

The Fall 2019 issue of the South Dakota Division of Insurance outlines important information regarding the 2020 Health Care Open Enrollment, which runs from November 1 to December 15, 2019, with coverage effective from January 1, 2020. Consumers are encouraged to consult local health insurance producers for assistance in understanding their health insurance needs and available plan options. It is emphasized that not all health insurance policies are comprehensive major medical policies, and consumers should inquire about the specifics of any policy, including premiums, before making a purchase. The Division has approved two carriers, Avera Health Plans and Sanford Health Plan, to sell individual comprehensive health policies during this enrollment period. Additional resources for consumers include a guide on questions to ask when shopping for health insurance and a Health Insurance Shopping Tool for comparing plans.

The document also notes a change in the address for quarterly and annual premium tax payments, which should now be sent to the South Dakota Department of Revenue in Pierre. Furthermore, the National Insurance Producer Registry (NIPR) has launched new features in its mobile app, allowing insurance professionals to access their licensing information and receive reminders for license renewals.

Recent administrative rule changes have been made, including updates to continuing education requirements for insurance producers. The Division is promoting life insurance awareness, highlighting the importance of coverage and providing resources such as the Life Insurance Policy Locator, which helps consumers find lost or unclaimed policies.

Additionally, the Division warns about promissory note scams, which can involve fraudulent investments and unregistered securities. Producers are advised to be cautious of unsolicited investment offers and to ensure that any promissory notes are properly registered. Lastly, the Division is preparing for the 2020 Legislative Session, inviting discussions on potential legislative changes prior to its commencement. For further inquiries, consumers can contact the Division

directly.