

VETO MESSAGE - No. 255

TO THE SENATE:

I am returning herewith, without my approval, the following bill:

Senate Bill Number 1634, entitled:

"AN ACT to amend the insurance law, in relation to creating a task force on disasters"

NOT APPROVED

This bill would create a task force to examine and report on whether policyholders and communities have adequate insurance coverage and if they are able to rely upon that coverage in the event of a disaster.

The Department of Financial Services houses the Insurance Emergency Operation Center, which monitors the sufficiency and timeliness of insurer disaster response efforts to ensure that policy claims are speedily and fairly processed. In addition, the Department can swiftly implement a range of corrective measures to compensate for any insurer deficiency, as demonstrated in the wake of Superstorm Sandy, when the Department imposed an emergency moratorium on homeowner and small business policy cancellations and non-renewals and issued 20,000 temporary insurance adjuster licenses. Moreover, the Department works closely with localities to ensure that State and local efforts are appropriately integrated.

As the bill continues to duplicate efforts already made and programs already in progress, and the Legislative has failed to identify funding for this proposal, I am constrained to veto this bill.

The bill is disapproved.

(signed) ANDREW M. CUOMO
