

# American Academy of Actuaries Annual Meeting and Public Policy Forum

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## Focus on Big Data



## **Speakers**

- Jim MacGinnitie (moderator)
  - Academy Senior Casualty Fellow
- Harold Weston
  - Clinical Professor of Risk Management and Insurance at Georgia State University
- Mike McKenney
  - Pennsylvania State Regulator



## Big Data = Big Changes

Mike McKenney PA Insurance Department



#### Data accuracy

- Big data?!?! Insurers have enough trouble getting small data correct!
- How accurate and complete is the data? Who validated it?
- Reliance on (unregulated) third parties.

#### • Mathmagicians

- Just because you can prove correlation doesn't mean you have to use it!
- Does it matter if your agents and customers can't understand it?
- Minor changes in a risk's characteristics that lead to large and nonintuitive changes in rates.



#### • Micro-territories

- Does discontinuous territorial ratemaking really make sense?
- How much do rates vary from block to block or neighborhood to neighborhood?
- How do regulators check that the predictive models are getting it right?

#### Potential conflicts with state insurance laws

– Can you really say that you don't rate on a prohibited variable or that you offer certain statutory discounts as class sizes become very small and even individualized?



#### Non-insurance benefits and services

- Are they specified in the policy?
- Are they provided equitably across all policyholders?
- How much cost are they adding to the premium?
- Should the cost be spread to policyholders unable or unwilling to use them?



#### Rate filings

- 40,000+ pages ... all filed correctly?
- Can it really be programmed?
- "... every manual of classifications, rules and rates, every rating plan and every modification of any of the foregoing" 40 P.S. § 1184;
- Rate filings are public records;
- Use of "unknown/other";
- "That's what the model said";
- Limited regulatory resources.



## Regulatory Responses

- Big Data Working Group (Task Force)
  - Evaluate ability of current regulatory structure to deal with big data;
  - Shared resources.
- Auto Insurance Working Group
  - Affordability and availability study;
  - Shared resources.



## Regulatory Responses

- Casualty Actuarial and Statistical Task Force
  - Price optimization white paper;
  - GLM survey;
  - Shared resources.
- Pennsylvania's zip code based auto insurance ratemaking study



Q & A

