



NCOIL IN THE NEWS



Insurance Legislators Adopt Biomarker Testing Model Regulation

August 2, 2023

The NCOIL Biomarker Testing Insurance Coverage Model Act was passed by the Health Insurance and Long-Term Care Issues Committee and was subsequently adopted by the organization as a whole during its July summer meeting in Minneapolis.

Biomarker testing is becoming increasingly important to cancer care because it helps providers tailor cancer treatment when actionable biomarkers are present. While guidelines exist, insurance coverage of biomarker testing varies widely, as Milliman noted in a report last year.

“The consideration, lengthy deliberations, and passage of the biomarker model represents NCOIL at its best,” said NCOIL CEO Tom Considine. “We began from a position of wide disagreement and ended in a place with a strong consensus short of unanimity.”



NCOIL Members Fight for Lead Role in Insurance Regulation

June 1, 2023

More recently, NCOIL committees are delving into the more controversial issues of the day, including a yearlong exploration of environmental, social and governance issues.

NCOIL can do those things due to a stringent commitment to nonpartisanship, Considine explained. The council alternates its annual presidency position between Republican and Democrat. This year, Rep. Deborah Ferguson, D-Ark., is serving as president, and she will be succeeded by Rep. Tom Oliverson, R-Texas, in 2024.

“Insurance issues are far more regional than they are partisan and far more substantive than they are partisan,” Considine said.

NCOIL Clashes with FTC Over Proposed Rule

July 3, 2023

The National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) has voiced concerns to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) regarding a proposed rule that NCOIL claims would infringe upon the state regulation of insurance and violate the McCarran-Ferguson Doctrine.

“This proposed rule is yet another example of why it is important for state legislators and regulators to always be alert and ready to push back on any and all attempts to undermine the state-based system of insurance regulation,” said Arkansas Representative Deborah Ferguson, NCOIL president.

NCOIL maintains that the proposed rule, if implemented without amendments, would undermine the states' authority to regulate service contracts, which have long been recognized as insurance-related products.



NCOIL Writes IRS, FTC on Rules it Says Infringe State Regulation

July 3, 2023

The National Council of Insurance Legislators last week urged the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Trade Commission to reconsider proposed rules that the organization said encroaches on state regulation.

The first of the letters from NCOIL addresses a years old controversy regarding certain, small captive insurance companies.

In its other letter to the FTC, NCOIL said it has a problem with a proposed rule that would undermine NCOIL's authority to regulate service contracts.

NCOIL Issues Letter to IRS Denouncing Proposed Micro-Captive Changes

June 29, 2023

The National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) announced June 27 that it had submitted a comment letter to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) denouncing proposed changes to Section 831(b) of the U.S. Tax Code.

The proposed rule (109309-22) targets micro-captives, which the IRS has called “abusive” and “schemes that lack many of the attributes of genuine insurance,” and would create loss-ratio requirements of 65%, as well as loan back limitations and 10-year retroactive provisions for these entities.

In its letter to the IRS, the NCOIL claimed these regulations are in violation of the McCarran-Ferguson Doctrine.



NCOIL Appoints Committee Leaders

January 6, 2023

The National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) has announced its lineup of committee chairs and vice chairs for 2023.

“I am looking forward to working with such an outstanding group of bipartisan legislative leaders from all across the country, who are all committed to advancing NCOIL's national reach and influence in creating sound insurance public policy,” said Arkansas state Rep. Deborah Ferguson, president of NCOIL.

“Each legislator has carved out their role and importance to NCOIL as they all have significant knowledge and expertise in the insurance and financial services arenas that will serve them well in leading their committees,” Ferguson concluded.