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**NCOIL SENDS LETTER TO CONGRESSIONAL LEADERSHIP,
SEEKS ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE DISCUSSIONS**

Washington, D.C., December 5, 2013—Following Annual Meeting approval of a *Resolution Reaffirming Support for the U.S. State-Based System in International Insurance Regulatory Discussions*, NCOIL legislators urged Congress and the Obama Administration to maintain the tenets and authority of our national system of state insurance regulation. The request, expressed in a December 2 letter penned to federal counterparts, also asked for a place at the table in any congressional discussions, federal councils, commissions, or task forces with international insurance oversight.

According to NCOIL President Rep. Greg Wren (AL), “Since the financial crisis there has been an increased focus on global financial regulation. Some of these international regulatory efforts could have a significant influence on state-based insurance regulation, which successfully withstood the financial crisis. It is vital that state lawmakers, who determine insurance public policy in the states, play a prominent role in any international insurance regulatory discussion moving forward.”

The NCOIL President went on to say that “NCOIL historically has opposed any infringement on the primacy of states to regulate their individual insurance markets and has asserted that for over 150 years the U.S. state-based insurance regulatory system has effectively protected consumers and promoted insurer solvency. Taken together, U.S. state premium volume represents a third of all premium volume in the world,” Rep. Wren noted, “and six U.S. states are within the top 20 insurance markets in the world.”

The NCOIL letter was directed to U.S. House and Senate leadership and to Members of the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs. Also receiving the letter were the Council of State Governments, the Federal Insurance Office, the Financial Stability Oversight Council, the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, the National Conference of State Legislators, and the National Governors Association.

The NCOIL 2013 Annual Meeting took place in Nashville from November 21 through 24.

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.

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