

Principal Life Insurance Company
Feb 22, 2019

SERFF #: TRIP-131735489

Policy forms affected: FR 601

The Principal Life Insurance Company offered group policy form FR 601 to its employees, retirees, and their family members. Certificates were issued from March 1992 through August 2007. They are requesting approval to increase the premium 87.3% on 40 Pennsylvania policies.

The Department approved a 20% increase on these group forms.

Effective date of rate change: Renewals on and after 2/22/2019.

The current policies in place are not generating sufficient premium to pay future claims to policyholders. This is a common problem for a number of insurers nationwide because policyholders are keeping their policies longer than expected and are living longer than projected. As a result, policyholders are using more benefits on average than the company anticipated when the policies were originally sold. This means the company has to pay out more for benefits than it originally projected.

In making this decision, the Department considered the projected loss ratio for each block of policy forms, that is, the projected total amount of benefits paid out versus the total amount of premium collected, the reasonableness of the assumptions the company used in its projections, and the company's financial situation. The Department also considered the financial impact this rate increase would pose to consumers, the past rate increases policyholders have faced, and the availability of options to limit the rate increase by reducing benefits.

Although the rate increase is significant, the company is offering ways for policyholders to limit the rate increase by reducing benefits. The company will let you know your options when they contact you directly about this premium increase.

This Rate Filing Decision Summary is a tool to help explain the rate filing and does not describe all the factors considered as part of the Department's rate review.