



PRESIDENT: REP. CRAIG EILAND, TX
VICE PRESIDENT: REP. FRANK WALD, ND
SECRETARY: SEN. ALAN SANBORN, MI
TREASURER: REP. BRIAN KENNEDY, RI
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CHAIR: SEN. JAMES SEWARD, NY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Susan Nolan
NCOIL National Office
518-687-0178

Paul Donohue
NCOIL Washington Office
202-220-3014

NCOIL APPLAUDS CONGRESS ON TRIA EXTENSION

Washington, D.C., December 20, 2005-- The National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) applauded Congress today for reaching a compromise that resulted in a two-year extension of the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002 (TRIA). The House and Senate had passed separate and distinct bills to extend TRIA and congressional staff worked throughout last week on a compromise bill culminating in an agreement last Friday. NCOIL legislators were disappointed that the final bill did not contain coverage for group life insurance, an inclusion long endorsed by NCOIL legislators.

NCOIL was one of the first legislative organizations that publicly supported creation of a limited, temporary federal backstop for terrorism coverage after the 9/11 tragedies. After enactment of TRIA, NCOIL was, once again, one of the first organizations to support reauthorization of TRIA. In July 2004 and again in March of 2005 NCOIL legislators sent Congress a letter containing its resolution supporting TRIA reauthorization. The resolution expressed the concern that TRIA is necessary in order to forestall major marketplace disruptions in the event of a major terrorist event. In the letters accompanying the resolution, NCOIL's Executive Committee warned that the United States continues to be the ultimate target of many dangerous international terrorists and possible future attacks could include the use of nuclear, biological, chemical, or radiological weapons. Without TRIA, legislators warned that banks might be unwilling to extend loans for commercial transactions such as mortgages, construction projects and other capital-intensive initiatives.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose main area of focus 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 Washington Office at 202-220-3014.

#

K: /NCOIL/2005 Documents/20049b.doc