

Oregon State Legislature  
Senate Committee on Gen. Gov't., Consumer & Small Business Protection  
Oregon State Capitol  
900 Court Street NE, Room 453  
Salem, OR 97301

February 15, 2014

*Filed via electronic transmission to committee at: channa.newell@state.or.us*

**RE: HB 4051 - NAMIC's Written Testimony for Committee Hearing**

Dear Senator Chip Shields, Chair; Senator Larry George, Vice Chair; and members of the Senate Committee on Gen. Gov't., Consumer & Small Business Protection:

Thank you for providing the National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC) an opportunity to submit written testimony to your committee for the February 17, 2014, public hearing. Unfortunately, I will not be able to attend the public hearing, because of a previously scheduled professional obligation.

NAMIC is 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. NAMIC has 143 members who write property/casualty and workers' compensation insurance in the State of Oregon, which represents 45% of the insurance marketplace.

Through our advocacy programs we promote public policy solutions that benefit NAMIC companies and the consumers we serve. Our educational programs enable us to become better leaders in our companies and the insurance industry for the benefit of our policyholders.

NAMIC's members support HB 4051, Electronic Posting of Insurance Policy Forms on Insurer Website, as being pro-insurance consumer, pro-state ecology, and pro-business efficiency.

NAMIC believes that the language of the bill addresses all of the key elements of a balanced and measured consumer protection and business efficiency bill. Specifically, the bill has the following consumer protections: a) it expressly allows for the consumer to request a copy, at no cost to the consumer, of a paper copy of the policy forms; b) provides for strict privacy protection of personal consumer information; c) requires individual consumer notice of changes to the policy or endorsements; d) requires that the web posted policy forms be archived for 10 years after policy expires for long term consumer access; and e) requires that the web posted policy forms be readily accessed, saved, and printed from the website by the insurance consumer. HB 4051 is also a business-friendly bill, because it allows, but does not require insurers to use web posting for policy forms and endorsements, if such a practice fits their business model and addresses their insurance policyholders' desires.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please feel free to contact me at 303.907.0587 or at [crataj@namic.org](mailto:crataj@namic.org), if you would like to discuss NAMIC's written testimony.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Christian John Rataj".

Christian John Rataj, Esq.  
NAMIC Senior Director – State Affairs, Western Region