
- 3 benefit under a homeowners insurance policy or commercial property
- 4 insurance policy through an assignment agreement;
- 5 (2) "Assignment agreement" means any instrument that assigns,
- 6 transfers or acquires, in whole or in part, any post-loss benefit under a
- 7 homeowners insurance policy or commercial property insurance policy
- 8 providing coverage for a residential or commercial property, to or from
- 9 any person commencing any repair, inspection, remediation or
- 10 mitigation following a loss on such residential or commercial property;
- 11 (3) "Assignor" means any person who assigns, transfers or acquires
- 12 any post-loss benefit under a homeowners insurance policy or

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13 commercial property insurance policy to an assignee through an assignment agreement;

- (4) "Home improvement" has the same meaning as provided in section 20-419 of the general statutes, as amended by this act;
- (5) "Presuit settlement demand" means any monetary request submitted by an assignee in a written notice of intent to initiate litigation pursuant to subsection (g) of this section; and
- (6) "Presuit settlement offer" means any monetary proposal, submitted by the insurance company providing homeowners or commercial property insurance coverage for the residential or commercial property, to settle a dispute with an assignee prior to such assignee filing a cause of action against such insurance company.
- (b) (1) Any assignment agreement that assigns, transfers or acquires any post-loss benefit under a homeowners insurance policy or commercial property insurance policy delivered, issued for delivery, renewed, amended or continued in this state on or after January 1, 2026, shall:
- (A) Be in writing and executed by the assignor and assignee of such assignment agreement;
- (B) Include a provision affording such assignor the right to rescind such assignment agreement, without penalty, by submitting a signed notice of rescission to such assignee (i) not later than fourteen days after the execution of such assignment agreement, (ii) at least thirty days after the date on which post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services are scheduled to commence on the residential or commercial property pursuant to the terms of such assignment agreement, provided such assignee has not substantially performed such post-loss services on the residential or commercial property, in accordance with the terms of such assignment agreement, or (iii) at least thirty days after the execution of such assignment agreement, provided such assignment

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agreement does not contain a date by which such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services on such residential or commercial property are scheduled to commence and such assignee has not substantially performed such post-loss services on such residential or commercial property, in accordance with the terms of such assignment agreement;

- (C) (i) Include a provision requiring such assignee to deliver a copy of such executed assignment agreement to the insurance company providing homeowners or commercial property insurance coverage for the residential or commercial property not later than (I) three business days after the date on which such assignment agreement is executed, or (II) the date on which post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services are scheduled to commence on such residential or commercial property pursuant to the terms of such assignment agreement, whichever is earlier; and
- (ii) Deliver a copy of such executed assignment agreement pursuant to the provisions of subparagraph (C)(i) of this subdivision by personal service, overnight mail, return receipt requested, to the address designated in the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, or by electronic means evidenced by a delivery receipt, to the electronic mail address designated in the homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, as applicable;
- (D) Include an itemized, per unit cost estimate of the post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services to be performed by such assignee on such residential or commercial property;
- (E) Only relate to the post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services that such assignee agreed to perform on such residential or commercial property pursuant to the terms of such assignment agreement;
- (F) Include the following notice in not less than eighteen-point boldface type:

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74 "YOU ARE AGREEING TO GIVE UP CERTAIN RIGHTS YOU 75 HAVE UNDER YOUR INSURANCE POLICY TO A THIRD PARTY, 76 WHICH MAY RESULT IN LITIGATION AGAINST YOUR INSURER. 77 PLEASE READ AND UNDERSTAND THIS DOCUMENT BEFORE 78 SIGNING IT. YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO CANCEL THIS 79 AGREEMENT WITHOUT PENALTY WITHIN 14 DAYS AFTER THE 80 DATE THIS AGREEMENT IS EXECUTED, AT LEAST 30 DAYS AFTER 81 THE DATE WORK ON THE PROPERTY IS SCHEDULED TO 82 COMMENCE IF THE ASSIGNEE HAS NOT SUBSTANTIALLY 83 PERFORMED, OR AT LEAST 30 DAYS AFTER THE EXECUTION OF 84 THE AGREEMENT IF THE AGREEMENT DOES NOT CONTAIN A 85 COMMENCEMENT DATE AND THE ASSIGNEE HAS NOT BEGUN SUBSTANTIAL WORK ON THE PROPERTY. HOWEVER, YOU ARE 86 87 OBLIGATED FOR PAYMENT OF ANY CONTRACTED WORK 88 PERFORMED BEFORE THE AGREEMENT IS RESCINDED. THIS 89 AGREEMENT DOES NOT CHANGE YOUR OBLIGATION TO 90 PERFORM THE DUTIES REQUIRED UNDER YOUR HOMEOWNERS 91 OR COMMERCIAL PROPERTY INSURANCE POLICY."; and

(G) Include a provision requiring such assignee to indemnify and hold harmless such assignor from any liability, damages, losses or costs, including, but not limited to, attorney's fees, arising from such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed by such assignee on the residential or commercial property pursuant to the terms of such assignment agreement;

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- (2) No assignment agreement executed in accordance with the provisions of this subsection shall include (A) a bank check or mortgage processing fee, (B) a penalty or fee for cancellation of such assignment agreement by the assignor, or (C) any administrative fee.
- (3) If, prior to the execution of an assignment agreement pursuant to the provisions of this section, an assignor acts under an urgent or emergency circumstance to protect such assignor's residential or commercial property from damage, the assignee shall not receive an

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assignment of post-loss benefits under a homeowners or commercial insurance policy providing insurance coverage for such residential or commercial property in excess of three thousand dollars or one per cent of the coverage limit under such homeowners or commercial insurance policy that such policy will cover for losses resulting from damage to the policyholder's residential or building structure, or any structure of the policyholder that is attached to such residential or building structure, whichever is greater. For purposes of this section, "urgent or emergency circumstance" means any situation in which a loss to residential or commercial property, if not addressed immediately, will result in additional damage to such residential or commercial property.

- 117 (4) Any assignment agreement that fails to comply with the provisions of this subsection shall be void and unenforceable.
 - (c) If any insurance claim arises under an assignment agreement for post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services, the assignee of such assignment agreement shall have the burden of proving that the insurance company providing homeowners or commercial property insurance coverage for the residential or commercial property is not prejudiced by such assignee's failure to:
- 125 (1) Maintain records of all post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or 126 mitigation services provided under such assignment agreement;
- (2) Cooperate with any internal claims investigation conducted bysuch insurance company;
- 129 (3) Provide such insurance company with any documents related to 130 post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services provided 131 by such assignee; or
 - (4) Deliver a copy of the executed assignment agreement to such insurance company not later than three business days after the date on which such assignment agreement is executed or the date on which such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services

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- 137 (d) Any assignee of such assignment agreement shall:
- (1) Provide the assignor of such assignment agreement with current cost estimates concerning the scope of such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services to be performed, as such assignee determines that any such additional repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services are required;
- 143 (2) Perform such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or 144 mitigation services in accordance with the State Building Code adopted 145 pursuant to section 29-252 of the general statutes;
 - (3) Not seek payment from such assignor in an amount that exceeds the deductible under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, unless such assignor and assignee executed a separate agreement for the performance of home improvement or other services at such assignor's own expense; and
 - (4) Prior to submitting an insurance claim under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, (A) submit to an examination under oath or recorded statement conducted by such homeowners or commercial property insurance company or such insurance company's authorized agent that is (i) reasonably necessary, (ii) based on the scope and complexity of the post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed on such property, and (iii) limited to the scope and costs of such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services pursuant to the terms of such assignment agreement, and (B) participate in any alternative dispute resolution proceedings pursuant to the terms of the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy.
 - (e) Notwithstanding any provision of title 38a of the general statutes, no assignment agreement executed in accordance with the provisions of this section shall transfer or create any authority to negotiate, adjust or

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effect the settlement of any portion of any insurance claim to any person or entity not authorized to negotiate, adjust or effect such settlement of such insurance claim or take any action on behalf of any assignor or public adjuster, as defined in section 38a-723 of the general statutes.

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(f) (1) Notwithstanding any provision of the general statutes and except as provided in subdivision (2) of this subsection, no assignee or subcontractor of such assignee, who executes an assignment agreement in accordance with the provisions of this section, shall (A) file any civil or administrative claim against the assignor of such assignment agreement or any named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy for payment of any post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed at the residential or commercial property, (B) collect payment from such assignor of such assignment agreement or any named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, (C) claim a lien on the residential or commercial property of such assignor of such assignment agreement or any named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, or (D) report such assignor of such assignment agreement or any named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy to a credit reporting agency for any payment due pursuant to such assignment agreement.

(2) Such assignor of such assignment agreement or named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy shall be responsible for payment of any (A) deductible under the terms of such policy, (B) home improvement or other services performed by the assignee on the residential or commercial property that were approved by such assignor pursuant to subdivision (3) of subsection (d) of this section, or (C) post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed on the property before such assignor rescinded such assignment agreement pursuant to subparagraph (B) of subdivision (1) of subsection (b) of this section.

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(g) (1) No assignee of an assignment agreement shall have a cause of action against the homeowners or commercial property insurance company providing coverage for the residential or commercial property for payment of an insurance claim arising from post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed on the assignor's, or named insured's, residential or commercial property, unless such assignee provides written notice of:

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- (A) Such assignee's intent to bring such cause of action to such named insured under the homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, assignor and insurance company not later than ten business days before filing such cause of action and after such insurance company has made a determination of coverage under such homeowners or commercial property insurance policy; and
- (B) The claimed damages in dispute, the amount claimed by such assignee and a presuit settlement demand. As a precondition to filing such cause of action, such assignee shall provide such named insured, such assignor and such insurance company with a written invoice or cost estimate of the post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services performed or scheduled to be performed by such assignee, including itemized information identifying equipment, materials, the number of hours worked, and, in circumstances where such post-loss repair, inspection, remediation or mitigation services were performed, proof that such services were performed in accordance with accepted industry standards. Such notice requirements pursuant to this subdivision shall be served by (i) certified mail, return receipt requested, to the name and mailing address designated by the insurance company in the homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, and to the name and mailing address designated by such named insured or assignor in the assignment agreement, or (ii) electronic means evidenced by a delivery receipt, to the electronic mail address designated by such insurance company in the homeowners or commercial property insurance policy, and to the electronic mail address designated by such named insured or assignor in such

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231 assignment agreement.

- (2) Not later than ten business days after receiving such notice pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (1) of this subsection, such insurance company shall submit a presuit settlement offer to such assignee or require such assignee to participate in an appraisal process, as provided in chapter 700 of the general statutes, or any other alternative dispute resolution pursuant to the terms of the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy. Such insurance company shall investigate such assignee's claimed damages, in accordance with the provisions of title 38a of the general statutes.
- 241 (h) The provisions of this section shall not apply to:
 - (1) Any assignment, transfer or conveyance of residential or commercial property granted to a subsequent purchaser of such residential or commercial property who holds an insurable interest in such residential or commercial property following a loss;
 - (2) A power of attorney, as provided in chapter 15c of the general statutes, that grants to a management company, family member, guardian or similarly situated person of a named insured under the applicable homeowners or commercial property insurance policy the authority to act on behalf of such named insured with respect to any homeowners or commercial property insurance claim; or
 - (3) General liability coverage under a homeowners or commercial property insurance policy.
 - (i) (1) Not later than February 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, each homeowners or commercial property insurance company licensed in this state shall submit a report to the Insurance Commissioner, in a form and manner prescribed by the commissioner, that includes data for any such homeowners or commercial property insurance claim paid pursuant to an assignment agreement executed in accordance with the provisions of this section.

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(2) Not later than March 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, said commissioner shall submit a report, in accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to insurance. Such report shall include an evaluation of the data submitted to the commissioner pursuant to subdivision (1) of this subsection for the immediately preceding calendar year, including an evaluation of claims adjustments, settlement time frames and claims and litigation trends, categorized by claims litigated, claims settled prior to litigation and loss adjustment expenses.

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- (j) The commissioner shall adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54 of the general statutes, to implement the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 2. Section 20-419 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- As used in this chapter <u>and section 3 of this act</u>, unless the context otherwise requires:
- 278 (1) "Business day" has the same meaning as provided in section 42-279 134a.
- [(1)] (2) "Business entity" means an association, corporation, limited liability company, limited liability partnership or partnership.
- [(2)] (3) "Certificate" means a certificate of registration issued under section 20-422.
- [(3)] (4) "Commissioner" means (A) the Commissioner of Consumer Protection, and (B) any person designated by the commissioner to administer and enforce this chapter.
- [(4)] (5) (A) "Contractor" means any person who (i) owns and operates a home improvement business, or (ii) undertakes, offers to undertake or agrees to perform any home improvement.

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(B) "Contractor" does not include a person for whom the total price of all of such person's home improvement contracts with all of such person's customers does not exceed one thousand dollars during any period of twelve consecutive months.

[(5)] (6) (A) "Home improvement" includes, but is not limited to, the repair, replacement, remodeling, alteration, conversion, modernization, improvement, rehabilitation or sandblasting of, or addition to, any land or building or that portion thereof which is used or designed to be used as a private residence, dwelling place or residential rental property, or the construction, replacement, installation or improvement of alarm systems not requiring electrical work, as defined in section 20-330, driveways, swimming pools, porches, garages, roofs, siding, insulation, sunrooms, flooring, patios, landscaping, fences, doors and windows, waterproofing, water, fire or storm restoration or mold remediation in connection with such land or building or that portion thereof which is used or designed to be used as a private residence, dwelling place or residential rental property or the removal or replacement of a residential underground heating oil storage tank system, in which the total price for all work agreed upon between the contractor and owner or proposed or offered by the contractor exceeds two hundred dollars.

(B) "Home improvement" does not include (i) the construction of a new home, (ii) the sale of goods or materials by a seller who neither arranges to perform nor performs, directly or indirectly, any work or labor in connection with the installation or application of the goods or materials, (iii) the sale of goods or services furnished for commercial or business use or for resale, provided commercial or business use does not include use as residential rental property, (iv) the sale of appliances, such as stoves, refrigerators, freezers, room air conditioners and others, which are designed for and are easily removable from the premises without material alteration thereof, (v) tree or shrub cutting or the grinding of tree stumps, and (vi) any work performed without compensation by the owner on such owner's own private residence or residential rental property.

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- [(6)] (7) "Home improvement contract" means an agreement between a contractor and an owner for the performance of a home improvement.
- [(7)] (8) "Owner" means a person who owns or resides in a private residence and includes any agent thereof, including, but not limited to, a condominium association. An owner of a private residence shall not be required to reside in such residence to be deemed an owner under this subdivision.
- [(8)] (9) "Person" means an individual or a business entity.

- [(9)] (10) "Private residence" means a single family dwelling, a multifamily dwelling consisting of not more than six units, or a unit, common element or limited common element in a condominium, as defined in section 47-68a, or in a common interest community, as defined in section 47-202, or any number of condominium units for which a condominium association acts as an agent for such unit owners.
- [(10)] (11) "Proprietor" means an individual who (A) has an ownership interest in a business entity that holds or has held a certificate of registration issued under this chapter, and (B) has been found by a court of competent jurisdiction to have violated any provision of this chapter related to the conduct of a business entity holding a certificate or that has held a certificate issued under this chapter within the two years of the effective date of entering into a contract with an owner harmed by the actions of such individual or business entity.
- [(11)] (12) "Salesman" means any individual who (A) negotiates or offers to negotiate a home improvement contract with an owner, or (B) solicits or otherwise endeavors to procure by any means whatsoever, directly or indirectly, a home improvement contract from an owner on behalf of a contractor.
- [(12)] (13) "Residential rental property" means a single family dwelling, a multifamily dwelling consisting of not more than six units, or a unit, common element or limited common element in a

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condominium, as defined in section 47-68a, or in a common interest community, as defined in section 47-202, which is not owner-occupied.

- [(13)] (14) "Residential underground heating oil storage tank system" means an underground storage tank system used with or without ancillary components in connection with real property composed of four or less residential units.
- [(14)] (15) "Underground storage tank system" means an underground tank or combination of tanks, with any underground pipes or ancillary equipment or containment systems connected to such tank or tanks, used to contain an accumulation of petroleum, which volume is ten per cent or more beneath the surface of the ground.
 - Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 400 of the general statutes, no contractor shall advertise, offer or promise to provide, directly or indirectly, any allowance, compensation, discount, payment, waiver or rebate to an owner for any portion of the owner's insurance deductible as an inducement for such owner to enter into a home improvement contract with such contractor.
- Sec. 4. Section 20-420 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
 - (a) (1) No person shall hold such person out to be a contractor or salesperson without first (A) obtaining a certificate of registration from the commissioner as provided in this chapter, except [(1)] (i) that an individual or partner, or officer or director of a corporation registered as a contractor shall not be required to obtain a salesperson's certificate, and [(2)] (ii) as provided in subsections (e) and (f) of this section, and (B) presenting evidence of any insurance coverage required by law.
 - (2) No certificate shall be given to any person who holds such person out to be a contractor that performs radon mitigation unless such contractor provides evidence, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the

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contractor is certified as a radon mitigator by the National Radon Safety Board or the National Environmental Health Association.

- (3) No certificate shall be given to any person who holds such person out to be a contractor that performs removal or replacement of any residential underground heating oil storage tank system unless such contractor provides evidence, satisfactory to the commissioner, that the contractor (A) has completed a hazardous material training program approved by the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, and (B) has presented evidence of liability insurance coverage of one million dollars.
- 393 (b) No contractor shall employ any salesman to procure business 394 from an owner unless the salesman is registered under this chapter.
- (c) No individual shall act as a home improvement salesman for anunregistered contractor.
 - (d) On and after July 1, 2008, a home improvement contractor shall not perform gas hearth product work, as defined in subdivision (22) of section 20-330, unless such home improvement contractor holds a limited contractor or journeyman gas hearth installer license pursuant to section 20-334f.
 - (e) A retail establishment, which is a business that operates from a fixed location where goods or services are offered for sale, may apply annually for a certificate of registration as a salesperson on behalf of its employees if it employs or otherwise compensates one or more salespersons whose solicitation, negotiation and completion of sales are conducted entirely at the retail establishment or virtually or by phone. The retail establishment shall (1) apply for such registration on a form prescribed by the commissioner, (2) maintain a list of all salespersons intended to be covered by the retailer's certificate of registration, and (3) pay a fee equal to the amount that would be due if each person were to apply individually for a certificate of registration, including the amount that would be due under the guaranty fund. The list of salespersons

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covered by the retailer's certificate of registration shall be made available to the department upon request. If any person covered by the retail establishment's salesperson certificate of registration conducts activity covered by the salesperson credential at a place other than the retail establishment or virtually or by phone, such person shall apply for an individual salesperson certificate of registration using the form prescribed by the commissioner for such registrations and shall pay the corresponding application fee.

- (f) Certificates of registration for salespersons issued to retail establishments shall not be transferable or assignable, except a retail establishment that is a holder of a salesperson certificate may remove an existing or former employee currently listed on the certification of registration and replace such person with a new or existing employee employed as a salesperson. If the retail establishment adds or removes salespeople, there shall be no refund or supplemental payment. The fee shall be based on the number of salespeople at the time of each renewal.
- (g) A contractor or salesperson shall update, through the department's online licensing system, any application information the contractor or salesperson has provided to the department pursuant to this section, including, but not limited to, any contact information, including, but not limited to, a change in business or trade name, residence address or business address for such contractor or salesperson, insurance information or criminal history for such contractor or salesperson, or, if such contractor is a business entity, criminal histories of the individual owners of such business entity, not later than thirty days after any change in such information.
- Sec. 5. Subsection (a) of section 20-421 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October* 442 1, 2025):
- (a) Any person seeking a certificate of registration shall apply to the commissioner online, on a form provided by the commissioner. The

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445	application shall include, but need not be limited to:			
446	(1) [the] The applicant's name [, residence address, business address,			
447	business telephone number and electronic mail address, (2) a] and trad			
448	name, if the applicant is a natural person, or business name, if the			
449	applicant is not a natural person;			
450	(2) The applicant's contact information, if the applicant is a natural			
451	person, or business address, if the applicant is not a natural person;			
452	(3) The applicant's business telephone number, electronic mail			
453	address and Internet web site address;			
454	(4) The name, trade name and contact information of each business			
455	entity in which any individual owner or member of the applicant holds			
456	a financial or equitable interest, provided such business entity offers			
457	home improvement services in the state;			
458	(5) If the applicant is not a natural person, the name and contact			
459	information of each director, officer or principal shareholder of such			
460	applicant;			
461	(6) A statement, attested to by the applicant, disclosing whether (A)			
462	the applicant previously held a certificate of registration and, if the			
463	applicant previously held such a certificate, (i) the name by which such			
464	applicant held such certificate, and (ii) whether such certificate was			
465	suspended or revoked, and (B) any judgment or arbitration award has			
466	been entered against the applicant;			
467	(7) A statement by the applicant disclosing whether the applicant has			
468	been found guilty or convicted as a result of an act which (A) constitutes			
469	a felony under the laws of this state or federal law, or (B) was committed			
470	in another jurisdiction but, if committed in this state, would constitute			
471	felony under the laws of this state; [, (3) proof]			
472	(8) Proof that the applicant has obtained (A) general liability			

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insurance coverage in an amount not less than twenty thousand dollars,

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- demonstrated by providing the policy number and business name of the
- insurance provider, and (B) any other insurance coverage required by
- 476 <u>law;</u> and [(4) such]
- 477 (9) Such other information as the commissioner may require.
- Sec. 6. Subsection (b) of section 20-427 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October*
- 480 1, 2025):

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(b) No person shall: (1) Present or attempt to present, as such person's own, the certificate of another, (2) knowingly give false evidence of a material nature to the commissioner for the purpose of procuring a certificate, (3) represent himself or herself falsely as, or impersonate, a registered home improvement contractor or salesman, (4) use or attempt to use a certificate which has expired or which has been suspended or revoked, (5) offer to make or make any home improvement without having a current certificate of registration under this chapter, (6) represent in any manner that such person's registration constitutes an endorsement of the quality of such person's workmanship or of such person's competency by the commissioner, (7) employ or allow any person to act as a salesman on such person's behalf unless such person is registered as a home improvement salesman, [or] (8) fail to refund the amount paid for a home improvement within ten days of a written request mailed or delivered to the contractor's last-known address, if no substantial portion of the contracted work has been performed at the time of the request and more than thirty days has elapsed since the starting date specified in the written contract, or more than thirty days has elapsed since the date of the contract if such contract does not specify a starting date, or (9) engage in the activities of a public adjuster, as defined in section 38a-723, except that such person may (A) explain or discuss a bid for construction or repair of property loss or damage covered under a homeowners insurance policy with an owner of such property or the insurer of such property if such person does so for the usual and customary fees applicable to the work to be performed as

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stated in the home improvement contract between such person and the owner, or (B) except as provided in subsection (c) of section 20-429a, as amended by this act, recommend to an owner of such property that such owner contact such owner's insurer to determine whether any such bid for construction or repair of property loss or damage is covered under a homeowners insurance policy with such owner of such property.

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- Sec. 7. Section 20-429 of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):
- 514 (a) (1) (A) No home improvement contract shall be valid or 515 enforceable against an owner unless it: (i) Is in writing, (ii) is signed by 516 the owner and the contractor, (iii) contains the entire agreement 517 between the owner and the contractor, (iv) contains the date of the 518 transaction, (v) contains the name and address of the contractor and the 519 contractor's registration number, (vi) contains a notice of the owner's 520 cancellation rights in accordance with the provisions of chapter 740, (vii) 521 contains a starting date and completion date, (viii) is entered into by a 522 registered salesman or registered contractor, and (ix) includes a 523 provision disclosing each corporation, limited liability company, 524 partnership, sole proprietorship or other legal entity, which is or has 525 been a home improvement contractor pursuant to the provisions of this 526 chapter or a new home construction contractor pursuant to the 527 provisions of chapter 399a, in which the owner or owners of the home 528 improvement contractor are or have been a shareholder, member, 529 partner, or owner during the previous five years.
 - (B) (i) Each contract shall provide the owner with a right to cancel such contract and include a statement, in substantially the following form, in not less than ten-point boldface type located immediately above the place provided in such contract for the owner's signature:
 - "You may cancel this contract not later than midnight on the third business day after both you and the contractor signed this contract or you received notice from your insurer denying any part of your claim

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537	for the cost of the home improvements to be performed pursuant to this				
538	contract, whichever last occurs. Please see the attached notice of				
539	cancellation forms for additional information."				
540	(ii) Each contract shall contain not fewer than two cancellation forms				
541	in substantially the following form and in not less than ten-poin				
542	boldface type, attached to, and easily detachable from, such contract:				
543	"NOTICE OF CANCELLATION				
544	You may cancel this contract not later than midnight on the third				
545	business day after both you and the contractor sign this contract or you				
546	receive notice from your insurer denying any part of your claim for the				
547	cost of the home improvements to be performed pursuant to this				
548	contract, whichever last occurs. In order to cancel this contract, you				
549	must sign, date and deliver, mail or electronically mail this notice to				
550	(insert name of contractor) at (insert principal business address and				
551	business electronic mail address of contractor) by the end of the three-				
552	day period described in this notice. If you cancel this contract, the				
553	contractor shall return all payments that you have made to the				
554	contractor pursuant to this contract, less the reasonable cost of any and				
555	all home improvements that the contractor performed pursuant to this				
556	contract prior to cancellation, and cancel the contractor's security				
557	interest, if any, in any home improvements performed prior to				
558	cancellation not later than ten business days after the contractor receives				
559	this notice. You should retain a copy of this notice for your records.				
560	I HEREBY CANCEL THIS TRANSACTION:				
561	<u>Signature</u>				
562	(Insert date)"				
563	[(B)] (C) Each change in the terms and conditions of a contract shall				
564	be in writing and shall be signed by the owner and contractor, except				
565	that the commissioner may, by regulation, dispense with the necessity				

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for complying with the requirement that each change in a home improvement contract shall be in writing and signed by the owner and contractor.

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- 569 (2) A contract for repair, remediation or mitigation as set forth in 570 section 38a-313a shall conform to the requirements set forth in subparagraph (A) of subdivision (1) of this subsection and section 38a-572 313a.
 - (b) No home improvement contract shall be valid if it includes any provision obligating the owner to instruct the home improvement contractor, by a date determined by such contractor, that periodic home improvements are not to be performed unless it also includes a provision requiring the contractor to remind the owner of that obligation by means of a card or letter mailed to the owner and postmarked not earlier than twenty days, and not later than ten days, prior to such date.
 - (c) The contractor shall provide and deliver to the owner, without charge, a completed copy of the home improvement contract at the time such contract is executed.
 - (d) The commissioner may, by regulation, require the inclusion of additional contractual provisions.
 - (e) Each home improvement contract entered into shall be considered a home solicitation sale pursuant to chapter 740 and shall be subject to the requirements of said chapter regardless of the location of the transaction or of the signing of the contract. Each home improvement contract in which the owner agrees to repay the contractor an amount loaned or advanced to the owner by the contractor for the purposes of paying for the goods and services provided in such contract, or which contains a finance charge, (1) shall set forth the information required to be disclosed pursuant to the Truth-in-Lending Act, sections 36a-675 to 36a-685, inclusive, (2) shall allow the owner to pay off in advance the full amount due and obtain a partial refund of any unearned finance

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- charge, and (3) may contain a finance charge set at a rate of not more than the rate allowed for loans pursuant to section 37-4. As used in this subsection, "finance charge" means the amount in excess of the cash price for goods and services under the home improvement contract to be paid by the owner for the privilege of paying the contract price in installments over a period of time.
- (f) Nothing in this section shall preclude a contractor who has complied with subparagraphs (A)(i), (ii), (vi), (vii) and (viii) of subdivision (1) of subsection (a) of this section from the recovery of payment for work performed based on the reasonable value of services which were requested by the owner, provided the court determines that it would be inequitable to deny such recovery.
 - Sec. 8. Section 20-429a of the general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2025*):

(a) As used in this section:

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- (1) "Prohibited advertisement" means any written or electronic communication, including, but not limited to, door hangers, business cards, magnets, flyers, pamphlets or electronic mail, delivered by any contractor or salesman to encourage, instruct or induce an owner to contact such contractor, salesman or public adjuster, as defined in section 38a-723, to file an insurance claim for roof damage to such owner's property.
 - (2) "Soliciting" means to make direct contact with any person through mail, telephone, electronic mail, in-person communication or any other means for the purpose of inducing such person to make a transaction.
 - (b) No contractor or salesman shall solicit or otherwise endeavor to procure home improvement work or a home improvement contract from an owner by notifying the owner that a contractor will commence home improvement work unless the owner instructs the contractor not to commence such work by a date determined by the contractor.

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027	(c) No contractor or salesman, or any agent or employee or such		
628	contractor or salesman shall, directly or indirectly:		
629	(1) Solicit any owner through a prohibited advertisement, unless such		
630	prohibited advertisement provides, in not less than twelve-point font,		
631	that (A) such owner is responsible for payment of any insurance		
632	deductible for roof repair costs performed on such owner's property,		
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634	incomplete or misleading information constitutes insurance fraud		
635	punishable as a class D felony pursuant to section 53a-215;		
636	(2) Offer any rebate, gift, gift card, cash, coupon, waiver of any		
637	insurance deductible or any other item of value to any owner in		
638	exchange for (A) allowing such contractor to conduct an inspection of		
639	such owner's roof; or (B) such owner, contractor, salesman, or any agent		
640	or employee of such contractor submitting an insurance claim for		
641	damage to such owner's roof; and		
642	(3) Offer, deliver, receive or accept any compensation, inducement or		
643	reward for the referral of any home improvement work for which		
644	property insurance proceeds are payable. No payment by any owner or		
645	insurance company to such contractor for roofing services shall		
646	constitute compensation for such referral pursuant to the provisions of		
647	this subdivision.		
648	(d) Any contract between a contractor and an owner for home		
649	improvement services to repair or replace such owner's roof shall		
650	include a notice that such contractor is prohibited from engaging in the		
651	practices described in subdivision (2) of subsection (c) of this section.		
652	(e) Any contractor who violates the provisions of subsection (c) or (d)		
653	of this section shall be subject to revocation or suspension pursuant to		
654	the provisions of section 20-426.		

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This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:					
Section 1	January 1, 2026	New section			
Sec. 2	October 1, 2025	20-419			
Sec. 3	October 1, 2025	New section			
Sec. 4	October 1, 2025	20-420			
Sec. 5	October 1, 2025	20-421(a)			
Sec. 6	October 1, 2025	20-427(b)			
Sec. 7	October 1, 2025	20-429			
Sec. 8	October 1, 2025	20-429a			

Statement of Purpose:

To: (1) Establish a process for the assignment of post-loss benefits under homeowners and commercial property insurance policies; (2) modify the required terms of home improvement contracts; (3) preclude home improvement contractors from engaging in certain conduct to induce owners to enter into home improvement contracts; (4) require home improvement contractors to notify the commissioner regarding changes in their business names, trade names and addresses; (5) require home improvement contractors to maintain additional types of insurance coverage; (6) expand the required content of the application for a certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor; and (7) modify the grounds on which the Commissioner of Consumer Protection may (A) reprimand or place a home improvement contractor or salesperson on probation, or (B) revoke, suspend, or refuse to issue or renew a certificate of registration as a home improvement contractor or salesperson.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]

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