

RCW 48.31.105 Conduct of proceedings—Requirement to cooperate—Definitions—Violations—Penalties. (1) An officer, manager, director, trustee, owner, employee, or agent of an insurer or other person with authority over or in charge of a segment of the insurer's affairs shall cooperate with the commissioner in a proceeding under this chapter or an investigation preliminary to the proceeding. The term "person" as used in this section includes a person who exercises control directly or indirectly over activities of the insurer through a holding company or other affiliate of the insurer. "To cooperate" as used in this section includes the following:

(a) To reply promptly in writing to an inquiry from the commissioner requesting such a reply; and

(b) To make available to the commissioner books, accounts, documents, or other records or information or property of or pertaining to the insurer and in his or her possession, custody, or control.

(2) A person may not obstruct or interfere with the commissioner in the conduct of a delinquency proceeding or an investigation preliminary or incidental thereto.

(3) This section does not abridge existing legal rights, including the right to resist a petition for liquidation or other delinquency proceedings, or other orders.

(4) A person included within subsection (1) of this section who fails to cooperate with the commissioner, or a person who obstructs or interferes with the commissioner in the conduct of a delinquency proceeding or an investigation preliminary or incidental thereto, or who violates an order the commissioner issued validly under this chapter may:

(a) Be guilty of a gross misdemeanor and sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars or to undergo imprisonment for a term of not more than three hundred sixty-four days, or both; or

(b) After a hearing, be subject to the imposition by the commissioner of a civil penalty not to exceed ten thousand dollars and be subject further to the revocation or suspension of insurance licenses issued by the commissioner. [2011 c 96 § 38; 2003 c 53 § 272; 1993 c 462 § 58.]

Findings—Intent—2011 c 96: See note following RCW 9A.20.021.

Intent—Effective date—2003 c 53: See notes following RCW 2.48.180.

Severability—Implementation—1993 c 462: See RCW 48.31B.901 and 48.31B.902.