Virtual Meeting
(in lieu of meeting at the 2021 Spring National Meeting)

PRODUCER LICENSING (D) TASK FORCE
Friday, March 26, 2021
1:30 – 2:30 p.m. ET / 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. CT / 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. MT / 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. PT

Summary Report

The Producer Licensing (D) Task Force met March 26, 2021. During this meeting, the Task Force:

1. Adopted its Nov. 13, 2020, minutes.

2. Heard an update on the state implementation of online examinations. Thirty-two states have implemented online examinations, and three states are scheduled to implement online examinations by the end of April. The Task Force Co-Chairs have polled the remaining states and thirteen additional states are moving toward implementation of remote. Only three states have decided not to implement remote at this time. The Producer Licensing Uniformity (D) Working Group will review the examination standards in the State Licensing Handbook (Handbook) to ensure that the Handbook is consistent with the state practices of implementing remote examinations.

3. Heard a briefing on the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers Reform Act of 2015 (NARAB Reform Act), which is a federal law that sets nonresident producer license qualifications on a multi-state basis. The briefing addressed the impact on state producer licensing and included an overview of the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers (NARAB) structure and governance, the timeline of activities since the adoption of NARAB Reform Act, and NARAB board responsibilities.

4. Received a report from the Producer Licensing Uniformity (D) Working Group. The Working Group met March 18 and discussed licensing standards for pet insurance. The Working Group discussed three options: 1) confirm that the current uniform licensing standards for pet insurance are the correct policy direction; 2) recommend that pet insurance become a core limited line that all states shall adopt; and 3) recommend that the major lines of authority of property/casualty (P/C) be required to sell pet insurance.

5. Received a report from the Uniform Education (D) Working Group. The Working Group met March 2 and discussed: 1) the 2019 Continuing Education Reciprocity (CER) Agreement, which 44 jurisdictions have signed; 2) exam pass rates and a new process of obtaining and posting annual state exam pass rates from testing vendors; and 3) continuing education (CE) course instructor requirements and how to create greater uniformity among the states.

6. Received a report from the National Insurance Producer Registry (NIPR) Board of Directors. NIPR launched a major upgrade to its Attachment Warehouse application used to enable insurance producers and other licensees to upload licensing-related documents for review by state insurance regulators. NIPR processed 38 million credentialing and report transactions in 2020, a 5.2% increase from 2019. NIPR had $47.9 million in revenue in 2020, a 5.7% increase from 2019. The NIPR Board of Directors approved a 2021–2023 NIPR Strategic Plan – Our Bridge to the Future. The plan has the following three areas of focus: 1) engaged and empowered team; 2) customer-focused excellence; and 3) high-quality and reliable technology.
7. Received comments from the American Council of Life Insurers (ACLI) on how the NAIC’s initiatives on race and insurance relate to insurance producers and the desire to increase the number of minority producers.

8. Discussed procedures for amending NAIC Uniform Producer Licensing Applications. These procedures set forth the process for making changes to the applications while maintaining stable applications that comply with state statutes and regulations.