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**NCOIL TO HOLD HEARING ON HOTLY DEBATED
AFTERMARKET CRASH PARTS MODEL ACT**

**Troy, New York, May 12, 2005**In a discussion sure to ignite strong opinions regarding which automotive crash parts best serve consumers, the Property-Casualty Insurance Committee of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) will consider a proposed *Certified Aftermarket Crash Parts Model Act* during a July 7 hearing scheduled during the July 7 through 10 NCOIL Summer Meeting in Newport, Rhode Island.

The proposed model law would provide that all certified non-car company aftermarket crash parts used to repair a motor vehicle are suitable replacement parts; require a body shop or insurance estimate to indicate the possible use of certified aftermarket crash parts and to identify the parts’ manufacturers, if possible; and also apply to leased or financed cars.

The hearing, scheduled for 3:15 to 5:15 p.m., will focus on specific provisions of the draft model act, rather than more general testimony regarding certified aftermarket versus original equipment manufacturer (OEM) crash parts.

The Committee first considered the proposed model law several years ago.  In November 2002, following more than a year of deliberations, the Committee voted to defer further discussion of the proposal until the 2005 NCOIL Spring Meeting.  Legislators at the time cited a need to address other issues.

Upon resuming consideration of the draft at the Spring Meeting, the Committee voted to hold a hearing on the matter at the July NCOIL Summer Meeting in order to reacquaint legislators with details of the issue.

Concerns previously raised with the model act included how to enforce a provision that prevented penalizing a person who leased or financed a vehicle and repaired it with a certified aftermarket crash part.  Committee members also questioned why the model law did not require auto body shops and insurers to specify whether a certified aftermarket or an OEM crash part had been used.

The Committee further discussed ways in which a consumer might ensure use of OEM parts should he or she prefer them.  Legislators ultimately could not reach agreement on this issue.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose primary focus 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.

Copies of the [proposed model act](http://www.ncoil.org/news/May1205/ProposedModelAct.pdf), [notice of hearing](http://www.ncoil.org/news/May1205/NoticeofHearing.pdf), and [request-to-testify form](http://www.ncoil.org/news/May1205/RequesttoTestifyForm.pdf) for the hearing are attached to this press release. They also are available on the NCOIL Web site, [www.ncoil.org](http://www.ncoil.org/).

The NCOIL Summer Meeting will be held at the Hotel Viking in Newport, Rhode Island.

For more information, please contact the NCOIL National Office at 732-201-4133 or at cthorson@ncoil.org .

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