May 2, 2019

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

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

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

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  
Dean L. Cameron  
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NAIC Secretary-Treasurer  
Commissioner  
Director  
Florida Office of Insurance Regulation  
Idaho Department of Insurance

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