



K a n s a s I n s u r a n c e D e p a r t m e n t

Sandy Praeger

COMMISSIONER OF INSURANCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 5, 2005

For more information, contact:

Charlene Bailey

Public Information Officer

785-296-7807 (office)

Commissioner Sandy Praeger Elected Vice-President of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC)

TOPEKA, KS – Kansas Insurance Commissioner Sandy Praeger is the newly elected Vice-President of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC). By a unanimous vote, her peers elected her during the NAIC Winter National Meeting held in Chicago December 4-6.

“It is an honor to be elected to serve in this national leadership role by my colleagues from all 50 states and five other jurisdictions. There are many challenges facing our association today, but I am very optimistic that as we continue to work together at both the state and national levels, we will not only protect our roles as state regulators, but most importantly, the rights of the people we all serve: the insurance consumer,” said Praeger.

An active member in NAIC, Praeger is also a member of the EX-1 Subcommittee for Internal Administration, Chair of the Audit Committee, Vice-chair of the Health Insurance and Managed Care Committee and member of the Life Insurance and Annuities Committee. She previously served as vice chair for the NAIC Midwestern Zone.

Commissioner Praeger is Kansas’ 24th Commissioner of Insurance. She is responsible for regulating all insurance sold in Kansas, an \$11 billion a year industry. The Kansas Insurance Department licenses nearly 1,700 insurance companies, and more than 23,000 resident and 48,000 non-resident agents in Kansas. Since taking office in January of 2003, the Kansas Insurance Department has recovered more than \$30 million for Kansas consumers.

Commissioner Praeger has testified before the U.S. Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee as it considers a new small business health plan for the states. She also appeared before the U.S. Senate Small Business Committee expressing concerns about association health plans. She was a recipient of the prestigious Dr. Nathan B. Davis Award, bestowed annually by the American Medical Association to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the public health through elected and career government service.

She previously served 3 terms in the Kansas Senate and one term in the Kansas House of Representatives. She also served as mayor of Lawrence, Kansas and was on the Lawrence City Commission.

- more -

Page Two: Praeger Elected Vice-President of NAIC

Also elected at the NAIC winter meeting were: Alessandro Iuppa, Maine's Superintendent of Insurance, as President; Walter Bell, Alabama Commissioner of Insurance, President-Elect; and Eric Serna, New Mexico Insurance Superintendent, Secretary-Treasurer.

Headquartered in Kansas City, Mo., the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) is a voluntary organization of the chief insurance regulatory officials of the 50 states, the District of Columbia and four U.S. territories. The association's overriding objective is to protect consumers and help maintain the financial stability of the insurance industry by offering financial, actuarial, legal, computer, research, market conduct and economic expertise. Formed in 1871, it is the oldest association of state officials.

###