

1 that prevent insurers and agents from serving the needs of
2 insurance consumers in an effective and timely manner; and

3 WHEREAS, The 109th Congress considered, and the 110th
4 Congress is expected to consider, legislation that would establish
5 an entirely new insurance regulatory system at the federal level
6 and threaten the continued viability of the state system in the
7 process; and

8 WHEREAS, A new and untested federal insurance regulatory
9 system would almost certainly be more remote and politicized and
10 less accessible and responsive to consumers than the current state
11 system; and

12 WHEREAS, If enacted by congress, these proposals would
13 bifurcate insurance regulation between the states and the federal
14 government, conflicting with the state system of consumer
15 protections and financial surveillance, as well as inevitably
16 causing a loss of jobs, taxes, fees, and other vital and necessary
17 state revenues needed to effectively regulate the insurance market
18 and provide revenues to support residual market programs; and

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

23 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
24 hereby respectfully declare to the Congress of the United States
25 the legislature's commitment to maintaining the states as the sole
26 regulators of the business of insurance and to supporting state
27 efforts to streamline, simplify, and modernize insurance

1 regulation; and, be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the 80th Legislature of the State of Texas
3 hereby respectfully urge the Congress of the United States to
4 oppose any proposed law that would establish a federal insurance
5 regulatory system or otherwise alter the McCarran-Ferguson Act;
6 and, be it further

7 RESOLVED, That the Texas secretary of state forward official
8 copies of this resolution to the president of the United States, the
9 speaker of the house of representatives and the president of the
10 senate of the United States Congress, to the members of the United
11 States House Financial Services Committee, to the members of the
12 United States Senate Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs Committee,
13 to the United States secretary of the treasury, and to all the
14 members of the Texas delegation to the congress with the request
15 that this resolution be officially entered in the Congressional
16 Record as a memorial to the Congress of the United States of
17 America.