



NYCIRB

New York Compensation
Insurance Rating Board
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September 17, 2018

R.C. 2470

Re: Annual Letter to the Membership

Members of the Rating Board:

In the second year of its 5-year strategic plan, the Rating Board is building on its early successes and positioning itself to educate, inform, provide value, and maintain a healthy workers' compensation marketplace.

Our vision of serving as the objective and trusted thought-leader in the New York State workers' compensation industry is broader than our statutory mandate and satisfies a public need. The system works best for all stakeholders when information is shared and the marketplace story is told. We believe that we are uniquely positioned to provide thought-leadership, and that doing so puts policymakers in a better position to identify issues and address inequities, enhances the competitive environment, and equips stakeholders with information to improve a system dedicated to the care of injured workers.

The Rating Board is embracing initiatives in year two of its transformation with vigor and is achieving results for both our public and private sector partners. We have collaborated with our regulators to provide them with data analysis, pricing, and expertise, and in doing so, created an additional dimension to policymaking and fostered close working relationships. We believe that providing this value to our public sector partners will have a positive impact on all stakeholders.

The Rating Board is continuing to publish reports and studies shedding light on New York State's workers' compensation system. The [2018 State of the System Report](#) provides the latest marketplace insights and trends while our studies on [Medical Payments](#) and [Motor Vehicle Accidents](#) drill down into some of New York State's most significant cost drivers. Together, these publications make the New York State marketplace more transparent for all stakeholders.

Improving customer experience has also been a top priority over the past year. In addition to assigning member insurers dedicated customer representatives to facilitate efficient communication, the Rating Board developed and released a new data submission application (Manage Data) to improve data submission quality and timeliness and launched Phase 1 of an online Data Warehouse to provide insurers with an intuitive analytics tool. Phase 2 enhancements to the Data Warehouse will be released in the fall of 2018.

The Rating Board also developed two online applications for industry stakeholders. An online business ownership form was released in the spring of 2018 to enable efficient electronic submission of ownership information used for experience rating purposes. In addition, a Classification Digest will be released in the fall of 2018 and make classification information searchable electronically and will link it with related data, such as rating values and pure premiums.

We are working hard to earn the trust of the community and our regulators and are proud to report that in July of 2018, for the third consecutive year, the New York State Department of Financial Services approved the Rating Board's actuarially recommended loss cost level change – loss costs in the State remain at an adequate level.

Indeed, the New York State marketplace is healthy and more competitive than it has been in years. Private insurer premium levels have increased 6.1% and pricing is competitive with a wide range of approved loss cost multipliers in the State. Profitability is also on the rise with a calendar year combined ratio of 91.2%. Importantly, insurers and businesses are not alone in this growing economy. In July of 2018, the New York State private sector job count rose to an all-time high of 8,192,300 and the unemployment rate decreased to 4.3% – its lowest level since before the great recession.

We look forward to advancing our 5-year strategic plan, achieving our vision, and continuing to transform the Rating Board into the objective and trusted thought-leader in the marketplace. But perhaps most fundamentally, we look forward to continuing to work with and serve our stakeholder community. I am filled with a sense of gratitude and pride about the Rating Board, and I am thankful for the support and involvement of our membership. I wish you all much continued success and I look forward to continuing our work together.

Very truly yours,



Jeremy Attie
President and CEO