

August 25, 2022

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Democratic Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Patrick Leahy
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Vice Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Schumer, Leader McConnell, Chairman Leahy and Vice Chairman Shelby:

On behalf of the membership of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC), we write today to ask the Senate Appropriations Committee to continue funding for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) for FY 2023 and to continue to support these important resources for our citizens.

The primary goal of SHIPs is to advise, educate and empower individuals to navigate Medicare, Medicaid, Medigap and long-term care insurance and to help beneficiaries make choices that best meet their needs from the vast array of options. SHIP assisters are well trained and are able to address consumer questions and complaints quickly and effectively.

The nation's state insurance regulators recognize the valuable role that the SHIPs have played in helping America's seniors, people with disabilities and their families through consumer education. The NAIC urges the Committee to continue FY 2023 funding so SHIPs may continue their important work.

Sincerely,



Dean L. Cameron
NAIC President
Director
Idaho Department of Insurance



Chlora Lindley-Myers
NAIC President-Elect
Director
Missouri Department of Commerce
and Insurance



Andrew N. Mais (He/Him/His)
NAIC Vice President
Commissioner
Connecticut Insurance Department



Jon Godfread
NAIC Secretary-Treasurer
Commissioner
North Dakota Insurance Department