September 6, 2013

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker of the House
U. S. House of Representative

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jeb Hensarling
Chairman
House Financial Services Committee
U. S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Maxine Waters
Ranking Member
House Financial Services Committee
U.S. House of Representatives

Dear Speaker Boehner, Representatives Pelosi, Hensarling, and Waters:

We write today on behalf of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) in support of the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers Reform Act of 2013 (NARAB II) (H.R. 1155). 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.

The NARAB II legislation establishes the National Association of Registered Agents and Brokers (NARAB) to provide a mechanism for nonresident insurance producers to become eligible to do business in additional jurisdictions. Agents and brokers play an important role in the insurance marketplace by ensuring consumers are able to obtain insurance products that best fit their needs. State regulators’ authority and oversight over agents and brokers provide critical protections to consumers of insurance products. The NARAB II legislation preserves these protections and provides appropriate measures for implementation of the NARAB, an entity already referenced in the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act. The legislation reflects a carefully crafted consensus and our support is contingent on those provisions affecting state insurance regulation remaining unchanged. We urge your support for moving forward with this legislation.

Should you wish to discuss this letter or any other matter relating to the NAIC’s views on this proposed legislation, please do not hesitate to contact Ethan Sonnichsen, Director of Government Relations, at (202) 471-3980 or Mark Sagat, Counsel and Manager, Financial Policy and Legislation, at (202) 471-3987.

Sincerely,

James J. Donelon
NAIC President
Louisiana Insurance Commissioner

Adam Hamm
NAIC President-Elect
North Dakota Insurance Commissioner

Monica J. Lindeen
NAIC Vice President
Montana Commissioner of Securities & Insurance

Michael F. Consedine
NAIC Secretary-Treasurer
Pennsylvania Insurance Commissioner

cc: The Honorable Randy Neugebauer, U.S. House of Representatives
The Honorable David Scott, U.S. House of Representatives