

McIntyre & Lemon, PLLC

1015 15th Street, NW, Suite 600

Washington, DC 20005

August 26, 2025

Ms. Anne Obersteadt National Association of Insurance Commissioners 1100 Walnut Street-Suite 1000 Kansas City, MO 64106

Dear Ms. Obersteadt:

Re: NAIC Affordability & Availability Playbook Outline-Deadline for Comments August 26, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. On behalf of the American Bankers Association Office of Insurance Advocacy based in Washington, DC, we are pleased to comment on the Playbook Outline. The ABA Office of Insurance Advocacy represents member bank-owned insurance entities. We are a regular participant in all NAIC national and interim meetings. A proposed, redlined document is attached to this submission, per your request. Our parallel comment appears both in Part 2 (B) a new iii (f) and Part 4 (B) a new (iv).

We believe the document and effort is a comprehensive one by the NAIC and state regulators to encapsulate the many natural disaster perils affecting our nation and state initiatives to respond to those events and mitigate the effects going forward.

As you will note, our comments center around an initiative that we have on the state and federal levels, expansion and creation of Disaster Savings Accounts/Catastrophe Savings Accounts, as an additional tool for consumer/insureds to effect mitigation and resiliency efforts and help stabilize the property insurance markets. This will further the mutual goals of all concerned-regulators, consumers, lenders and insurers, toward the vital goal of mitigation and resilience to counter the effects of natural catastrophes. DSAs/CSAs would provide a triple-tax advantaged custodial account which would enable consumer/insureds the ability to use funds for "qualified catastrophic expenses" to prepare for a disaster, pre-mitigate if you will, or to make repairs as part of recovery. Some of the proposals and ideas being circulated would also allow one to even use the funds to defray their homeowner's deductible or even pay their premium

DSAs/CSAs are only in statute at present in Alabama, South Carolina and Mississippi. At least 12 states, noted below, have to date had session bill introductions. We were responsible for many but not all. In fact, there appears to be a general consensus in favor of this initiative.

For your information, NCOIL adopted a resolution in favor of this recently. Fall 2024. San Antonio:

https://ncoil.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/NCOIL-CSA-Resolution-Final-November-2024.pdf

And bills have surfaced in 12 states, including one in Georgia that was adopted: State Tracking List:

- Alabama HB 106
- Alabama SB 73
- California AB 232
- Connecticut SB 1401
- Florida HB 825
- Florida SB 1720
- Georgia HB 511 (enacted)
- Iowa HF 622
- Iowa HF 988
- Kansas SB 25
- Louisiana HB 127
- New York AB 1436
- New York SB 7264
- Oklahoma HB 1715
- Oklahoma HB 1834-this was an original ABA bill and passed the House but not the Senate.
- South Carolina HB 4299
- Wisconsin AB 50 (the provisions didn't make it into the final Senate budget that was signed)

We also plan to present on this before the NAIC Property Casualty Committee at the Fall National Meeting in Hollywood, FL.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact us with any questions. I can be reached at JKlein@mcintyrelf.com. My mobile is: 704.756.1916.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey M. Klein, Esq.

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