

May 7, 2019

The Honorable Richard E. Neal
Chairman
Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
1102 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Kevin Brady
Ranking Member
Ways and Means Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
1139 Longworth HOB
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Neal and Ranking Member Brady:

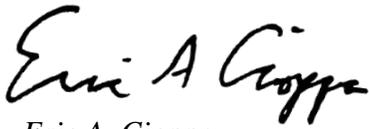
On behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC)¹, we would like to express our support for H.R 1994, the Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement (SECURE) Act. Recognizing the retirement savings crisis that exists in the United States, state insurance regulators have worked to make improvements to regulation and guidance impacting product delivery, compliance, and innovation of insurance products designed to help mitigate this crisis under the NAIC Retirement Security Initiative. Given the unique products and features of our sector, state insurance regulators have embraced a broader public policy responsibility to not only ensure consumers remain protected by a solvent industry, but to help foster an environment where they have greater flexibility and more options to take informed steps to secure their retirement. The SECURE Act is aligned with the goals of this initiative as it seeks to provide greater consumer options for retirement plans.

Several of the provisions contained in the SECURE Act also complement our own consumer financial literacy and disclosure efforts and will make it easier for consumers to save for retirement. First, the legislation makes it easier for consumers to engage in a tax-free rollover of an annuity to another employer-sponsored retirement plan or IRA and avoid surrender charges and fees, making these products more portable and providing consumers more flexibility. Second, the bill would encourage plan participants to think in terms of lifetime income by requiring benefit statements to break down the total account balance into estimates of monthly annuity income at least once a year. Third, the legislation makes it easier for ERISA plan sponsors to select companies to offer annuity products by creating a safe harbor that relies on the conservative solvency regime of the state insurance regulatory system, which is specifically designed to ensure that an insurance company's obligations will be met both today and many years into the future.

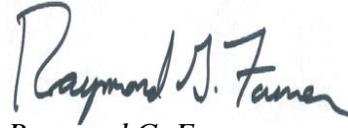
¹ Founded in 1871, the NAIC is the U.S. standard-setting and regulatory support organization created and governed by the chief insurance regulators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and the five U.S. territories. Through the NAIC, state insurance regulators establish standards and best practices, conduct peer review, and coordinate their regulatory oversight. NAIC members, together with the central resources of the NAIC, form the national system of state-based insurance regulation in the U.S.

We applaud your leadership in this effort to assist savers in making more-informed decisions to prepare for their retirement and allowing defined contribution plans to become a more effective vehicle for providing lifetime income.

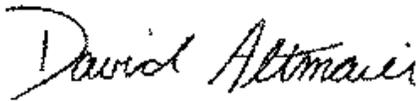
Sincerely,



Eric A. Cioppa
Eric A. Cioppa
NAIC President
Superintendent
Maine Bureau of Insurance



Raymond G. Farmer
Raymond G. Farmer
NAIC President-Elect
Director
South Carolina Department of Insurance



David Altmaier
David Altmaier
NAIC Vice President
Commissioner
Florida Office of Insurance Regulation



Dean L. Cameron
Dean L. Cameron
NAIC Secretary-Treasurer
Director
Idaho Department of Insurance



Michael F. Considine
Michael F. Considine
Chief Executive Officer
National Association of Insurance
Commissioners

cc: The Honorable Mike Kelly
The Honorable Ron Kind