

**As Adopted by the Senate**

**127th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
2007-2008**

**H. C. R. No. 34**

**Representative Batchelder**

**Cosponsors: Representatives McGregor, R., Raussen, Driehaus, Book, Hottinger, Harwood, McGregor, J., Adams, Flowers, Webster, Stebelton, Letson, Fessler, Wachtmann, Otterman, Fende, Gibbs, Daniels, Mecklenborg, Widener, Koziura, Barrett, Celeste, Coley, Dyer, Aslanides, Blessing, Brown, Chandler, Evans, Huffman, Hughes, Jones, Luckie, Patton, Schindel, Schneider, Setzer, Yates, Yuko, Zehringer Senators Miller, D., Kearney, Faber, Schaffer, Amstutz, Schuler, Buehrer, Coughlin, Harris, Lehner, Padgett, Seitz, Wagoner, Sawyer**

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**CONCURRENT RESOLUTION**

To express the commitment of the 127th Ohio General 1  
Assembly to maintain the states as the sole 2  
regulators on the business of insurance, and to 3  
express the opposition of the 127th Ohio General 4  
Assembly to any proposed law that would establish 5  
a federal insurance regulatory system. 6

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO (THE SENATE CONCURRING):**

WHEREAS, State insurance regulators have ensured the solvency 7  
of this nation's insurers, implemented a comprehensive consumer 8  
protection scheme, licensed insurance companies and agents, and 9  
supervised other areas of the insurance business for over 150 10  
years; and 11

WHEREAS, State regulators oversee thousands of insurance 12

companies and millions of agents and respond to more than three 13  
million inquiries per year; and 14

WHEREAS, State insurance regulation has been largely 15  
successful and effective, has adapted to changes in the 16  
marketplace, and encourages innovation; and 17

WHEREAS, State legislators and state insurance regulators are 18  
more responsive to the needs of consumers and are more aware of 19  
and responsive to the unique characteristics and demands of 20  
individual states; and 21

WHEREAS, Many states, including Ohio, regularly update state 22  
insurance laws and have recently enacted legislation that enables 23  
the insurance industry to more effectively respond to changing 24  
market conditions; and 25

WHEREAS, Governors, state legislators, and insurance 26  
commissioners have acknowledged the need to streamline and 27  
simplify insurance regulation and are working to enact reforms to 28  
remedy the unnecessary differences in state laws and eliminate 29  
requirements that prevent insurers and agents from serving the 30  
needs of insurance consumers in an effective and timely manner; 31  
and 32

WHEREAS, The 109th Congress considered and the 110th Congress 33  
is considering legislation that would establish an entirely new 34  
insurance regulatory system at the federal level and threaten the 35  
continued viability of the state system in the process; and 36

WHEREAS, A new and untested federal insurance regulatory 37  
system would almost certainly be more remote and politicized and 38  
less accessible and responsive than the current state system; and 39

WHEREAS, If enacted by Congress, these proposals would 40  
bifurcate insurance regulation between the states and the federal 41  
government, undermining the state system of consumer protections 42  
and financial surveillance, as well as inevitably causing a loss 43

of jobs, taxes, fees, and other vital and necessary state revenues 44  
needed to effectively regulate the insurance market and provide 45  
revenues to support residual market programs; and 46

WHEREAS, A dual regulatory structure will create consumer 47  
confusion and result in a regulatory race to the bottom; and 48

WHEREAS, Insurance companies paid \$13.8 billion in annual 49  
premium taxes to the states in 2004, and a federalization of 50  
insurance regulation could put these payments and other fees and 51  
revenues at risk; now therefore be it 52

RESOLVED, That the 127th Ohio General Assembly is committed 53  
to maintaining the states as the sole regulators of the business 54  
of insurance and will continue to support state efforts to 55  
streamline, simplify, and modernize insurance regulation; and be 56  
it further 57

RESOLVED, That the 127th Ohio General Assembly opposes any 58  
proposed law that would establish a federal insurance regulatory 59  
system or otherwise alter the McCarran-Ferguson Act; and be it 60  
further 61

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 62  
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 63  
members of the Ohio Congressional delegation, to Governor Ted 64  
Strickland, to the members of the United States House of 65  
Representatives Financial Services Committee, to the members of 66  
the United States Senate Banking Committee, to the United States 67  
Secretary of the Treasury, and to the news media of Ohio. 68