



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
Erik Olson
NCOIL National Office
518-687-0178

LOUISIANA WORKERS COMP OFFICIAL OUTLINES HURRICANE KATRINA CHALLENGES AT NCOIL ANNUAL MEETING

San Diego, California, November 21, 2005 — As the hurricane season draws to a close, an official of the Louisiana Workers' Compensation Corporation on November 17 addressed legislators gathered here for the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) Annual Meeting and outlined Louisiana workers' compensation insurance initiatives following Hurricane Katrina.

Steven Cavanaugh, chief executive officer of the Corporation, stressed that enormous challenges face the region, including a loss of many jobs, an increase in demand for certain other employments (such as clean-up crews to handle the numerous abandoned cars), and a lack of suitable permanent housing for necessary employees, including hotel and restaurant staff.

According to Mr. Cavanaugh, officials have addressed certain concerns regarding workers' compensation coverage through emergency orders, including a ban on policy cancellations, requirements to renew policies for a limited period of time, and dispute resolution suspensions.

Mr. Cavanaugh said that an aftereffect of the storm may be increased claims activity among certain risks. He said, for instance, that more claims may be expected from contractors and other roofing professionals as they begin the seemingly endless repair of buildings in the Gulf Coast region. Coverage for roofers is notoriously expensive due to the higher level of risk it carries compared with other occupations.

Mr. Cavanaugh spoke before the NCOIL Workers' Compensation Insurance Committee. His report was one of several Annual Meeting discussions regarding the impact of Hurricane Katrina.

The NCOIL Annual Meeting was held at the Hilton San Diego Resort in San Diego, California.

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 committee responsible for insurance legislation in their respective state houses across the country.

Please contact NCOIL at 518-687-0178 should you have any questions.

#