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DATE: March 4, 2013

TO: Connecticut Joint Insurance Committee

FROM: Timothy G. Russell, CPCU
President, Professional Insurance Agents of Connecticut Inc.

RE: **SUPPORTING RAISED H.B. 6379**

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I am writing on behalf of the Professional Insurance Agents of Connecticut Inc., an association representing more than 400-member professional, independent insurance agents who employ thousands of people throughout the state.

We write to **urge the passage** of raised House Bill 6379, a bill strongly supported by the Connecticut professional insurance agent community. This bill seeks to make a common-sense change to the surplus lines submission process by removing the requirement that the surplus lines affidavit be notarized. This bill does not make any substantive changes to the consumer and market protections inherent to the form, but would amend the procedural requirement that it be notarized before submission.

Requiring form SL-8 to be notarized neither generates any additional consumer protection nor enhances or verifies the accuracy of the form or the adequacy of the coverage requested. The surplus lines affidavit is typically the only form required to be notarized in an insurance producer's office. This requirement slows down producers' efforts to responsively place coverage and wastes small business' resources.

We respectfully urge the passage of this bill.