

**THE HEALTH BENEFIT AGENT ACT (EXCERPT)**  
**Act 252 of 1986**

**550.1016 Violation of act; orders; penalties for violation of cease and desist order; injunction.**

Sec. 16.

(1) If the commissioner finds that a person has violated this act, after an opportunity for a hearing pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, being sections 24.201 to 24.328 of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the commissioner shall reduce the findings and decision to writing and shall issue and cause to be served upon the person charged with the violation a copy of the findings and an order requiring the person to cease and desist from the violation. In addition, the commissioner may order any of the following:

(a) Payment of a civil fine of not more than \$300.00 for each violation. However, if the person knew or reasonably should have known that he or she was in violation of this act, the commissioner may order the payment of a civil fine of not more than \$1,500.00 for each violation. However, an order of the commissioner under this subsection shall not require the payment of civil fines exceeding \$10,000.00. A fine collected under this subdivision shall be turned over to the state treasurer and credited to the general fund of the state.

(b) A refund of any overcharges.

(c) That restitution be made to the subscriber or other claimant to cover incurred losses, damages, or other harm attributable to the acts of the person which are found to be in violation of this act.

(d) The suspension or revocation of the person's license or certificate of authority.

(2) The commissioner may by order, after notice and opportunity for hearing, reopen and alter, modify, or set aside, in whole or in part, an order issued under this section, if in the opinion of the commissioner conditions of fact or of law have changed to require that action, or if the public interest requires that action.

(3) If a person knowingly violates a cease and desist order under this act and has been given notice and an opportunity for a hearing held pursuant to the administrative procedures act of 1969, Act No. 306 of the Public Acts of 1969, the commissioner may order a civil fine of not more than \$10,000.00 for each violation, or a suspension or revocation of the person's license or certificate of authority, or both. However, an order issued by the commissioner pursuant to this subsection shall not require the payment of civil fines exceeding \$50,000.00. A fine collected under this subsection shall be turned over to the state treasurer and credited to the general fund of the state.

(4) The commissioner may apply to the circuit court of Ingham county for an order of the court enjoining a violation of this act.

**History:** 1986, Act 252, Eff. Mar. 31, 1987

**Compiler's Notes:** For transfer of authority, powers, duties, functions, and responsibilities of the insurance bureau and the commissioner of insurance to the commissioner of the office of financial and insurance services and the office of financial and insurance services, see E.R.O. No. 2000-2, compiled at MCL 445.2003 of the Michigan compiled laws.