	MOTOR VEHICLE INSURANCE COVERAGE
	AMENDMENTS
	2010 GENERAL SESSION
	STATE OF UTAH
	Chief Sponsor: Stephen H. Urquhart
	House Sponsor: James A. Dunnigan
LONG TITLE	
General Descriptio	n:

### \_\_\_\_\_

This bill modifies the Insurance Code by amending provisions relating to uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage.

### **Highlighted Provisions:**

This bill:

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

- ▶ provides that if a covered person elects to submit a claim for uninsured or underinsured motorist benefits to binding arbitration or files litigation, the covered person shall provide a written demand to the uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier for payment of uninsured or underinsured motorist compensation with certain documentation;
- ▶ provides that an uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier that receives an election for arbitration or a notice of filing for litigation and the demand for payment of uninsured or underinsured motorist benefits shall have a reasonable time, not to exceed 60 days, to provide a written response to the written demand for payment and tender the amount, if any, of the uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier's determination of the amount owed to the claimant;
  - provides that a covered person may elect to litigate or arbitrate any remaining claim



26	if an uninsured or underinsured motorist carrier's tender is less than the total amount of the
27	uninsured or underinsured policy limits;
28	<ul> <li>provides procedures for litigating or arbitrating a claim for uninsured or</li> </ul>
29	underinsured motorist compensation;
30	<ul> <li>provides that if a litigation or arbitration award is greater than a certain amount, the</li> </ul>
31	carrier is liable for the award amount and certain costs;
32	<ul> <li>establishes a cap on certain amounts an uninsured motorist carrier or an</li> </ul>
33	underinsured motorist carrier pay;
34	<ul> <li>provides that litigating or arbitrating a covered person's demand for uninsured or</li> </ul>
35	underinsured motorist compensation does not limit any other cause of action that
36	arose or may arise against the carrier that is the subject of the litigation from the
37	same dispute; and
38	<ul><li>makes technical changes.</li></ul>
39	Monies Appropriated in this Bill:
40	None
41	Other Special Clauses:
42	This bill provides an immediate effective date.
43	This bill provides revisor instructions.
44	Utah Code Sections Affected:
45	AMENDS:
46	31A-22-305, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2008, Chapter 3
47	<b>31A-22-305.3</b> , as last amended by Laws of Utah 2009, Chapter 231
48 49	Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:
50	Section 1. Section <b>31A-22-305</b> is amended to read:
51	31A-22-305. Uninsured motorist coverage.
52	(1) As used in this section, "covered persons" includes:
53	(a) the named insured;
54	(b) persons related to the named insured by blood, marriage, adoption, or guardianship,
55	who are residents of the named insured's household, including those who usually make their
56	home in the same household but temporarily live elsewhere;

(i) is filed with the department;

57 (c) any person occupying or using a motor vehicle: 58 (i) referred to in the policy; or 59 (ii) owned by a self-insured; and 60 (d) any person who is entitled to recover damages against the owner or operator of the 61 uninsured or underinsured motor vehicle because of bodily injury to or death of persons under 62 Subsection (1)(a), (b), or (c). 63 (2) As used in this section, "uninsured motor vehicle" includes: 64 (a) (i) a motor vehicle, the operation, maintenance, or use of which is not covered 65 under a liability policy at the time of an injury-causing occurrence; or 66 (ii) (A) a motor vehicle covered with lower liability limits than required by Section 67 31A-22-304; and 68 (B) the motor vehicle described in Subsection (2)(a)(ii)(A) is uninsured to the extent of 69 the deficiency; 70 (b) an unidentified motor vehicle that left the scene of an accident proximately caused by the motor vehicle operator; 71 72 (c) a motor vehicle covered by a liability policy, but coverage for an accident is 73 disputed by the liability insurer for more than 60 days or continues to be disputed for more than 74 60 days; or 75 (d) (i) an insured motor vehicle if, before or after the accident, the liability insurer of 76 the motor vehicle is declared insolvent by a court of competent jurisdiction; and 77 (ii) the motor vehicle described in Subsection (2)(d)(i) is uninsured only to the extent 78 that the claim against the insolvent insurer is not paid by a guaranty association or fund. 79 (3) (a) Uninsured motorist coverage under Subsection 31A-22-302(1)(b) provides 80 coverage for covered persons who are legally entitled to recover damages from owners or 81 operators of uninsured motor vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death. 82 (b) For new policies written on or after January 1, 2001, the limits of uninsured 83 motorist coverage shall be equal to the lesser of the limits of the insured's motor vehicle 84 liability coverage or the maximum uninsured motorist coverage limits available by the insurer 85 under the insured's motor vehicle policy, unless the insured purchases coverage in a lesser 86 amount by signing an acknowledgment form that:

88 (ii) is provided by the insurer;

- (iii) waives the higher coverage;
  - (iv) reasonably explains the purpose of uninsured motorist coverage; and
- (v) discloses the additional premiums required to purchase uninsured motorist coverage with limits equal to the lesser of the limits of the insured's motor vehicle liability coverage or the maximum uninsured motorist coverage limits available by the insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy.
- (c) A self-insured, including a governmental entity, may elect to provide uninsured motorist coverage in an amount that is less than its maximum self-insured retention under Subsections (3)(b) and (4)(a) by issuing a declaratory memorandum or policy statement from the chief financial officer or chief risk officer that declares the:
  - (i) self-insured entity's coverage level; and
  - (ii) process for filing an uninsured motorist claim.
- (d) Uninsured motorist coverage may not be sold with limits that are less than the minimum bodily injury limits for motor vehicle liability policies under Section 31A-22-304.
- (e) The acknowledgment under Subsection (3)(b) continues for that issuer of the uninsured motorist coverage until the insured, in writing, requests different uninsured motorist coverage from the insurer.
- (f) (i) In conjunction with the first two renewal notices sent after January 1, 2001, for policies existing on that date, the insurer shall disclose in the same medium as the premium renewal notice, an explanation of:
  - (A) the purpose of uninsured motorist coverage; and
- (B) the costs associated with increasing the coverage in amounts up to and including the maximum amount available by the insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy.
- (ii) The disclosure required under this Subsection (3)(f) shall be sent to all insureds that carry uninsured motorist coverage limits in an amount less than the insured's motor vehicle liability policy limits or the maximum uninsured motorist coverage limits available by the insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy.
- (4) (a) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (4)(b), the named insured may reject uninsured motorist coverage by an express writing to the insurer that provides liability coverage under Subsection 31A-22-302(1)(a).

119 (ii) This rejection shall be on a form provided by the insurer that includes a reasonable 120 explanation of the purpose of uninsured motorist coverage. 121 (iii) This rejection continues for that issuer of the liability coverage until the insured in 122 writing requests uninsured motorist coverage from that liability insurer. 123 (b) (i) All persons, including governmental entities, that are engaged in the business of, 124 or that accept payment for, transporting natural persons by motor vehicle, and all school 125 districts that provide transportation services for their students, shall provide coverage for all 126 motor vehicles used for that purpose, by purchase of a policy of insurance or by self-insurance, 127 uninsured motorist coverage of at least \$25,000 per person and \$500,000 per accident. 128 (ii) This coverage is secondary to any other insurance covering an injured covered 129 person. 130 (c) Uninsured motorist coverage: 131 (i) is secondary to the benefits provided by Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers' 132 Compensation Act; 133 (ii) may not be subrogated by the workers' compensation insurance carrier; 134 (iii) may not be reduced by any benefits provided by workers' compensation insurance; 135 (iv) may be reduced by health insurance subrogation only after the covered person has 136 been made whole: 137 (v) may not be collected for bodily injury or death sustained by a person: 138 (A) while committing a violation of Section 41-1a-1314; 139 (B) who, as a passenger in a vehicle, has knowledge that the vehicle is being operated 140 in violation of Section 41-1a-1314; or 141 (C) while committing a felony; and 142 (vi) notwithstanding Subsection (4)(c)(v), may be recovered: 143 (A) for a person under 18 years of age who is injured within the scope of Subsection 144 (4)(c)(v) but limited to medical and funeral expenses; or 145 (B) by a law enforcement officer as defined in Section 53-13-103, who is injured 146 within the course and scope of the law enforcement officer's duties. 147 (d) As used in this Subsection (4), "motor vehicle" has the same meaning as under 148 Section 41-1a-102.

(5) When a covered person alleges that an uninsured motor vehicle under Subsection

- (2)(b) proximately caused an accident without touching the covered person or the motor vehicle occupied by the covered person, the covered person must show the existence of the uninsured motor vehicle by clear and convincing evidence consisting of more than the covered person's testimony.
- (6) (a) The limit of liability for uninsured motorist coverage for two or more motor vehicles may not be added together, combined, or stacked to determine the limit of insurance coverage available to an injured person for any one accident.
- (b) (i) Subsection (6)(a) applies to all persons except a covered person as defined under Subsection (7)(b)(ii).
- (ii) A covered person as defined under Subsection (7)(b)(ii) is entitled to the highest limits of uninsured motorist coverage afforded for any one motor vehicle that the covered person is the named insured or an insured family member.
- (iii) This coverage shall be in addition to the coverage on the motor vehicle the covered person is occupying.
  - (iv) Neither the primary nor the secondary coverage may be set off against the other.
- (c) Coverage on a motor vehicle occupied at the time of an accident shall be primary coverage, and the coverage elected by a person described under Subsections (1)(a) and (b) shall be secondary coverage.
- (7) (a) Uninsured motorist coverage under this section applies to bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death of covered persons while occupying or using a motor vehicle only if the motor vehicle is described in the policy under which a claim is made, or if the motor vehicle is a newly acquired or replacement motor vehicle covered under the terms of the policy. Except as provided in Subsection (6) or this Subsection (7), a covered person injured in a motor vehicle described in a policy that includes uninsured motorist benefits may not elect to collect uninsured motorist coverage benefits from any other motor vehicle insurance policy under which the person is a covered person.
- (b) Each of the following persons may also recover uninsured motorist benefits under any one other policy in which they are described as a "covered person" as defined in Subsection (1):
  - (i) a covered person injured as a pedestrian by an uninsured motor vehicle; and
- (ii) except as provided in Subsection (7)(c), a covered person injured while occupying

181	or using a motor vehicle that is not owned, leased, or furnished:
182	(A) to the covered person;
183	(B) to the covered person's spouse; or
184	(C) to the covered person's resident parent or resident sibling.
185	(c) (i) A covered person may recover benefits from no more than two additional
186	policies, one additional policy from each parent's household if the covered person is:
187	(A) a dependent minor of parents who reside in separate households; and
188	(B) injured while occupying or using a motor vehicle that is not owned, leased, or
189	furnished:
190	(I) to the covered person;
191	(II) to the covered person's resident parent; or
192	(III) to the covered person's resident sibling.
193	(ii) Each parent's policy under this Subsection (7)(c) is liable only for the percentage of
194	the damages that the limit of liability of each parent's policy of uninsured motorist coverage
195	bears to the total of both parents' uninsured coverage applicable to the accident.
196	(d) A covered person's recovery under any available policies may not exceed the full
197	amount of damages.
198	(e) A covered person in Subsection (7)(b) is not barred against making subsequent
199	elections if recovery is unavailable under previous elections.
200	(f) (i) As used in this section, "interpolicy stacking" means recovering benefits for a
201	single incident of loss under more than one insurance policy.
202	(ii) Except to the extent permitted by Subsection (6) and this Subsection (7),
203	interpolicy stacking is prohibited for uninsured motorist coverage.
204	(8) (a) When a claim is brought by a named insured or a person described in
205	Subsection (1) and is asserted against the covered person's uninsured motorist carrier, the
206	claimant may elect to resolve the claim:
207	(i) by submitting the claim to binding arbitration; or
208	(ii) through litigation.
209	(b) Unless otherwise provided in the policy under which uninsured benefits are
210	claimed, the election provided in Subsection (8)(a) is available to the claimant only.
211	(c) Once the claimant has elected to commence litigation under Subsection (8)(a)(ii),

241

242

motorist umbrella policies.

212 the claimant may not elect to resolve the claim through binding arbitration under this section 213 without the written consent of the uninsured motorist carrier. 214 (d) (i) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties, a claim that is submitted to 215 binding arbitration under Subsection (8)(a)(i) shall be resolved by a single arbitrator. 216 (ii) All parties shall agree on the single arbitrator selected under Subsection (8)(d)(i). 217 (iii) If the parties are unable to agree on a single arbitrator as required under Subsection (8)(d)(ii), the parties shall select a panel of three arbitrators. 218 219 (e) If the parties select a panel of three arbitrators under Subsection (8)(d)(iii): 220 (i) each side shall select one arbitrator; and 221 (ii) the arbitrators appointed under Subsection (8)(e)(i) shall select one additional 222 arbitrator to be included in the panel. 223 (f) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing: 224 (i) each party shall pay an equal share of the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected 225 under Subsection (8)(d)(i); or 226 (ii) if an arbitration panel is selected under Subsection (8)(d)(iii): 227 (A) each party shall pay the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected by that party; and 228 (B) each party shall pay an equal share of the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected 229 under Subsection (8)(e)(ii). 230 (g) Except as otherwise provided in this section or unless otherwise agreed to in 231 writing by the parties, an arbitration proceeding conducted under this section shall be governed 232 by Title 78B, Chapter 11, Utah Uniform Arbitration Act. 233 (h) The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with Rules 26 through 37, 54, and 234 68 of the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure. 235 (i) All issues of discovery shall be resolved by the arbitrator or the arbitration panel. 236 (j) A written decision by a single arbitrator or by a majority of the arbitration panel 237 shall constitute a final decision. 238 (k) (i) The amount of an arbitration award may not exceed the uninsured motorist 239 policy limits of all applicable uninsured motorist policies, including applicable uninsured

(ii) If the initial arbitration award exceeds the uninsured motorist policy limits of all

applicable uninsured motorist policies, the arbitration award shall be reduced to an amount

243	equal to the combined uninsured motorist policy limits of all applicable uninsured motorist
244	policies.
245	(l) The arbitrator or arbitration panel may not decide the issues of coverage or
246	extra-contractual damages, including:
247	(i) whether the claimant is a covered person;
248	(ii) whether the policy extends coverage to the loss; or
249	(iii) any allegations or claims asserting consequential damages or bad faith liability.
250	(m) The arbitrator or arbitration panel may not conduct arbitration on a class-wide or
251	class-representative basis.
252	(n) If the arbitrator or arbitration panel finds that the action was not brought, pursued,
253	or defended in good faith, the arbitrator or arbitration panel may award reasonable attorney fees
254	and costs against the party that failed to bring, pursue, or defend the claim in good faith.
255	(o) An arbitration award issued under this section shall be the final resolution of all
256	claims not excluded by Subsection (8)(1) between the parties unless:
257	(i) the award was procured by corruption, fraud, or other undue means; or
258	(ii) either party, within 20 days after service of the arbitration award:
259	(A) files a complaint requesting a trial de novo in the district court; and
260	(B) serves the nonmoving party with a copy of the complaint requesting a trial de novo
261	under Subsection (8)(o)(ii)(A).
262	(p) (i) Upon filing a complaint for a trial de novo under Subsection (8)(o), the claim
263	shall proceed through litigation pursuant to the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure and Utah Rules
264	of Evidence in the district court.
265	(ii) In accordance with Rule 38, Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, either party may
266	request a jury trial with a complaint requesting a trial de novo under Subsection (8)(o)(ii)(A).
267	(q) (i) If the claimant, as the moving party in a trial de novo requested under
268	Subsection (8)(o), does not obtain a verdict that is at least \$5,000 and is at least 20% greater
269	than the arbitration award, the claimant is responsible for all of the nonmoving party's costs.
270	(ii) If the uninsured motorist carrier, as the moving party in a trial de novo requested
271	under Subsection (8)(o), does not obtain a verdict that is at least 20% less than the arbitration
272	award, the uninsured motorist carrier is responsible for all of the nonmoving party's costs.

(iii) Except as provided in Subsection (8)(q)(iv), the costs under this Subsection (8)(q)

2/4	shall include:
275	(A) any costs set forth in Rule 54(d), Utah Rules of Civil Procedure; and
276	(B) the costs of expert witnesses and depositions.
277	(iv) An award of costs under this Subsection (8)(q) may not exceed \$2,500.
278	(r) For purposes of determining whether a party's verdict is greater or less than the
279	arbitration award under Subsection (8)(q), a court may not consider any recovery or other relief
280	granted on a claim for damages if the claim for damages:
281	(i) was not fully disclosed in writing prior to the arbitration proceeding; or
282	(ii) was not disclosed in response to discovery contrary to the Utah Rules of Civil
283	Procedure.
284	(s) If a district court determines, upon a motion of the nonmoving party, that the
285	moving party's use of the trial de novo process was filed in bad faith in accordance with
286	Section 78B-5-825, the district court may award reasonable attorney fees to the nonmoving
287	party.
288	(t) Nothing in this section is intended to limit any claim under any other portion of an
289	applicable insurance policy.
290	(u) If there are multiple uninsured motorist policies, as set forth in Subsection (7), the
291	claimant may elect to arbitrate in one hearing the claims against all the uninsured motorist
292	carriers.
293	(9) (a) Within 30 days after a covered person elects to submit a claim for uninsured
294	motorist benefits to binding arbitration or files litigation, the covered person shall provide to
295	the uninsured motorist carrier:
296	(i) a written demand for payment of uninsured motorist coverage benefits, setting forth:
297	(A) the specific monetary amount of the demand; and
298	(B) the factual and legal basis and any supporting documentation for the demand;
299	(ii) a written statement under oath disclosing:
300	(A) (I) the names and last known addresses of all health care providers who have
301	rendered health care services to the covered person that are material to the claims for which
302	uninsured motorist benefits are sought for a period of five years preceding the date of the event
303	giving rise to the claim for uninsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for
304	arbitration or litigation has been exercised; and

305	(II) whether the covered person has seen other health care providers who have rendered
306	health care services to the covered person, which the covered person claims are immaterial to
307	the claims for which uninsured motorist benefits are sought, for a period of five years
308	preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for uninsured motorist benefits up to the
309	time the election for arbitration or litigation has been exercised that have not been disclosed
310	under Subsection (9)(a)(ii)(A)(I);
311	(B) (I) the names and last known addresses of all health insurers or other entities to
312	whom the covered person has submitted claims for health care services or benefits material to
313	the claims for which uninsured motorist benefits are sought, for a period of five years
314	preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for uninsured motorist benefits up to the
315	time the election for arbitration or litigation has been exercised; and
316	(II) whether the identity of any health insurers or other entities to whom the covered
317	person has submitted claims for health care services or benefits which the covered person
318	claims are immaterial to the claims for which uninsured motorist benefits are sought, for a
319	period of five years preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for uninsured
320	motorist benefits up to the time the election for arbitration or litigation have not been disclosed;
321	<u>and</u>
322	(C) if lost wages, diminished earning capacity, or similar damages are claimed, all
323	employers of the covered person for a period of five years preceding the date of the event
324	giving rise to the claim for uninsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for
325	arbitration or litigation has been exercised;
326	(D) other documents to reasonably support the claims being asserted; and
327	(E) all state and federal statutory lienholders including a statement as to whether the
328	covered person is a recipient of Medicare or Medicaid benefits or Utah Children's Health
329	Insurance benefits under Title 26, Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act, or if the
330	claim is subject to any other state or federal statutory liens; and
331	(iii) signed authorizations to allow the uninsured motorist carrier to only obtain records
332	and billings from the individuals or entities disclosed.
333	(b) (i) If the uninsured motorist carrier determines that the disclosure of undisclosed
334	health care providers or health care insurers under Subsection (9)(a)(ii) is reasonably necessary,
335	the uninsured motorist carrier may:

336	(A) make a request for the disclosure of the identity of the health care providers or
337	health care insurers; and
338	(B) make a request for authorizations to allow the uninsured motorist carrier to only
339	obtain records and billings from the individuals or entities not disclosed.
340	(ii) If the covered person does not provide the requested information within 10 days:
341	(A) the covered person shall disclose, in writing, the legal or factual basis for the
342	failure to disclose the health care providers or health care insurers; and
343	(B) either the covered person or the uninsured motorist carrier may request the
344	arbitrator or arbitration panel to resolve the issue of whether the identities or records are to be
345	provided if the covered person has elected arbitration.
346	(iii) The time periods imposed by Subsection (9)(c)(i) are tolled pending resolution of
347	the dispute concerning the disclosure and production of records of the health care providers or
348	health care insurers.
349	(c) (i) An uninsured motorist carrier that receives an election for arbitration or a notice
350	of filing litigation and the demand for payment of uninsured motorist benefits under Subsection
351	(9)(a)(i) shall have a reasonable time, not to exceed 60 days from the date of the demand and
352	receipt of the items specified in Subsection (9)(a)(i) through (iii), to:
353	(A) provide a written response to the written demand for payment provided for in
354	Subsection (9)(a)(i);
355	(B) except as provided in Subsection (9)(c)(i)(C), tender the amount, if any, of the
356	uninsured motorist carrier's determination of the amount owed to the covered person; and
357	(C) if the covered person is a recipient of Medicare or Medicaid benefits or Utah
358	Children's Health Insurance benefits under Title 26, Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health
359	Insurance Act, or if the claim is subject to any other state or federal statutory liens, tender the
360	amount, if any, of the uninsured motorist carrier's determination of the amount owed to the
361	covered person less:
362	(I) if the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is established, the amount of the
363	<u>lien; or</u>
364	(II) if the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is not established, two times the
365	amount of the medical expenses subject to the state or federal statutory lien until such time as
366	the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is established.

### 03-09-10 6:44 PM

367	(ii) If the amount tendered by the uninsured motorist carrier under Subsection (9)(c)(i)
368	is the total amount of the uninsured motorist policy limits, the tendered amount shall be
369	accepted by the covered person.
370	(c) A covered person who receives a written response from an uninsured motorist
371	carrier as provided for in Subsection (9)(c)(i), may:
372	(i) elect to accept the amount tendered in Subsection (9)(c)(i) as payment in full of all
373	uninsured motorist claims; or
374	(ii) elect to:
375	(A) accept the amount tendered in Subsection (9)(c)(i) as partial payment of all
376	uninsured motorist claims; and
377	(B) litigate or arbitrate the remaining claim.
378	(d) If a covered person elects to accept the amount tendered under Subsection (9)(c)(i)
379	as partial payment of all uninsured motorist claims, the final award obtained through
380	arbitration, litigation, or later settlement shall be reduced by any payment made by the
381	uninsured motorist carrier under Subsection (9)(c)(i).
382	(e) In an arbitration proceeding on the remaining uninsured claims:
383	(i) the parties may not disclose to the arbitrator or arbitration panel the amount paid
384	under Subsection (9)(c)(i) until after the arbitration award has been rendered; and
385	(ii) the parties may not disclose the amount of the limits of uninsured motorist benefits
386	provided by the policy.
387	(f) If the final award obtained through arbitration or litigation is greater than the
388	average of the covered person's initial written demand for payment provided for in Subsection
389	(9)(a)(i) and the uninsured motorist carrier's initial written response provided for in Subsection
390	(9)(c)(i), the uninsured motorist carrier shall pay:
391	(i) the final award obtained through arbitration or litigation, except that if the award
392	exceeds the policy limits of the subject uninsured motorist policy by more than \$15,000, the
393	amount shall be reduced to an amount equal to the policy limits plus \$15,000; and
394	(ii) any of the following applicable costs:
395	(A) any costs as set forth in Rule 54(d), Utah Rules of Civil Procedure;
396	(B) the arbitrator or arbitration panel's fee; and
397	(C) the reasonable costs of expert witnesses and depositions used in the presentation of

398	evidence during arbitration or litigation.
399	(g) (i) The covered person shall provide an affidavit of costs within five days of an
400	arbitration award.
401	(ii) (A) Objection to the affidavit of costs shall specify with particularity the costs to
402	which the uninsured motorist carrier objects.
403	(B) The objection shall be resolved by the arbitrator or arbitration panel.
404	(iii) The award of costs by the arbitrator or arbitration panel under Subsection (9)(f)(ii)
405	may not exceed \$5,000.
406	(h) (i) A covered person shall disclose all material information, other than rebuttal
407	evidence, as specified in Subsection (9)(a).
408	(ii) If the information under Subsection (9)(h)(i) is not disclosed, the covered person
409	may not recover costs or any amounts in excess of the policy under Subsection (9)(f).
410	(i) This Subsection (9) does not limit any other cause of action that arose or may arise
411	against the uninsured motorist carrier from the same dispute.
412	(j) The provisions of this Subsection (9) only apply to motor vehicle accidents that
413	occur on or after the effective date of this bill.
414	Section 2. Section 31A-22-305.3 is amended to read:
415	31A-22-305.3. Underinsured motorist coverage.
416	(1) As used in this section:
417	(a) "Covered person" has the same meaning as defined in Section 31A-22-305.
418	(b) (i) "Underinsured motor vehicle" includes a motor vehicle, the operation,
419	maintenance, or use of which is covered under a liability policy at the time of an injury-causing
420	occurrence, but which has insufficient liability coverage to compensate fully the injured party
421	for all special and general damages.
422	(ii) The term "underinsured motor vehicle" does not include:
423	(A) a motor vehicle that is covered under the liability coverage of the same policy that
424	also contains the underinsured motorist coverage;
425	(B) an uninsured motor vehicle as defined in Subsection 31A-22-305(2); or
426	(C) a motor vehicle owned or leased by:
427	(I) the named insured;
428	(II) the named insured's spouse; or

429	(III) any dependent of the named insured.
430	(2) (a) (i) Underinsured motorist coverage under Subsection 31A-22-302(1)(c)
431	provides coverage for covered persons who are legally entitled to recover damages from
432	owners or operators of underinsured motor vehicles because of bodily injury, sickness, disease,
433	or death.
434	(ii) A covered person occupying or using a motor vehicle owned, leased, or furnished
435	to the covered person, the covered person's spouse, or covered person's resident relative may
436	recover underinsured benefits only if the motor vehicle is:
437	(A) described in the policy under which a claim is made; or
438	(B) a newly acquired or replacement motor vehicle covered under the terms of the
439	policy.
440	(b) For new policies written on or after January 1, 2001, the limits of underinsured
441	motorist coverage shall be equal to the lesser of the limits of the insured's motor vehicle
442	liability coverage or the maximum underinsured motorist coverage limits available by the
443	insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy, unless the insured purchases coverage in a
444	lesser amount by signing an acknowledgment form that:
445	(i) is filed with the department;
446	(ii) is provided by the insurer;
447	(iii) waives the higher coverage;
448	(iv) reasonably explains the purpose of underinsured motorist coverage; and
449	(v) discloses the additional premiums required to purchase underinsured motorist
450	coverage with limits equal to the lesser of the limits of the insured's motor vehicle liability
451	coverage or the maximum underinsured motorist coverage limits available by the insurer under
452	the insured's motor vehicle policy.
453	(c) A self-insured, including a governmental entity, may elect to provide underinsured
454	motorist coverage in an amount that is less than its maximum self-insured retention under
455	Subsections (2)(b) and (2)(g) by issuing a declaratory memorandum or policy statement from
456	the chief financial officer or chief risk officer that declares the:
457	(i) self-insured entity's coverage level; and
458	(ii) process for filing an underinsured motorist claim.

(d) Underinsured motorist coverage may not be sold with limits that are less than:

- 460 (i) \$10,000 for one person in any one accident; and
  - (ii) at least \$20,000 for two or more persons in any one accident.
  - (e) The acknowledgment under Subsection (2)(b) continues for that issuer of the underinsured motorist coverage until the insured, in writing, requests different underinsured motorist coverage from the insurer.
  - (f) (i) The named insured's underinsured motorist coverage, as described in Subsection (2)(a), is secondary to the liability coverage of an owner or operator of an underinsured motor vehicle, as described in Subsection (1).
  - (ii) Underinsured motorist coverage may not be set off against the liability coverage of the owner or operator of an underinsured motor vehicle, but shall be added to, combined with, or stacked upon the liability coverage of the owner or operator of the underinsured motor vehicle to determine the limit of coverage available to the injured person.
  - (g) (i) A named insured may reject underinsured motorist coverage by an express writing to the insurer that provides liability coverage under Subsection 31A-22-302(1)(a).
  - (ii) This written rejection shall be on a form provided by the insurer that includes a reasonable explanation of the purpose of underinsured motorist coverage and when it would be applicable.
  - (iii) This rejection continues for that issuer of the liability coverage until the insured in writing requests underinsured motorist coverage from that liability insurer.
  - (h) (i) In conjunction with the first two renewal notices sent after January 1, 2001, for policies existing on that date, the insurer shall disclose in the same medium as the premium renewal notice, an explanation of:
    - (A) the purpose of underinsured motorist coverage; and
  - (B) the costs associated with increasing the coverage in amounts up to and including the maximum amount available by the insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy.
  - (ii) The disclosure required by this Subsection (2)(h) shall be sent to all insureds that carry underinsured motorist coverage limits in an amount less than the insured's motor vehicle liability policy limits or the maximum underinsured motorist coverage limits available by the insurer under the insured's motor vehicle policy.
  - (3) (a) (i) Except as provided in this Subsection (3), a covered person injured in a motor vehicle described in a policy that includes underinsured motorist benefits may not elect

to collect underinsured motorist coverage benefits from any other motor vehicle insurance policy.

- (ii) The limit of liability for underinsured motorist coverage for two or more motor vehicles may not be added together, combined, or stacked to determine the limit of insurance coverage available to an injured person for any one accident.
- (iii) Subsection (3)(a)(ii) applies to all persons except a covered person described under Subsections (3)(b)(i) and (ii).
- (b) (i) Except as provided in Subsection (3)(b)(ii), a covered person injured while occupying, using, or maintaining a motor vehicle that is not owned, leased, or furnished to the covered person, the covered person's spouse, or the covered person's resident parent or resident sibling, may also recover benefits under any one other policy under which they are a covered person.
- (ii) (A) A covered person may recover benefits from no more than two additional policies, one additional policy from each parent's household if the covered person is:
  - (I) a dependent minor of parents who reside in separate households; and
- (II) injured while occupying or using a motor vehicle that is not owned, leased, or furnished to the covered person, the covered person's resident parent, or the covered person's resident sibling.
- (B) Each parent's policy under this Subsection (3)(b)(ii) is liable only for the percentage of the damages that the limit of liability of each parent's policy of underinsured motorist coverage bears to the total of both parents' underinsured coverage applicable to the accident.
- (iii) A covered person's recovery under any available policies may not exceed the full amount of damages.
- (iv) Underinsured coverage on a motor vehicle occupied at the time of an accident shall be primary coverage, and the coverage elected by a person described under Subsections 31A-22-305(1)(a) and (b) shall be secondary coverage.
  - (v) The primary and the secondary coverage may not be set off against the other.
- (vi) A covered person as described under Subsection (3)(b)(i) is entitled to the highest limits of underinsured motorist coverage under only one additional policy per household applicable to that covered person as a named insured, spouse, or relative.

522	(vii) A covered injured person is not barred against making subsequent elections if
523	recovery is unavailable under previous elections.
524	(viii) (A) As used in this section, "interpolicy stacking" means recovering benefits for a
525	single incident of loss under more than one insurance policy.
526	(B) Except to the extent permitted by this Subsection (3), interpolicy stacking is
527	prohibited for underinsured motorist coverage.
528	(c) Underinsured motorist coverage:
529	(i) is secondary to the benefits provided by Title 34A, Chapter 2, Workers'
530	Compensation Act;
531	(ii) may not be subrogated by the workers' compensation insurance carrier;
532	(iii) may not be reduced by any benefits provided by workers' compensation insurance;
533	(iv) may be reduced by health insurance subrogation only after the covered person has
534	been made whole;
535	(v) may not be collected for bodily injury or death sustained by a person:
536	(A) while committing a violation of Section 41-1a-1314;
537	(B) who, as a passenger in a vehicle, has knowledge that the vehicle is being operated
538	in violation of Section 41-1a-1314; or
539	(C) while committing a felony; and
540	(vi) notwithstanding Subsection (3)(c)(v), may be recovered:
541	(A) for a person under 18 years of age who is injured within the scope of Subsection
542	(3)(c)(v) but limited to medical and funeral expenses; or
543	(B) by a law enforcement officer as defined in Section 53-13-103, who is injured
544	within the course and scope of the law enforcement officer's duties.
545	(4) The inception of the loss under Subsection 31A-21-313(1) for underinsured
546	motorist claims occurs upon the date of the last liability policy payment.
547	(5) (a) Within five business days after notification that all liability insurers have
548	tendered their liability policy limits, the underinsured carrier shall either:
549	(i) waive any subrogation claim the underinsured carrier may have against the person
550	liable for the injuries caused in the accident; or
551	(ii) pay the insured an amount equal to the policy limits tendered by the liability carrier.
552	(b) If neither option is exercised under Subsection (5)(a), the subrogation claim is

under Subsection (7)(e)(ii).

553	considered to be waived by the underinsured carrier.
554	(6) Except as otherwise provided in this section, a covered person may seek, subject to
555	the terms and conditions of the policy, additional coverage under any policy:
556	(a) that provides coverage for damages resulting from motor vehicle accidents; and
557	(b) that is not required to conform to Section 31A-22-302.
558	(7) (a) When a claim is brought by a named insured or a person described in
559	Subsection 31A-22-305(1) and is asserted against the covered person's underinsured motorist
560	carrier, the claimant may elect to resolve the claim:
561	(i) by submitting the claim to binding arbitration; or
562	(ii) through litigation.
563	(b) Unless otherwise provided in the policy under which underinsured benefits are
564	claimed, the election provided in Subsection (7)(a) is available to the claimant only.
565	(c) Once the claimant has elected to commence litigation under Subsection (7)(a)(ii),
566	the claimant may not elect to resolve the claim through binding arbitration under this section
567	without the written consent of the underinsured motorist coverage carrier.
568	(d) (i) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing by the parties, a claim that is submitted to
569	binding arbitration under Subsection (7)(a)(i) shall be resolved by a single arbitrator.
570	(ii) All parties shall agree on the single arbitrator selected under Subsection (7)(d)(i).
571	(iii) If the parties are unable to agree on a single arbitrator as required under Subsection
572	(7)(d)(ii), the parties shall select a panel of three arbitrators.
573	(e) If the parties select a panel of three arbitrators under Subsection (7)(d)(iii):
574	(i) each side shall select one arbitrator; and
575	(ii) the arbitrators appointed under Subsection (7)(e)(i) shall select one additional
576	arbitrator to be included in the panel.
577	(f) Unless otherwise agreed to in writing:
578	(i) each party shall pay an equal share of the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected
579	under Subsection (7)(d)(i); or
580	(ii) if an arbitration panel is selected under Subsection (7)(d)(iii):
581	(A) each party shall pay the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected by that party; and
582	(B) each party shall pay an equal share of the fees and costs of the arbitrator selected

611

612

613

614

584 (g) Except as otherwise provided in this section or unless otherwise agreed to in 585 writing by the parties, an arbitration proceeding conducted under this section shall be governed 586 by Title 78B, Chapter 11, Utah Uniform Arbitration Act. 587 (h) The arbitration shall be conducted in accordance with Rules 26 through 37, 54, and 588 68 of the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure. 589 (i) All issues of discovery shall be resolved by the arbitrator or the arbitration panel. 590 (j) A written decision by a single arbitrator or by a majority of the arbitration panel 591 shall constitute a final decision. 592 (k) (i) The amount of an arbitration award may not exceed the underinsured motorist 593 policy limits of all applicable underinsured motorist policies, including applicable underinsured 594 motorist umbrella policies. 595 (ii) If the initial arbitration award exceeds the underinsured motorist policy limits of all 596 applicable underinsured motorist policies, the arbitration award shall be reduced to an amount 597 equal to the combined underinsured motorist policy limits of all applicable underinsured 598 motorist policies. 599 (1) The arbitrator or arbitration panel may not decide the issues of coverage or 600 extra-contractual damages, including: 601 (i) whether the claimant is a covered person; 602 (ii) whether the policy extends coverage to the loss; or 603 (iii) any allegations or claims asserting consequential damages or bad faith liability. 604 (m) The arbitrator or arbitration panel may not conduct arbitration on a class-wide or 605 class-representative basis. 606 (n) If the arbitrator or arbitration panel finds that the action was not brought, pursued, 607 or defended in good faith, the arbitrator or arbitration panel may award reasonable attorney fees 608 and costs against the party that failed to bring, pursue, or defend the claim in good faith. 609 (o) An arbitration award issued under this section shall be the final resolution of all

(B) serves the nonmoving party with a copy of the complaint requesting a trial de novo

(i) the award was procured by corruption, fraud, or other undue means; or

(ii) either party, within 20 days after service of the arbitration award:

(A) files a complaint requesting a trial de novo in the district court; and

claims not excluded by Subsection (7)(1) between the parties unless:

under Subsection (7)(o)(ii)(A).

- (p) (i) Upon filing a complaint for a trial de novo under Subsection (7)(o), the claim shall proceed through litigation pursuant to the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure and Utah Rules of Evidence in the district court.
- (ii) In accordance with Rule 38, Utah Rules of Civil Procedure, either party may request a jury trial with a complaint requesting a trial de novo under Subsection (7)(o)(ii)(A).
- (q) (i) If the claimant, as the moving party in a trial de novo requested under Subsection (7)(o), does not obtain a verdict that is at least \$5,000 and is at least 20% greater than the arbitration award, the claimant is responsible for all of the nonmoving party's costs.
- (ii) If the underinsured motorist carrier, as the moving party in a trial de novo requested under Subsection (7)(o), does not obtain a verdict that is at least 20% less than the arbitration award, the underinsured motorist carrier is responsible for all of the nonmoving party's costs.
- (iii) Except as provided in Subsection (7)(q)(iv), the costs under this Subsection (7)(q) shall include:
  - (A) any costs set forth in Rule 54(d), Utah Rules of Civil Procedure; and
  - (B) the costs of expert witnesses and depositions.
  - (iv) An award of costs under this Subsection (7)(q) may not exceed \$2,500.
- (r) For purposes of determining whether a party's verdict is greater or less than the arbitration award under Subsection (7)(q), a court may not consider any recovery or other relief granted on a claim for damages if the claim for damages:
  - (i) was not fully disclosed in writing prior to the arbitration proceeding; or
- (ii) was not disclosed in response to discovery contrary to the Utah Rules of Civil Procedure.
- (s) If a district court determines, upon a motion of the nonmoving party, that the moving party's use of the trial de novo process was filed in bad faith in accordance with Section 78B-5-825, the district court may award reasonable attorney fees to the nonmoving party.
- (t) Nothing in this section is intended to limit any claim under any other portion of an applicable insurance policy.
- (u) If there are multiple underinsured motorist policies, as set forth in Subsection (3), the claimant may elect to arbitrate in one hearing the claims against all the underinsured

646	motorist	carriers

- (8) (a) Within 30 days after a covered person elects to submit a claim for underinsured motorist benefits to binding arbitration or files litigation, the covered person shall provide to the underinsured motorist carrier:
- (i) a written demand for payment of underinsured motorist coverage benefits, setting forth:
  - (A) the specific monetary amount of the demand; and
  - (B) the factual and legal basis and any supporting documentation for the demand;
- 654 (ii) a written statement under oath disclosing:
  - (A) (I) the names and last known addresses of all health care providers who have rendered health care services to the covered person that are material to the claims for which the underinsured motorist benefits are sought for a period of five years preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for underinsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for arbitration or litigation has been exercised; and
  - (II) whether the covered person has seen other health care providers who have rendered health care services to the covered person, which the covered person claims are immaterial to the claims for which underinsured motorist benefits are sought, for a period of five years preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for underinsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for arbitration or litigation has been exercised that have not been disclosed under Subsection (8)(a)(ii)(A)(I);
  - (B) (I) the names and last known addresses of all health insurers or other entities to whom the covered person has submitted claims for health care services or benefits material to the claims for which underinsured motorist benefits are sought, for a period of five years preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for underinsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for arbitration or litigation has been exercised; and
  - (II) whether the identity of any health insurers or other entities to whom the covered person has submitted claims for health care services or benefits which the covered person claims are immaterial to the claims for which underinsured motorist benefits are sought, for a period of five years preceding the date of the event giving rise to the claim for underinsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for arbitration or litigation have not been disclosed; and

677	(C) if lost wages, diminished earning capacity, or similar damages are claimed, all
678	employers of the covered person for a period of five years preceding the date of the event
679	giving rise to the claim for underinsured motorist benefits up to the time the election for
680	arbitration or litigation has been exercised;
681	(D) other documents to reasonably support the claims being asserted; and
682	(E) all state and federal statutory lienholders including a statement as to whether the
683	covered person is a recipient of Medicare or Medicaid benefits or Utah Children's Health
684	Insurance benefits under Title 26, Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health Insurance Act, or if the
685	claim is subject to any other state or federal statutory liens; and
686	(iii) signed authorizations to allow the underinsured motorist carrier to only obtain
687	records and billings from the individuals or entities disclosed.
688	(b) (i) If the underinsured motorist carrier determines that the disclosure of undisclosed
689	health care providers or health care insurers under Subsection (8)(a)(ii) is reasonably necessary,
690	the underinsured motorist carrier may:
691	(A) make a request for the disclosure of the identity of the health care providers or
692	health care insurers; and
693	(B) make a request for authorizations to allow the underinsured motorist carrier to only
694	obtain records and billings from the individuals or entities not disclosed.
695	(ii) If the covered person does not provide the requested information within 10 days:
696	(A) the covered person shall disclose, in writing, the legal or factual basis for the
697	failure to disclose the health care providers or health care insurers; and
698	(B) either the covered person or the underinsured motorist carrier may request the
699	arbitrator or arbitration panel to resolve the issue of whether the identities or records are to be
700	provided if the covered person has elected arbitration.
701	(iii) The time periods imposed by Subsection (8)(c)(i) are tolled pending resolution of
702	the dispute concerning the disclosure and production of records of the health care providers or
703	health care insurers.
704	(c) (i) An underinsured motorist carrier that receives an election for arbitration or a
705	notice of filing litigation and the demand for payment of underinsured motorist benefits under
706	Subsection (8)(a)(i) shall have a reasonable time, not to exceed 60 days from the date of the
707	demand and receipt of the items specified in Subsection (8)(a)(i) through (iii), to:

708	(A) provide a written response to the written demand for payment provided for in
709	Subsection (8)(a)(i);
710	(B) except as provided in Subsection (8)(c)(i)(C), tender the amount, if any, of the
711	underinsured motorist carrier's determination of the amount owed to the covered person; and
712	(C) if the covered person is a recipient of Medicare or Medicaid benefits or Utah
713	Children's Health Insurance benefits under Title 26, Chapter 40, Utah Children's Health
714	Insurance Act, or if the claim is subject to any other state or federal statutory liens, tender the
715	amount, if any, of the underinsured motorist carrier's determination of the amount owed to the
716	covered person less:
717	(I) if the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is established, the amount of the
718	<u>lien; or</u>
719	(II) if the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is not established, two times the
720	amount of the medical expenses subject to the state or federal statutory lien until such time as
721	the amount of the state or federal statutory lien is established.
722	(ii) If the amount tendered by the underinsured motorist carrier under Subsection
723	(8)(c)(i) is the total amount of the underinsured motorist policy limits, the tendered amount
724	shall be accepted by the covered person.
725	(c) A covered person who receives a written response from an underinsured motorist
726	carrier as provided for in Subsection (8)(c)(i), may:
727	(i) elect to accept the amount tendered in Subsection (8)(c)(i) as payment in full of all
728	underinsured motorist claims; or
729	(ii) elect to:
730	(A) accept the amount tendered in Subsection (8)(c)(i) as partial payment of all
731	underinsured motorist claims; and
732	(B) litigate or arbitrate the remaining claim.
733	(d) If a covered person elects to accept the amount tendered under Subsection (8)(c)(i)
734	as partial payment of all underinsured motorist claims, the final award obtained through
735	arbitration, litigation, or later settlement shall be reduced by any payment made by the
736	underinsured motorist carrier under Subsection (8)(c)(i).
737	(e) In an arbitration proceeding on the remaining underinsured claims:
738	(i) the parties may not disclose to the arbitrator or arbitration panel the amount paid

139	under Subsection (8)(c)(1) until after the arbitration award has been rendered; and
740	(ii) the parties may not disclose the amount of the limits of underinsured motorist
741	benefits provided by the policy.
742	(f) If the final award obtained through arbitration or litigation is greater than the
743	average of the covered person's initial written demand for payment provided for in Subsection
744	(8)(a)(i) and the underinsured motorist carrier's initial written response provided for in
745	Subsection (8)(c)(i), the underinsured motorist carrier shall pay:
746	(i) the final award obtained through arbitration or litigation, except that if the award
747	exceeds the policy limits of the subject underinsured motorist policy by more than \$15,000, the
748	amount shall be reduced to an amount equal to the policy limits plus \$15,000; and
749	(ii) any of the following applicable costs:
750	(A) any costs as set forth in Rule 54(d), Utah Rules of Civil Procedure;
751	(B) the arbitrator or arbitration panel's fee; and
752	(C) the reasonable costs of expert witnesses and depositions used in the presentation of
753	evidence during arbitration or litigation.
754	(g) (i) The covered person shall provide an affidavit of costs within five days of an
755	arbitration award.
756	(ii) (A) Objection to the affidavit of costs shall specify with particularity the costs to
757	which the underinsured motorist carrier objects.
758	(B) The objection shall be resolved by the arbitrator or arbitration panel.
759	(iii) The award of costs by the arbitrator or arbitration panel under Subsection (8)(f)(ii)
760	may not exceed \$5,000.
761	(h) (i) A covered person shall disclose all material information, other than rebuttal
762	evidence, as specified in Subsection (8)(a).
763	(ii) If the information under Subsection (8)(h)(i) is not disclosed, the covered person
764	may not recover costs or any amounts in excess of the policy under Subsection (8).
765	(i) This Subsection (8) does not limit any other cause of action that arose or may arise
766	against the underinsured motorist carrier from the same dispute.
767	(j) The provisions of this Subsection (8) only apply to motor vehicle accidents that
768	occur on or after the effective date of this bill.
769	Section 3. Effective date.

# 1st Sub. (Green) S.B. 62

## 03-09-10 6:44 PM

770	If approved by two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, this bill takes effect
771	upon approval by the governor, or the day following the constitutional time limit of Utah
772	Constitution Article VII, Section 8, without the governor's signature, or in the case of a veto,
773	the date of veto override.
774	Section 4. <b>Revisor instructions.</b>
775	It is the intent of the Legislature that the Office of Legislative Research and General
776	Counsel, in preparing the database for publication, delete "the effective date of this bill" where
777	it appears in this bill and replace it with the actual date on which the bill takes effect.

#### S.B. 62 1st Sub. (Green) - Motor Vehicle Insurance Coverage Amendments

### **Fiscal Note**

2010 General Session State of Utah

#### **State Impact**

Enactment of this bill will not require additional appropriations.

### Individual, Business and/or Local Impact

Enactment of this bill likely will not result in direct, measurable costs and/or benefits for local governments. Individuals and business may see an increase in premiums over time.

3/10/2010, 3:37:00 PM, Lead Analyst: Schoenfeld, J.D./Attny: SCH

Office of the Legislative Fiscal Analyst