

South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation
700 Governors Drive
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www.sdjobs.org
www.state.sd.us/insurance

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State Insurance Agency Cuts Red Tape

PIERRE, S.D. – The South Dakota Division of Insurance recently helped a Sioux Falls insurance agency solve a big problem for one of their agricultural business clients.

The Ohio Department of Transportation would not permit the client's vehicle to leave the state without adding a required amendment to his business' insurance policy. He was stuck in the state of Ohio.

Not only did his policy not have the amendment, but his insurance company did not have the amendment approved in South Dakota. Without that approval, the amendment could not legally be placed on the policy. Agent Joe Hayes was told by his company it normally took 20 to 30 days to get approval from states before they could amend his policy.

Luckily for the business owner, he lives in South Dakota.

With a call to the Division of Insurance by the agent, the wheels were set in motion. Agent Hayes was told to have his company file the policy amendment for approval, and Division approval would be expedited. Late the same afternoon, the insurance company filed the amendment. The amendment was approved electronically at 8 a.m. the following morning with immediate notification made to the insurance company and Agent Hayes.

"This is a classic example of the way state insurance regulation can and does work," said Merle Scheiber, Director of the Division of Insurance. "Advocates of federal regulation, and other mechanisms to move regulatory authority away from the states, ignore the efficiencies and flexibility that state-based regulation can provide."

Individuals and businesses with insurance questions and problems can contact the South Dakota Division of Insurance for assistance by mail at 445 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501, by phone at 605-773-3563 or online at www.state.sd.us/insurance.