May 2, 2019

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

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Republican Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nita Lowey
Chairwoman
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Kay Granger
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Leader McCarthy, Chairwoman Lowey and Ranking Member Granger:

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 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 provide SHIPs with the necessary funding to continue this important work.

Sincerely,

Eric A. Cioppa
Raymond G. Farmer
NAIC President
NAIC President-Elect
Superintendent
Director
Maine Bureau of Insurance
South Carolina Department of Insurance

David Altmaier
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NAIC Vice President
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