

§2169. Notice of free choice of agent or insurer

The creditor or lender at the time of application for the loan or at the outset of negotiations regarding the loan or sale shall inform the purchaser or borrower of that person's right of free choice in the selection of the agent and insurer through or by which the insurance in connection with the loan is to be placed, including the right to choose an agent or broker whether or not that agent or broker is affiliated with a creditor or lender. For purposes of this section, "affiliated" has the same meaning as set forth in section 1443-A, subsection 1, paragraph A, with respect to financial institutions and credit unions or in Title 9-A, section 4-403 with respect to supervised lenders. In conjunction with this notice, a creditor or lender shall inform its purchasers or borrowers that obtaining insurance products from a particular agent or broker does not affect credit decisions by the creditor or lender regarding the purchaser or borrower, unless the insurance product selected violates the terms of the extension of credit regarding adequacy of coverage or is otherwise not approved under section 2168, subsection 2. Another person may not interfere either directly or indirectly with the borrower's, debtor's or purchaser's free choice of an agent and of an insurer that complies with the requirements set out in section 2168 and the creditor or lender may not refuse an adequate policy so tendered by the borrower, debtor or purchaser. A creditor or lender may not reject an insurance product selected by a purchaser or borrower because the product was not obtained from or through an insurance agent or broker affiliated with the institution. For purposes of this section, the term "policy" includes, but is not limited to, any temporary contract or binder, by whatever name known, under the terms of which insurance coverage commences at a specified time, and continues until a finished policy is issued or the risk is declined and coverage is terminated. Upon notice of any refusal of this tendered policy, the superintendent shall order the creditor or lender to accept the tendered policy, if the superintendent determines that the refusal is not in accordance with the requirements set out in section 2168. Failure to comply with such an order of the superintendent is a violation of this section. [PL 1999, c. 127, Pt. A, §41 (AMD).]

This section does not apply to group health and group life insurance to the extent authorized by chapters 31 and 35 when the insured is enrolled in the insurance policy, credit life and credit health insurance to the extent authorized by chapter 37, credit property insurance, credit involuntary unemployment insurance, forced placed property insurance, a vendor's single interest policy or any other insurance product as determined by the superintendent. [PL 1997, c. 315, §26 (NEW).]

SECTION HISTORY

PL 1969, c. 132, §1 (NEW). PL 1973, c. 585, §12 (AMD). PL 1983, c. 394, §5 (AMD). PL 1993, c. 208, §1 (AMD). PL 1997, c. 315, §26 (AMD). PL 1999, c. 127, §A41 (AMD).

The State of Maine claims a copyright in its codified statutes. If you intend to republish this material, we require that you include the following disclaimer in your publication:

All copyrights and other rights to statutory text are reserved by the State of Maine. The text included in this publication reflects changes made through the Second Regular Session of the 131st Maine Legislature and is current through January 1, 2025. The text is subject to change without notice. It is a version that has not been officially certified by the Secretary of State. Refer to the Maine Revised Statutes Annotated and supplements for certified text.

The Office of the Revisor of Statutes also requests that you send us one copy of any statutory publication you may produce. Our goal is not to restrict publishing activity, but to keep track of who is publishing what, to identify any needless duplication and to preserve the State's copyright rights.

PLEASE NOTE: The Revisor's Office cannot perform research for or provide legal advice or interpretation of Maine law to the public. If you need legal assistance, please contact a qualified attorney.