State of Idaho

DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

BRAD LITTLE
Governor

700 West State Street, 3rd Floor P.O. Box 83720 Boise, Idaho 83720-0043 Phone 208-334-4250 Fax 208-334-4398 Website: https://doi.idaho.gov DEAN L. CAMERON Director

Idaho Department of Insurance News Release

For immediate release: April 8, 2019 Contact: Steve Lombard, 208-334-4312

steve.lombard@doi.idaho.gov



Cease and Desist Order Issued to Makina Health Unlicensed company ordered to stop doing business in Idaho

BOISE, ID – A cease and desist order for soliciting health insurance clients without being properly licensed to do so in Idaho has been issued to Makina Health, the Department of Insurance announced today. The order immediately prevents Makina Health or any entity with the word 'Makina' in its name from engaging in the business of transacting insurance in the state of Idaho. The actions of Makina, which operates as a private purchasing cooperative based out of Texas, are in violation of Idaho Code § 41-213(1)(a).

Acting on a tip from the public, the Department began investigating Makina this past December following an allegation the company was soliciting self-funded health care plans in the Gem State. The company maintained a website touting health plans labeled "fantastic options for the value." Idaho Code § 41-4003(3) provides that self-funded plans, including multiple employer welfare arrangements (MEWAs) that operate within Idaho must be registered with the Department. Makina violated this code by acting as a MEWA in the state of Idaho.

"We have a responsibility to protect Idaho consumers by making sure the insurance producers with whom they do business are properly licensed under the Idaho Insurance Code," said Director Dean Cameron.

Makina may file a request for a hearing in this matter. A copy of the <u>Makina Order</u> is available on the Department website.

About the Department of Insurance

The Idaho Department of Insurance has been regulating the business of insurance in Idaho since 1901. The mission of the Department is to serve and protect Idahoans by equitably, effectively and efficiently administering the Idaho Insurance Code and the International Fire Code. For more information, visit doi.idaho.gov.