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**NCOIL ADOPTS LEGISLATIVE TOOLKIT TO EMPOWER STATE LAWMAKERS
IN INTERNATIONAL INSURANCE DISCUSSIONS**

Charleston, South Carolina, March 1, 2015 — NCOIL, recognizing the urgent threat that international initiatives pose to state insurance regulation, adopted on February 27 a legislative toolkit for state advocacy in international insurance dialogues—to help empower state lawmakers speaking with federal and global officials. The toolkit, which was approved unanimously during a joint Spring Meeting session of the NCOIL International Insurance Issues Committee and International Issues Task Force, will be refined and updated immediately following the meeting and then distributed to legislatures throughout the U.S.

According to Sen. Dan “Blade” Morrish (LA), chair of the Task Force:

The toolkit is one of NCOIL’s most critical initiatives to ensure that state legislators have a strong and clear voice in overseas discussions that threaten the future of state-based oversight. Lawmakers in the states are committed to preserving state consumer protections, but the complexity of global efforts and the urgent need to respond means that state legislators need to be educated so they can most effectively engage with officials here and outside the U.S.

NCOIL President Sen. Neil Breslin (NY), who testified before Congress on November 18 regarding proposed global capital standards, noted after NCOIL approved the toolkit that the package is one component of NCOIL’s overall international issues initiative. The NCOIL President said that:

NCOIL has mounted an aggressive effort to join with fellow supporters of state-based insurance regulation to stress that the U.S. approach—while different from approaches in other nations—is effective and time-tested. Legislators and other entities must work together to ensure that state regulation is not left behind in misguided pursuit of uniform requirements for insurers around the world, and information is key to our effort.

The NCOIL Committee and Task Force at their joint February 27 meeting asked members of the Task Force’s Advisory Council to submit, by March 11, updates to the toolkit materials they submitted in November. Interested parties also will look to refine the material they provided.

As per Task Force discussion throughout 2014 with members of the Task Force’s State Officials Working Group and with the Task Force Advisory Council, the toolkit covers several key areas of concern: global capital requirements, group-wide supervision, market conduct, corporate governance, covered agreements, and trade agreements.

The toolkit also addresses transparency issues at the International Association of Insurance Supervisors (IAIS), which is developing the proposed global standards under debate; includes a glossary of international entities affecting U.S. insurance oversight; and incorporates NCOIL resolutions, letters, and comments to federal and international officials regarding international matters.

The NCOIL Executive Committee approved the legislative toolkit on March 1. The NCOIL Spring Meeting took place from February 27 to March 1 at The Mills House Wyndham Grand Hotel.

NCOIL is an organization of state legislators whose main area of public policy interest is insurance legislation and regulation. Most legislators active in NCOIL either chair or are members of the committees responsible for insurance legislation in their respective state houses across the country. More information is available at www.ncoil.org.

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