

February 11, 2015

Chairman Bill Brown
Sen. John Sparks
Sen. Randy Bass
Sen. Darcy Jech
Sen. Mike Mazzei
Sen. Marty Quinn
Sen. Gary Stanislawski

RE: Support for Senate Bill 439 – Insurance Adjusters

Via email

Chairman Brown and Members of the Senate Insurance Committee:

The National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) truly appreciate your offices' willingness to hear our support for Senate Bill 439, which pertains to insurance adjusters.

We are the largest property/casualty insurance trade association in the country, serving regional and local mutual insurance companies on main streets across America as well as many of the country's largest national insurers. The 1,400 NAMIC member companies serve more than 135 million auto, home and business policyholders and write more than \$196 billion in annual premiums, accounting for 50 percent of the automobile/homeowners market and 31 percent of the business insurance market. In Oklahoma, we have 141 members doing business in the state, representing 39 percent of the marketplace.

Senate Bill 439 represents a number of steps in the right direction pertaining to insurance adjuster regulation.

First, section 1 adds some needed flexibility to the licensing process. This flexibility makes it easier for insurance companies to get adjusters licensed in the state. Such flexibility is appreciated when insurers are looking to bring more employees to Oklahoma.

Section 2 creates some protections for consumers utilizing the services of a public adjuster. It requires the public adjuster to have a written contract outlining the services to be rendered and the compensation to be paid to the public adjuster. Subsection B provides critical protections for the consumer by limiting the calculation of the public adjuster's compensation to the

differential between the amount of any final claim payment and the rejected settlement offer. This provision helps put more settlement funds in the pockets of Oklahoma consumers.

NAMIC believes this bill helps both insurers and consumers in Oklahoma. We are grateful for Sen. Quinn's leadership on this issue.

We appreciate your efforts. Thank you for taking time to hear our concerns. Please let me know if you have questions or comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the first name 'Paul' and the last name 'Martin' written in a cursive style.

Paul Martin
Director – State Affairs
Southwest Region

CC: Commissioner John Doak