

# GENERAL MEDIA ADVISORY

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# NCOIL PLANS SESSION ON LONG-TERM CARE

# SPONSORS LTC CONFERENCE

**Albany, New York, June 14, 2002** – In the past 15 years, the long-term care (LTC) insurance market has increased 18 percent annually, making LTC insurance a growth market.  But although the population, aging rapidly and living longer, seems aware that they will have LTC insurance needs, most Americans admit that they have not purchased it.

The National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) will address why more consumers aren’t buying policies in Boston on July 13, 2002.  The panel discussion, *Igniting Interest in Long-Term Care*, will take place in conjunction with NCOIL’s 2002 Summer Meeting scheduled to take place at the Sheraton Boston from July 11 through 14.  The panel discussion before more than 200 legislators, insurance commissioners and industry representatives, will also focus on how better education and tax incentives might encourage sales and whether or not coverage will still be there when consumers need it.

In making the announcement of the LTC discussion, Sen. James Seward (NY), Chair of the Life Insurance Committee, said, “Long-term care insurance should be a priority for all Americans, not just those elderly who are without the resources to provide for their continued care.  NCOIL legislators recognize the need to educate themselves and their constituents about the importance of LTC insurance and the availability of different types of LTC policies.  That is why we feel this discussion is a significant step in elevating awareness.”

Sen. Seward said that Rep. Rick Golick (GA) will moderate the general session, which will feature an overview from Sam Morgante, vice president of Government Relations for GE Capital Assurance; a discussion of the federal plan by John Cutler, project leader for the Federal LTC Insurance Program; a regulatory/consumer perspective from Guenther Ruch, administrator for the Division of Regulation and Enforcement at the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the State of Wisconsin; and an economist’s viewpoint from Janemarie Mulvey of Watson Wyatt.

Sen. Seward also announced today that NCOIL will co-sponsor the 16th Private Long Term Care Insurance Conference scheduled for February 12 through 14, 2003, at the Marriott Rivercenter in San Antonio, Texas.  The meeting, planned by the LTC Insurance Educational Foundation, will explore the latest LTC trends.

He further noted that information on the Private LTC Insurance Conference is available at[www.ltcedfoundation.org](http://www.ltcedfoundation.org/).

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.

Information about NCOIL LTC initiatives is available at [www.ncoil.org](http://www.ncoil.org/), or by contacting the NCOIL National Office at (518) 449-3210.

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