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NCOIL CONGRATULATES REP. GEORGE KEISER AS NEW FACI MEMBER, WELCOMES ADDITION OF LEGISLATIVE VOICE

Troy, NY, August 5, 2014 — NCOIL today congratulated Rep. George Keiser on his appointment, in his capacity as a state legislator from North Dakota, to the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance (FACI)—a selection that reflects NCOIL’s belief, first expressed upon creation of FACI in 2011, that legislative membership is critical as FACI deliberates and makes recommendations to the Federal Insurance Office (FIO).

“NCOIL has long believed and urged federal officials to recognize,” said NCOIL President Sen. Neil Breslin (NY), “that state legislators, who enact insurance laws in this country, have a unique and vital perspective to offer as FACI counsels the FIO on issues regarding, for instance, the availability and affordability of insurance. The need for a legislative voice is perhaps even more critical now—in light of overseas dialogues that could threaten state regulation—than when NCOIL first called for including a legislator on FACI.”

Sen. Breslin expressed confidence in Rep. Keiser’s expertise and in his commitment to state regulation. “NCOIL is pleased,” Sen. Breslin said, “that a past NCOIL president and leader on so many NCOIL issues will represent state lawmakers, who have a day-to-day understanding of what’s happening in their states and communities. We are certain,” Sen. Breslin added, “that Rep. Keiser’s proven ability to work with others will be of great benefit to FACI efforts.”

Rep. Keiser has represented Bismarck in the North Dakota House of Representatives since 1993 and has chaired the North Dakota House Industry, Business & Labor Committee for 13 years. He was NCOIL president from 2011 to 2012 and has led various NCOIL committees and subcommittees.

As recently announced by the Department of Treasury, which houses the FIO, FACI now includes 20 members in addition to Rep. Keiser. Eight members are state insurance regulators, nine hail from the insurance industry, two are consumer advocates, and one is an academic. FACI members serve two-year terms and are expected to meet regularly in Washington, DC.

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 the NCOIL National Office at 518-687-0178 or at snolan@ncoil.org.

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