

February 22, 2018

House Health, Insurance & Environment Committee Members
Colorado State Capitol
200 Colfax Street
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: Support of HB18-1149, Sunset Continue Consumer Insurance Council

Dear Members of the Health, Insurance, & Environment Committee:

Today, you will be considering HB18-1149, which, if passed, will continue the Colorado Consumer Insurance Council (Council), a consumer advisory group to the Colorado Division of Insurance (Division). As current members of the Council, we are writing to share our strong support for HB18-1149 and the continuance of the Council. We serve on the Council without compensation (except for mileage reimbursement) because we believe in the value of this forum.

The Council was codified in statute in 2008. As set forth in the statute, CRS 10-1-133(1), the role of the Council is to be "an advisory body to the commissioner concerning matters of interest to the public." During 2017, Council topics have included the health insurance rate review process, reinsurance, use of credit scores by property and casualty insurance companies, title insurance regulations, travel insurance, long term care insurance, and auto insurance trends. We have recently worked to clarify our advisory role, and now list specific recommendations to the Division in our meeting minutes.

Our meetings are open to the public and all meeting agendas and minutes are available on the Division's website.

By statute, the Council can have up to 15 members. Thanks to the work of one of our Council members, Carol Pace, the Council membership has significantly expanded over the past year. There are currently 11 members on the Council, and these individuals are from six of the seven congressional districts. Ms. Pace has also been actively soliciting potential members in the one unrepresented congressional district, CD5.

In summary, we believe the Council is a valuable forum for not only sharing consumer concerns with the Division, but also hearing from the Commissioner and Division staff about their priorities and activities. As Council members, many of us share Division updates and information through our networks.

Thank you for your consideration. We urge you to vote yes on HB18-1149 to continue the Council.

Sincerely,

Peg Ellefson
John Ezzo
Jen Fanning
Connie Fox
Julie Gomez
Barb Grant
Eileen Hunt
Debra Judy
Laurel Kubin
Carol Pace
Jacki Paone