



The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers
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April 30, 2020

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney
The United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congresswoman Maloney,

We write you today in response to your request for input on your proposed Pandemic Risk Insurance Act. The country is in the midst of one of the worst economic crises in our history resulting from a global pandemic that we know was predictable and caught our economy flat footed. While we work to protect the health of Americans, equip our heroic frontline workers, and help companies weather the economic turmoil, it is equally important to prepare our economy against the next pandemic or COVID-19 resurgence.

The Council represents the largest and most successful employee benefits and property/casualty agencies and brokerage firms. Council member firms annually place more than \$300 billion in commercial insurance business in the United States and abroad. In fact, they place 90 percent of all U.S. insurance products and services and they administer billions of dollars in employee benefits. Council members conduct business in some 30,000 locations and employ upward of 350,000 people worldwide, specializing in a wide range of insurance products and risk management services for business, industry, government, and the public.

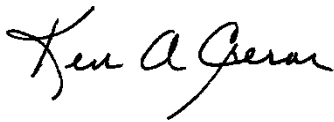
The Council thanks you for your efforts and leadership in attempting to build a prospective program that would mitigate the economic disruption from another pandemic. To that end, The Council of Insurance Agents & Brokers announced its backing of a prospective federal pandemic program by outlining a set of “guiding principles” as follows:

- The Council supports establishment of a federal forward-looking risk transfer solution to address future pandemic scenarios like COVID-19. If or when another global pandemic of this magnitude occurs, we strongly favor having a program already in place with no new enactment of law required.
- Several different models exist or have existed to address risk transfers and consumer protections in times of widespread losses and massive social and economic disruption, including the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (2002), National Flood Insurance Act (1968), Price-Anderson Act (1957), War Damage Insurance Act (1942), and the War Risk Insurance Act (1914).

- Any solution put in place to address future pandemics deserves careful study and stakeholder engagement, and should not be based on an assumption that any one model from the past is wholesale appropriate for, or transferable to, this very different set of risks and circumstances.
- The Council is uniquely positioned to help advise on insurance-related aspects of any forward-looking federal solution, and would welcome the opportunity to participate in those discussions as a policy is formulated.

Thank you for your leadership on this critical issue. We stand ready to support your efforts. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Joel Kopperud at (202) 662-4311 or joel.kopperud@ciab.com.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ken A. Crerar". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Ken Crerar
President and CEO