



To: Senate Financial Institutions and Insurance Committee
From: Bob R. Shields, CPIA
Kansas Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA)
Re: Support for Senate Bill 26
Date: January 29, 2013

Chairman Olson and Members of the Committee:

My name is Bob R. Shields, and I am here today in my capacity as Chair of the Legislative Committee for the Kansas Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA). I appreciate the opportunity to testify in support of Senate Bill 26.

As you know, the Kansas PIA is an affiliate of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents (PIA National). Kansas PIA is dedicated to delivering exceptional and individual service to Kansas' small to mid-sized agencies and related companies serving the insurance industry. Our members pride themselves on being local agents serving main street America.

The PIA has been a long-standing supporter of the existing system of State based insurance regulation and opposes preemption by Federal regulators, whether optional or mandatory. In keeping with this tradition, PIA has worked in recent years with the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) and the National Conference of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) to improve the process insurance agents must go through to obtain a resident license and a non-resident license. Our goals have been to achieve uniformity and reciprocity among the states.

PIA believes SB 26 is an important piece of legislation that will support these goals and objectives. As outlined previously, SB 26 seeks to clarify statutory definitions relating to limited-lines insurance licenses of crop, title, travel, pre-need funeral, and bail bond insurance agents and exempt pre-need funeral agents from continuing education requirements. Passage of these provisions will help ensure uniformity and reciprocity standards are met while maintaining our State based insurance regulatory system. Additionally, we are supportive of the change to allow for regulatory compliance courses to count towards the satisfaction of existing continuing education requirements.

Thank you again for this opportunity to provide testimony in support of SB 26. The PIA encourages the committee to take favorable action on this measure.

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Senate Financial Institutions & Ins.

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Attachment # _____