July 10, 1997

CIRCULAR LETTER NO. 1781

To All Members and Subscribers of the Bureau:

DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS ASSESSMENT

The Department of Industrial Accidents has released the following official assessment rates to be applied to policies effective July 1, 1997 and thereafter.

Public Employers .118
Private Employers .040

These assessment rates are the result of an analysis of the financial needs of the Chapter 152, Section 65 funds for fiscal year 1998, and should be applied to the standard premiums, prior to the effects of any ARAP surcharge or deductible credit, of public and private policyholders, respectively.

Member carriers are reminded that under the provisions of M.G.L. c. 152 section 65, it is permissible for a public employer, which has a policy with a workers' compensation insurer, to chose not to fully participate in the Workers' Compensation Trust Fund.

The notice of non-participation must be filed with the Commissioner of the Department of Industrial Accidents by March 1st of any year in order to be effective as of July 1st of that year, and once properly filed and approved by the Department of Industrial Accidents, is irrevocable.
Prior to issuing any policy under the "Opt-Out" provision, carriers should confirm that the employer has been approved for non-participation. A list of approved public employers and approved public and private self insured employers is attached. Any questions should be directed to:

Ms. Joan Endres  
Department of Industrial Accidents  
600 Washington Street  
Boston, MA  02111  
(617) 727-4900   Ext. 232

The assessment rate for private self insured employers who have "Opted-Out" is .013 the assessment rate for public employers who have "Opted-Out" is .000 (zero). The assessment rates indicated at the beginning of this Circular will apply to the overwhelming majority of employers.

RALPH L. BOWDRIDGE  
Vice President

RLB/jd  
Attachment
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<tr>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>Attleboro</th>
<th>Fall River</th>
<th>New Bedford</th>
<th>Westfield</th>
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<td>Chicopee</td>
<td>Marlborough*</td>
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<td>Concord</td>
<td>Lexington</td>
<td>*Weymouth</td>
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**County** *Worcester*

**AUTHORITY/OTHER**

- P.E.R.A.
- M.I.I.A.
- Woods Hole, Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket Steamship Authority
- MA Education & Gov't Assn Workers' Compensation Trust
- MA National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO)
- Boston Water and Sewer Commission

**PRIVATE**

- Harvard Community Health
- Sturdy Memorial Hospital
- Deaconess Hospital
- Unicco
- Market Basket Inc.
- DeMoulas
- Stop & Shop Companies, Inc.
- Purity
- Morton International
- Armstrong
- The Gillette Company
- St. Johnsbury
- Cape Cod Hospital
- Yellow Freight Systems, Inc.
- Norwood Hospital
- MA Retail Merchants' Workers' Compensation Trust
- The Flatley Company
- Federal Express
- Boston College
- New England Medical Center Hospitals
- Salem Hospital
- DuPont Merck Pharmaceutical Company
- E.I. duPont de Remours & Company
- Freudenberg Nonwovens Limited Partnership
- Roche Bros. Supermarkets, Inc.
- Affiliated Publications, Inc.
- MA High Technology Self-Insurance Group
- Sisters of Providence Health System
- Holyoke-Chicopee Area Health Resources, Inc.
- Baystate Health Systems
- Star Markets Company, Inc.

* Effective FY98