



Property Casualty Insurers
Association of America
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NATHANIEL F. WIENECKE
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

September 25, 2017

The Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
H-232 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Democratic Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
H-204 The Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Ryan and Leader Pelosi:

The Property Casualty Insurers Association of America (PCI) strongly supports the *Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017*. This package includes bipartisan, clarifying language, introduced by Representative Dennis A. Ross (FL-15) and Representative Kathy Castor (FL-14), to increase acceptance of private flood insurance products. This will increase flood insurance options for consumers, thereby providing more competition and coverage options to families and businesses.

The Ross-Castor language passed the House last year by a vote of 419-0, and it was ordered reported out of the House Financial Services Committee in June by a vote of 58-0. The bipartisan fix clarifies what is already in federal law (following the passage of the Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Reform Act of 2012 and reinforced in the Homeowners Flood Insurance Affordability Act of 2014) intended by Congress to allow lenders to accept private flood insurance in lieu of federal coverage to satisfy the mandatory purchase requirement.

PCI is composed of nearly 1,000 member companies, representing the broadest cross section of insurers of any national trade association. PCI members write \$216 billion in annual premium, 36 percent of the nation's property casualty insurance. Member companies write 43 percent of the U.S. automobile insurance market, 29 percent of the homeowners market, 34 percent of the commercial property and liability market and 36 percent of the private workers compensation market.

PCI strongly supports inclusion of the bipartisan Ross-Castor language in the *Disaster Tax Relief and Airport and Airway Extension Act of 2017* that allows consumers the choice of government or private flood insurance coverage. We ask for you to vote in favor of this important legislative package when it is considered by the House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nathaniel F. Wienecke". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial "N".

Nathaniel F. Wienecke