

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH INSURANCE; CLARIFYING THE APPLICABILITY OF THE HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM SURTAX ON INSURANCE PREMIUMS, INCLUDING HOSPITAL AND NONPROFIT HEALTH CARE SERVICE PLAN CONTRACTS; AMENDING A SECTION OF THE NMSA 1978.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

Section 1. Section 59A-6-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1984, Chapter 127, Section 102, as amended) is amended to read:

"59A-6-2. PREMIUM TAX--HEALTH INSURANCE PREMIUM SURTAX.--

A. The premium tax provided for in this section shall apply as to the following taxpayers:

(1) each insurer authorized to transact insurance in New Mexico;

(2) each insurer formerly authorized to transact insurance in New Mexico and receiving premiums on policies remaining in force in New Mexico, except that this provision shall not apply as to an insurer that withdrew from New Mexico prior to March 26, 1955;

(3) each plan operating under provisions of Chapter 59A, Articles 46 through 49 NMSA 1978;

(4) each property bondsman, as that person is defined in Section 59A-51-2 NMSA 1978, as to any consideration received as security or surety for a bail bond

in connection with a judicial proceeding, which consideration shall be considered "gross premiums" for the purposes of this section; and

(5) each unauthorized insurer that has assumed a contract or policy of insurance directly or indirectly from an authorized or formerly authorized insurer and is receiving premiums on such policies remaining in force in New Mexico, except that this provision shall not apply if a ceding insurer continues to pay the tax provided in this section as to such policy or contract.

B. Each such taxpayer shall pay in accordance with this subsection a premium tax of three and three-thousandths percent of the gross premiums and membership and policy fees received by it on insurance or contracts covering risks within this state during the preceding calendar year, less all return premiums, including dividends paid or credited to policyholders or contract holders and premiums received for reinsurance on New Mexico risks.

C. In addition to the premium tax imposed pursuant to Subsection B of this section, each taxpayer described in Subsection A of this section that transacts health insurance in New Mexico or is a plan described in Chapter 59A, Article 46 or 47 NMSA 1978 shall pay a health insurance premium surtax of one percent of the gross health insurance premiums and membership and policy fees received by it on hospital and

medical expense incurred insurance or contracts; nonprofit health care service plan contracts, excluding dental or vision only contracts; and health maintenance organization subscriber contracts covering health risks within this state during the preceding calendar year, less all return health insurance premiums, including dividends paid or credited to policyholders or contract holders and health insurance premiums received for reinsurance on New Mexico risks. Except as provided in this section, all references in the Insurance Code to the premium tax shall include both the premium tax and the health insurance premium surtax.

D. For each calendar quarter, an estimated payment of the premium tax and the health insurance premium surtax shall be made on April 15, July 15, October 15 and the following January 15. The estimated payments shall be equal to at least one-fourth of either the payment made during the previous calendar year or eighty percent of the actual payment due for the current calendar year, whichever is greater. The final adjustment for payments due for the prior year shall be made with the return, which shall be filed on April 15 of each year, at which time all taxes for that year are due.

Dividends paid or credited to policyholders or contract holders and refunds, savings, savings coupons and similar returns or credits applied or credited to payment of premiums for existing, new or additional insurance shall, in the amount

so used, constitute premiums subject to tax under this section for the year in which so applied or credited.

E. Exempted from the taxes imposed by this section are:

(1) premiums attributable to insurance or contracts purchased by the state or a political subdivision for the state's or political subdivision's active or retired employees; and

(2) payments received by a health maintenance organization from the federal secretary of health and human services pursuant to a contract issued under the provisions of 42 U.S.C. Section 1395 mm(g)." _____