

Department of Business Regulation

1511 Pontiac Avenue Cranston, RI 02920

Insurance Bulletin Number 2008-4

Evidence of Proof of Financial Responsibility

Rhode Island Automobile Insurance Identification Cards

The Department issues this Bulletin to remind all insurance companies of the requirements under R.I. Gen. Laws § 31-47-12.1 which provides

Any evidence of proof of financial responsibility or security shall include the following statement therein in bold face print: "PURSUANT TO RHODE ISLAND LAW, THE CONSUMER HAS THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THE REPAIR FACILITY TO COMPLETE REPAIRS TO A MOTOR VEHICLE. AN INSURANCE COMPANY MAY NOT INTERFERE WITH THE CONSUMER'S CHOICE OF REPAIRER."

The above statement, which became effective January 1, 2008, must be included on the Rhode Island Automobile Insurance Identification Card in bold face print. Insurers that fail to comply with the law will be subject to administrative action in accordance with applicable Rhode Island Laws and Regulations.

In addition to R.I. Gen. Laws § 31-47-12.1, insurers should also be mindful of the notice requirements under R.I. Gen. Laws §§ 27-10.1-6(b) and 27-10.1-8.1

Joseph Torti, III Associate Director and Superintendent of Insurance April 28, 2008