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#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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#### NCOIL PRESIDENT ADDRESSES NATIONAL TRAGEDY

Albany, NY, September 17, 2001 –  NCOIL President Rep. Terry Parke (IL) today made the following announcement concerning the terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.:

"The state legislators of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators wish to extend their deepest sympathies to the families of those lost on September 11.  The World Trade Center housed offices of a number of insurance companies and brokers, including Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield, Aon and Fireman's Fund.  As those companies assess their losses and rebuild, our hearts go out to their employees and to the loved ones of those who may be missing.  New York has lost former State Insurance Superintendent Neil Levin and we expect that, as time goes on, we may learn of others whom we know."

"It will be quite a while before we understand the full impact of this devastating tragedy.  Early estimates indicate that this will be the costliest insurance event in history, with damages resulting from the largest man-made disaster ever reliably estimated at $25 billion.  Companies representing every aspect of the industry are agreeing to cover all claims, which may give some immediate comfort.  But how this incident affects us in the long run is something that we will only see as it unfolds over time."

"As legislators with insurance concerns, NCOIL's members will remain informed on developments affecting their constituents and the industry."