PROPERTY INSURANCE REFORM

Creating Competitive and Stable Insurance Markets



Florida Senator Jeff Brandes discusses insurance-related issues at the Florida Chamber's 2017 Insurance Summit.

"Every dollar spent on mitigation can save up to four dollars in future disaster recovery spending."

U.S. Representative DENNIS ROSS

Why It Matters to Florida

Creating a competitive and stable insurance market will lower costs for Florida's policy holders. We must continue initiatives like limiting the size and exposure of Citizens Insurance, reforming Florida's Catastrophe Fund, spreading risks, reducing fraudulent claims and allowing for creative solutions for the issues homeowners and businesses face. Reforming Florida's property insurance system will help reduce taxpayer risk in the event of a catastrophic storm and further improve Florida's business climate.

Florida's Competitiveness Agenda

Citizens Property Insurance

Florida's unique geography leads to a marketplace for property insurance that is far more complex than other states. We must continue to fight for legislation that spreads risk and empowers Floridians to invest in their safety. The Florida Chamber has long advocated that homeowners should be provided with creative, market-based solutions to our natural disaster risks, and the state should do what is necessary to limit growth in the government-run citizen Citizens Property Insurance.

Florida's Catastrophe Fund

Instead of relying on good luck to protect Floridians, the Florida Chamber believes that improving the claims paying ability of the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund will reduce the need for hurricane taxes on businesses, families, charities, churches and automobile policyholders. This can be achieved by taking advantage of favorable market conditions in the private reinsurance markets.

Assignment of Benefits

The "assignment of benefits" issue is one the Florida Chamber has been actively fighting to reform in an effort to reduce fraud and abuse in our state's insurance system. Inflated claims through assignment of benefits are the result of an increase in the number of claims in which the policy has been signed over to a third-party repairing the damage, where the third-party is also working with a trial lawyer. In these instances, the damages are repaired before the insurer can even come out to adjust the claim, and then the trial lawyer sues for additional damages beyond what was necessary.

The Fight for Free Enterprise Continues

We must fight to keep consistent tax and regulatory systems, continue to reign in our state's government run property insurance company and champion a fair legal climate to improve job growth.

ACT NOW:

Instead of short-term solutions from well-funded plaintiff trial lawyers with special interest agendas, the Florida Chamber is focused on creating long-term sustainable solutions so Florida can continue to attract, add and grow the top businesses in the nation. Tell us how insurance issues affect your ability to do business in Florida by contacting Carolyn Johnson at cjohnson@flchamber.com.



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