NAIFA-Ohio Member Appointed House Insurance Committee Chair

Speaker of the Ohio House of Representatives, Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville), has appointed NAIFA-Ohio member, Rep. Tom Brinkman (R-Mt. Lookout), Chairman of the House Insurance Committee during the 132nd General Assembly. Brinkman Chaired the Committee during the final months of the previous General Assembly as well.

Rep. Brinkman has received the Freedom Award from the Ohio Republican Liberty Caucus. According to that organization, "Brinkman has amassed the best rating by the Liberty Caucus among all eligible Statehouse legislators in Ohio. As a member of the General Assembly, Brinkman has sponsored legislation to expand Second Amendment rights and reform civil asset forfeiture, as well as championed elimination of Common Core in Ohio's schools.

A life insurance salesman and resident of Cincinnati, Brinkman is a graduate of George Washington University in Washington, D.C. (1979), with a Bachelor of Arts degree in history and political science. He lives in Mt. Lookout with his wife Cathy. They have six children.

An Insurance Agent will also serve as Vice Chair of the Committee. Speaker Rosenberger has appointed Rep. Mike Henne (R-Clayton) to that position.

Henne is an active member of the Ohio Insurance Agents Association (OIAA). He has served on the Insurance Committee since being elected to the House of Representatives in 2010.

NAIFA-Ohio President Tapped for Learning Standards Advisory Committee

The Ohio Department of Education and the Office of Curriculum and Assessment has accepted NAIFA-Ohio president Cort Bradbury's nomination to the advisory committee for Ohio's Learning Standards revisions.

Each advisory committee is comprised of representatives from multiple Ohio organizations that have a special interest and expertise in Science, Social Studies or Financial Literacy. The committees will be instrumental in providing guidance to the standards revision working groups and the Department in the
endeavor to improve Ohio's Learning Standards for Science, Social Studies and Financial Literacy.

Click here for details and registration.

NAIFA's Congressional Conference will bring together hundreds and hundreds of agents and advisors to Washington, DC to learn about the legislative issues that matter to people in our industry and how these issues impact our business and our clients' financial well-being.

The first 500 NAIFA member registrants will be eligible for a $300 stipend to assist with their expenses, if they meet the eligibility requirements, which include staying at the official NAIFA Congressional Conference hotel.

Don't delay! Register Now! Reimbursement spots will go fast! For additional information about the Conference, view the FAQs.

Taylor Touts Passage of Insurance Consumer Protections

Lt. Governor Mary Taylor applauds passage of legislation providing the Ohio Department of Insurance with better, more common sense tools when it comes to evaluating the financial health of Ohio's insurance industry. The Ohio General Assembly passed the SB 273 with overwhelming bipartisan support in both the Ohio House and Ohio Senate and Governor Kasich signed the bill January 4.

"I want to thank Senator Kevin Bacon for sponsoring the corporate governance act as well as Speaker Rosenberger and President Faber for their leadership on this issue," said Taylor. "Ohio is home to one of the largest and most dynamic insurance markets in the world creating more than 100,000 jobs. By protecting that competitive market, we can ensure consumers have more choice and lower premiums and
the corporate governance act does that by helping provide a balance between strong consumer protections and fair, but vigilant regulation of the industry."

Senate Bill 273 was sponsored by Senator Kevin Bacon (R-Minerva Park) and requires Ohio insurers to file an annual corporate governance disclosure to the Department. The law is in line with best practices outlined by National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) - a group the Ohio Department of Insurance is both a member of and accredited by.

Specifically, the annual disclosure will give Ohio insurers an opportunity to outline their corporate structure to the Department as well as any changes to that structure that have taken place in the past year. It also provides the Department with information necessary to helping ensure Ohio's insurers are financially stable and well positioned to meet consumers' needs when it comes to paying claims.

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Be Part of the NAIFA-Ohio/OIA Workers' Compensation Program

Enrollment is now open for the NAIFA Ohio/OIA’s workers' compensation group rating program! OIA, which administers the program, makes it easy to give your clients access to support, stability and savings. Along with our trusted partner, CompManagement, OIA can help guide you through best methods for offering the program and closing the business.

Read more...

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NAIFA IFAPAC/APIC Planning Meeting and Day on the Hill

NAIFA’s annual IFAPAC/APIC Planning Meeting & Day on the Hill was held November 29-December 1, 2016 in Washington, DC. IFAPAC/APIC chairs, vice chairs and co-chairs from around the country participated in workshops and regional breakouts then reconvened for a legislative issue briefing and Day on the Hill preparation.

NAIFA-Ohio members Mick Lundy, LUTCF, NAIFA-Dayton, Tracy Cartwright, NAIFA-Mansfield, D. Taft Hall, LUTCF, NAIFA-Cincinnati and Jim Geitgey, LUTCF, NAIFA-Springfield each met with their respective legislators to discuss issues of concern to consumers and the members of the National Association of Insurance & Financial Advisors within their community. Their presence in our Nation's Capital sent a message to Congress that, as a NAIFA member, they are serious about defending the financial security of their clients.
Ohio Home Insurance Rate Increases Lowest in 8 Years

Recently released data from the Ohio Department of Insurance shows that rates among the top 10 homeowners insurers increased an average of only 1.5 percent in 2015, the lowest average rate increase since 2007. This marks the third year in a row that Ohio's average rate increases have slowed compared to previous years.

Of the 10 insurers that make up nearly 75 percent of the market in Ohio, one insurer decreased rates, two kept rates flat and seven increased rates. All seven insurers that increased rates took smaller rate increases in 2015 than in 2014, with the exception of Allstate Insurance and Nationwide Insurance. Also of note is that Auto-Owners Insurance was the ninth largest homeowner's insurer in Ohio in 2014; however, USAA took its place in 2015.

Read more...

OII Reports Ohio's 2015 Auto, Homeowners Insurance Premiums Below U.S. Average

The Ohio Insurance Institute (OII) reports that while “Ohioans will likely see increases in auto and homeowners insurance premiums, they’ll likely not be as severe as in most other parts of the U.S., based on auto and homeowners insurance rate change report information recently released by the Ohio Department of Insurance (ODI).”

The reports note that Ohio's average 2015 homeowners insurance premium hike was 1.5 percent and auto premiums rose 2.3 percent, "some of the lowest increases in recent years."

OII estimates this equates to about $12 on homeowners insurance and $16 on auto insurance premiums in 2015 from 2014. U.S. average premium adjustments are estimated at $37 for homeowners insurance and $29 for auto insurance for the same period.

Read more...

Department of Insurance Reaccredited by National Association of Insurance Commissioners

Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor has announced that the Ohio Department of Insurance has been reaccredited by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) for another five-year term.

“Our mission is to protect consumers,” said Taylor, also director of the Ohio Department of Insurance. "We consider it a privilege to serve Ohioans and we are glad to have again met the strong standards established by the NAIC for insurance company regulation."

The Ohio Department of Insurance is part of the NAIC, the national standard-setting system of state-based insurance regulation in the United States. The NAIC is a regulatory support organization created and governed by the chief insurance regulators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia and five U.S. territories.
To become NAIC accredited state insurance departments undergo comprehensive, independent review of their legal, financial and organizational procedures to ensure insurance company financial solvency oversight criteria are met.

This includes having in place adequate solvency laws and regulations to protect consumers and guarantee funds, sufficient financial analysis and examination processes, and effective practices for the review of organization, licensing and change of control of domestic insurance companies.

The Ohio Department of Insurance, which saves Ohioans millions of dollars annually, also protects consumers by fighting insurance fraud, conducting statewide educational insurance outreach, investigating complaints about insurance, providing a missing life insurance policy and annuity contract search service, and much more.

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**NAIFA-Ohio Leadership Conference and Annual Meeting**  
July 12, 2017 - Worthington Hills CC, Columbus

**NAIFA Performance + Purpose 2017 Annual Conference**  
September 8-10, 2017 - Orlando, FL

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