



NCOIL IN THE NEWS



States offer tax-free disaster savings accounts. Nobody Cares.

August 6, 2024

MS enacted a law years ago to encourage people to set aside money for natural disasters – and pay less taxes as a result. Hardly anyone has done it.

Experts attribute low uptake to the fact that the accounts do not offer savings on federal income tax, which is much higher than state income tax. A state tax break is “not enough to move behavior,” said Tom Considine, the CEO of the National Council of Insurance Legislators, a coalition of state lawmakers that drafts model legislation related to insurance.

Considine expects his organization will pass a resolution in November that calls on the federal government and every state to pass catastrophe account-related legislation. The group has not drafted a model bill for states, but that could happen if Congress moved first.

“I do think there’s an appetite for this on the state side,” Considine said. There is also interest on the federal side, he added, but the costs associated with implementing a new tax benefit has been a barrier.



Industry Orgs Urge DC Circ. To Ax HUD Disparate Impact Rule

May 9, 2024

Several industry associations are backing a D.C. Circuit challenge to a U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development rule governing disparate impact claims under the Fair Housing Act, contending the federal agency exceeded its powers and ignored Supreme Court precedent in issuing the regulation.

NCOIL’s CEO Tom Considine said they filed the amicus brief “at a time of high frustration regarding federal agency violation of McCarran-Ferguson generally.”

“While Congress gave the states the authority to regulate the ‘business of insurance’ in the McCarran-Ferguson Act of 1945, Congress did reserve for itself the right to pass laws relating to insurance; it did not give agencies such as HUD any such authority,” Considine said in a statement. “Congress had no intention to allow agencies to regulate the ‘business of insurance.’”



Insurance Legislative Organization’s GC to Take Over as CEO

July 22, 2024

William Melofchik will take over as CEO from Thomas B. Considine, who became NCOIL’s first-ever CEO in January 2016. Considine is retiring from the post effective Dec. 31, the organization announced last week.

“I’m extremely honored to have the opportunity to serve as NCOIL’s CEO,” Melofchik told Law360 Pulse in an email Monday. “What Tom has done throughout his time at NCOIL to grow and strengthen the organization has been truly amazing.

Melofchik added that “[He looks] forward to working with everyone to push back on that encroachment, while ensuring that NCOIL continues to grow and maintain its status as a national, bipartisan organization where policymakers and interested parties can gather to develop sound policy,”

Considine told Law360 in an email Monday that that he believes Melofchik is a good choice to serve as the organization’s next leader. “Will has been in the copilot seat here since his promotion to general counsel,” Considine said. “He has been a full partner, and NCOIL could not be in better hands.”



NCOIL Concludes Successful Spring Meeting Nashville

May 9, 2024

NCOIL concluded its 2024 Spring National Meeting in Nashville, breaking all previous attendance records for a Spring Meeting. In what was the first of the organization’s three National Meetings in 2024, there was 367 participants consisting of 73 legislators from 31 states, 17 first-time legislators, 8 Insurance Commissioners, and 16 total insurance departments represented.

The packed agenda featured topics such as: affordability and availability problems in the auto and homeowners’ insurance marketplace; efforts to achieve mental and behavioral health parity, and the countervailing costs; insurance issues related to catalytic converter theft; liability related issues within the sharing economy; third party litigation financing; the continued development of treatment and coverage for obesity; and more.



NCOIL CEO steps down from role

August 6, 2024

Tom Considine, CEO of the National Council of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL), has announced his retirement, effective December 31, 2024.

Commenting on his retirement, Considine said: “When I came to NCOIL as CEO in 2016, my goals were to stabilize & secure NCOIL financially; to grow the organization in overall attendance and legislator participation through higher quality meetings; and to re-establish first the relevance then the importance of NCOIL in insurance public policy. I’m proud of the work we’ve done together with the great legislative leadership we’ve had here to meet and exceed all of these goals.”

“Tom’s exceptional leadership and extensive experience coupled with his outgoing personality has significantly contributed to NCOIL’s success and growth over the past decade,” said Rep Deborah Ferguson, DDS, (AR) NCOIL immediate past president.



NCOIL Supports Effort to Inspire Young Professionals to Choose a Career in Insurance

February 12, 2024

NCOIL is proud to join the Insurance Careers Movement (ICM) in highlighting the many important and fulfilling career opportunities the insurance industry has to offer. The ICM is a global network of more than 1,000 insurance carriers, agents, trade associations, and industry partners working to engage the next generation for careers in insurance.

The insurance industry offers a wide array of career paths for people of diverse skillsets and interests starting out their careers,” said Rep. Tom Oliverson, M.D. (TX), NCOIL President. “As a practicing anesthesiologist and Chair of the Texas House Insurance Committee, I have seen the important role insurance plays both in our economy and in one’s personal well-being. I encourage everyone to consider the opportunities available and help ensure the industry stays strong for years to come.”

