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NATIONAL COUNCIL OF INSURANCE LEGISLATORS (NCOIL)

Resolution in Honor of Past President William J. Larkin Jr., NY

**Adopted by the NCOIL Executive Committee on December 13th, 2019*

**Sponsored by Senator Neil Breslin (NY), Past NCOIL President; Senator Dan "Blade" Morrish (LA), NCOIL President; Assemblyman Kevin Cahill (NY), NCOIL Secretary; Assemblywoman Pamela Hunter (NY); Assemblyman Andrew Garbarino (NY)*

WHEREAS, William Larkin served for over 40 years in the New York State Legislature, having served in the Assembly from 1979-1990 and elected to the New York State Senate in November 1990; and

WHEREAS, Bill served NCOIL faithfully as President of the National Conference of Insurance Legislators in 2002 and passed many pieces of landmark legislation over the last four decades, earning the recognition of one the "100 Most Powerful People in the Insurance Industry-North America"; and

WHEREAS, Bill led the charge on legislation recognized as the greatest veteran's reform package since WWI and later became a founding member of the Genesis Group, which founded the National Purple Heart Hall of Fame and the campaign to create the Purple Heart Forever Stamp; and

WHEREAS, he sponsored legislation which required Pulse Oximetry testing on all newborns, for which he was named the American Heart Association's Legislator of the Year for his leadership in passing this bill; and

WHEREAS, as NCOIL President, Bill helped in the response to the September 11 terrorist attacks and held multiple sessions where legislators focused on state disaster management and recovery, the Congressional response, impacts on specific lines of insurance, and industry forecasts; and

WHEREAS, Bill was a veteran who volunteered for the draft and entered service at the age of 16 and eventually served more than 23 years in the United States Army; and

WHEREAS, he was appointed Army Project Officer for the visit of John F. Kennedy during his trip to Germany in 1963 and later guarded Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. during his march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama; and

WHEREAS, among the many honors Bill received are the Decoration for Distinguished Civilian Service medal, the New York State Senate Veterans Leadership Award, an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, and the prestigious Ottaway Medal; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCOIL lawmakers Recognize and Honor Senator Larkin for his record of unmatched service and will remember him by his version of the motto “Duty, Honor, and Country” by adding the word Respect, and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that NCOIL, with great appreciation, will send this resolution to Bill’s family in honor of his special place in NCOIL history.