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CONTACT: Susan Nolan NCOIL National Office 518-687-0178 Paul Donohue NCOIL Washington Office 202-220-3014

NCOIL TO PURSUE MARKET CONDUCT REFORM, CONSIDER AMENDMENTS IN SPECIAL SESSION

<u>Washington D.C., July 10, 2006</u>—Uniform regulation of insurer market conduct will take center stage when lawmakers at the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) July 20 through 23 Summer Meeting in Boston, Massachusetts, gather during special session to consider proposed amendments to an original, February 2004 NCOIL model law. The session, convened by the NCOIL State-Federal Relations Committee, will take place on July 20 from 2:45 to 4:45 p.m.

The amendments to the NCOIL *Market Conduct Surveillance Model Law* have been offered by an NCOIL Market Conduct Subcommittee and address issues including, among other things, state collaboration, market analysis procedures, insurance department data requests, confidentiality, department access to third-party information, and review of complaint and other insurer data.

The Subcommittee was appointed by NCOIL President Rep. Frank Wald (ND) at the 2006 Spring Meeting and charged with studying and recommending revisions to the February 2004 model. Legislators at the meeting discussed the lack of state, and particularly regulatory, support for a more recent NCOIL-National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) version, adopted by NCOIL in July 2004 and by the NAIC in September 2004, and determined to revisit NCOIL's original model act.

In general, the NCOIL bill would establish a framework for Insurance Department market conduct actions, including processes and systems for identifying, assessing, and prioritizing market conduct problems that have a substantial adverse impact on consumers, policyholders, and claimants.

The Subcommittee's proposed amendments follow significant input from various interested parties, including the American Council of Life in Insurers (ACLI), America's Health Insurance Plans (AHIP), Allstate Insurance Company, American Insurance Association (AIA), Consumer Credit Insurance Association (CCIA), National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC), New York Life Insurance Company, and State Farm Mutual Insurance Companies.

The NCOIL Summer Meeting will be held at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel & Towers in Boston, Massachusetts.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose main area of public policy interest is insurance legislation and regulation. Most legislators active in NCOIL either chair or are members of the committees responsible for insurance legislation in their respective state houses across the country. More information is available at www.ncoil.org.

For further details, please contact NCOIL at 518-687-0178.

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