March 13, 2018

The Honorable Paul Ryan  The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker  Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives  U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515  Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rodney Frelinghuysen  The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairman  Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations  Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives  U.S. House of Representatives
H-305, The Capitol  1016 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515  Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader Pelosi, Chairman Frelinghuysen and Ranking Member Lowey,

On behalf of the membership of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, we write today to express our support for the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) and urge Congress to provide adequate funding 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 among the vast array of options to best meet their needs. 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 in providing consumer education. The NAIC urges the Committee to provide SHIPs with the necessary resources to continue this important work.

Sincerely,

Julie Mix McPeak  Eric A. Cioppa
NAIC President  NAIC President-Elect
Commissioner  Superintendent
Tennessee Department of  Maine Bureau of Insurance
Commerce & Insurance
Raymond G. Farmer  
NAIC Vice President  
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South Carolina Department of Insurance

Gordon I. Ito  
NAIC Secretary-Treasurer  
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