

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Albany, New York, August 26, 2002—**The National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) has moved to develop a greater presence in Washington.

            NCOIL President, State Senator William J. Larkin, Jr., of New York announced today that NCOIL would establish a Washington office and that Timothy Tucker would head the office and serve as the organization’s representative before Congress and federal executive branch agencies.

            Sen. Larkin said Mr. Tucker would be responsible for building strong and clear lines of communication between state legislators in NCOIL and members of Congress and their staffs.  The New York lawmaker said Mr. Tucker also would serve as the main staff support person for the NCOIL State-Federal Relations Committee, chaired by State Senator Neil Breslin of New  York.  He said Mr. Tucker would operate from a soon-to-be established NCOIL office in Washington, D.C. Sen. Larkin said Mr. Tucker would report to Bob Mackin, NCOIL’s Executive Director.

            In making the announcement, Sen. Larkin said, “Recent Congressional initiatives that would allow optional state-federal chartering of insurers, as well as ongoing state efforts to modernize insurance rate and form filing regulation, establish one-stop shopping for company and producer licensing, and reform of market conduct regulation all point to the need for a strong state legislative presence in Washington and on Capitol Hill.

            “Tim Tucker possesses an ideal combination of private and public sector experience necessary to clearly articulate to Congress and the Administration the views of state legislators.  All of us at NCOIL are happy to have him on our team.”

            Since 1999, Mr. Tucker has served as Director of State Government Affairs for the Independent Insurance Agents & Brokers of America.  Prior to that time he served as Director of

Legislative Affairs and Education for NCOIL.  Earlier he had been Legislative Director with the New York State Assembly.

            Mr. Tucker has a Masters Degree in Public Administration from the State University of New York and an undergraduate degree from the University of Dayton.  He currently resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

            Mr. Tucker’s appointment will be effective September 23.  It is expected that NCOIL will announce the location and contact information for the NCOIL Washington office on October 1.

            NCOIL’s National Office will remain in Albany, New York.  NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose main area of public policy concern is insurance and insurance regulation.  Legislators active in NCOIL either chair or are active members of the committees responsible for insurance in their respective legislative houses across the country.

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