National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL)

Resolution Recognizing Past President Senator James L. Seward (NY) as an Honorary Member of NCOIL

*Sponsored by Sen. Jason Rapert (AR); Asm. Ken Cooley (CA); Sen. Travis Holdman (IN); Rep. Matt Lehman (IN); Rep. Joe Fischer (KY); Sen. Neil Breslin (NY); Asm. Kevin Cahill (NY)*

*Adopted by the Executive Committee on December 12, 2020.

WHEREAS, James (Jim) Seward has served for over 30 years in the New York State Senate after being elected in 1986 and appointed as Chairman of the Senate Energy and Telecommunications Committee; and

WHEREAS, Jim has been a longtime active NCOIL member, having served in each of the NCOIL Officer positions, culminating with his successful tenure as NCOIL President in 2009, and currently serving as Vice Chair of the NCOIL Audit Committee; and

WHEREAS, throughout his time at NCOIL, Jim has been at the forefront of several important NCOIL efforts including being the sponsor of:

- Resolution Regarding Reinsurance Collateral Requirements;
- Out-of-Network Balance Billing Transparency Model Act;
- Resolution in Support of the Health Partnership Through Creative Federalism Act;
- NCOIL Principles on Healthcare Reform;
- Resolution Opposing Certain Executive Sessions of Public Policy Officials;
- Resolution in Opposition to Amending or Repealing the McCarran-Ferguson Act;
- Resolution in Support of Surplus Lines Insurance Multi-State Compliance Compact (“SLIMPACT”);
- Resolution Urging Congress to Extend the Effective Date for Non-admitted Insurance Provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act;
- Resolution Encouraging States to Join an Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Compact;
- Resolution Regarding the States’ Response to International Proposals for Insurer Solvency Regulation and a Global Insurance Capital Standard (ICS);
• Resolution in Support of State Insurance Commissioner Authority Over Fixed Indexed Annuity Products;
• Resolution in Support of the Confidentiality of Risk-Based Capital Information;
• Resolution Concerning Amendments to the State Liquidation Laws Addressing Large Deductibles; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his efforts at NCOIL, Jim has led a prestigious career in the New York Senate, having served as Chair of the Senate Standing Committee on Insurance, Chair of the Senate Task Force on Volunteer Emergency Services, Chair of the Senate Task Force on State and Local Emergency Preparedness following the September 11, 2001 attacks on New York City and Washington, and currently serving as Ranking Member of the Senate Finance Committee; and

WHEREAS, no matter in what role Jim has served, he has fought to develop policy that helps consumers and has always maintained responsiveness to his colleagues and constituents through personal contact, including district office hours, one of his greatest strengths and highest priorities; and

WHEREAS, Jim has courageously battled through health challenges, including COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, NCOIL legislators, staff, and participants have thoroughly enjoyed the hours they have spent working with, laughing with, learning from, and growing to know him as a great legislator and a great man; and

WHEREAS, NCOIL’s bylaws permit the NCOIL Executive Committee to, at any regular meeting, confer the title of “Honorary Member” on any individual who has served in a state legislature but is no longer a member of the state legislature, and who the Executive Committee wishes to recognize for outstanding service to NCOIL; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the NCOIL Executive Committee recognizes Jim’s outstanding service to NCOIL; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Senator Jim Seward is hereby recognized by the NCOIL Executive Committee as an NCOIL Honorary Member, to become effective upon Jim’s retirement from the New York State Senate; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, with great appreciation, that NCOIL will send this Resolution to Jim in honor of his special place in NCOIL history.