

NEWS RELEASE

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ALBANY, NY, JANUARY 26, 2000 – Leading state legislators, state insurance commissioners, consumer advocates, and insurance industry representatives will address important public policy issues relating to insurance legislation and regulation at the 2000 Spring Meeting of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL).

The agenda for the meeting will focus on globalization, pharmaceutical pricing, class action lawsuits, financial modernization, and viatical settlements.

The meeting will be held at the San Francisco Crowne Plaza, Union Square, on Thursday, February 24 through Sunday, February 27.

Ann Main, Director of Services Trade Negotiation for the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, will be the featured speaker at a luncheon on Saturday, February 26, from 12:00 noon through 1:30 p.m. Ms. Main will speak on insurance regulatory issues in international trade treaties.

The program will include an open hearing by the Viatical Settlements Subcommittee of the NCOIL Life Insurance Committee. The purpose of the hearing is to produce ideas for a proposed draft NCOIL comprehensive viatical settlements model act. The hearing will provide legislators and other interested parties with insights on such issues as “healthy-lives transactions” commonly referred to as life settlements, emerging secondary market sales and purchases of life contracts, insurable interest considerations, fraudulent practices, improving investor protections, and improving consumer protections and disclosures.

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The program will also include the following panel discussions and speakers.

-- “Seniors and Pharmaceutical: How Much Is Too Much?” with presentations by Jake Hansen, Vice President of Government Affairs, Barr Laboratories; Dick Costigan, Director of State Government Relations, Pfizer, Inc.; and Liz Helms, Manager of Public Advocacy, Californians Have a Right to Know.

-- “Class Action Lawsuits: A New State Preemption,” with presentations by Sherman Joyce, President, American Tort Reform Association; James Tuite, Associate General Counsel, State Farm; and Melvyn Weiss, Attorney, Milberg, Weiss, Bershad, Hynes & Lerach LLP.

-- “Financial Modernization: What Lies Ahead?” with presentations by George Nichols III, Kentucky State Insurance Commission and National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) President; Susan Henrichsen, California Deputy Attorney General; Michael Lovendusky, Assistant General Counsel, American Insurance Association; and Kymberly Messersmith, Principle, KM Strategies.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose main area of public policy concern is insurance legislation and regulation. Many legislators active in NCOIL either chair or are members of the committees responsible for insurance legislation in their respective state houses across the country.

Registration forms and tentative agendas for the NCOIL San Francisco meeting may be obtained from Ms. Kelly McArdle, NCOIL, 139 Lancaster Street, Albany, NY 12210-1903; telephone: 518-449-3210; fax: 518-432-5651; e-mail: [info@ncoil.org](mailto:info@ncoil.org); or by visiting the NCOIL website at [www.ncoil.org.](http://www.ncoil.org/)

**Past News Releases**

[ORLANDO, FL NOVEMBER 21, 1999](http://www.ncoil.org/news/archive/election.html) -- New Jersey Dep. Speaker Clare Farragher (R-Freehold) was elected President of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) at its 31st Annual Meeting recently concluded in Orlando, Florida.

[ALBANY, NY APRIL 26, 1999](http://www.ncoil.org/news/archive/april99.html) More than 7,000 officials who make public policy decisions relating to insurance are listed in the newly released *1999 NCOIL Insurance Legislative Fact Book & Almanac*, published under the auspices of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL).

[ALBANY, NY, NOVEMBER 5, 1998](http://www.ncoil.org/news/archive/nov598.html) -- Leading state legislators, state insurance commissioners, consumer advocates, and insurance industry executives will address important public policy issues relating to insurance legislation and regulation at the 30th Annual meeting of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL).

[ALBANY, NY, MAY 28, 1998](http://www.ncoil.org/news/archive/may2898.html) -- Leading state legislators, state insurance commissioners, consumer advocates, and insurance industry executives will address important public policy issues relating to insurance legislation and regulation at the upcoming meeting of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL).

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