

VIRGINIA STATE BAR MEMBERS' INSURANCE CENTER

an affiliate of Digital Benefit Advisors endorsed by the Virginia State Bar

We serve as a broker/administrator and assist many law firms/VSB members with their health, life, and disability insurance.

The Virginia State Bar Members' Insurance Center is an affiliate of Digital Benefit Advisors and is endorsed by the Virginia State Bar.

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Sole Practitioners Now Eligible For Group Health Insurance

The General Assembly recently passed SB 672, which will become law effective July 1. It modifies the health insurance definition of a small group to include sole practitioners who work 30 hours a week. This is very important to sole practitioners and will result in stronger health insurance at dramatically lower premiums.

There are two types of health insurance policies, individual and group. Prior to January 1, 2018, there was not much of a difference in premiums between them. However, most insurance companies withdrew from the individual market effective January 1, 2018. There is now only one insurance carrier offering individual health insurance in most localities, and whose rates increased 50%. By comparison, group health insurance rates increase about 15% in 2018. In recent months, I was able to establish 125 new group health insurance plans as group health insurance now costs 30% less than individual health insurance. To establish a group plan an attorney needed to have a full-time, non-spousal employee. While this worked for many, sole practitioners without any employees were frustrated, as many had no other choice than to enroll in the expensive, nearly collapsing individual health insurance market. Now sole practitioners can enroll in group health insurance. They can receive the same benefits and rates as law firms with 2-50 employees. Sole practitioners need not wait until the end of the year to enroll.

Serving as a broker, I have guided law firms with their health insurance for 25 years. I am very pleased to again be able to offer group health insurance to sole practitioners as we did prior to the Affordable Care Act.

My colleagues and I can assist you if you. If you would like a quote, or to discuss group health insurance, please contact me.

Thank you,

Bob Spicknall, President
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