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TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE Regular Session of 2008

Monday, March 31, 2008 2:05 p.m.

TESTIMONY ON HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 171/HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 145 – REQUESTING THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER TO STUDY THE ADVANTAGES AND DISADVANTAGES OF ADOPTING THE ENGLISH MARINE INSURANCE ACT, 1906.

TO THE HONORABLE ROBERT N. HERKES, CHAIR, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is J.P. Schmidt, State Insurance Commissioner ("Commissioner"), testifying on behalf of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department opposes House Concurrent Resolution No. 171 and House Resolution No. 145.

The Insurance Division historically has not received many complaints pertaining to marine insurance. The complaint history shows 4 complaints for ocean/marine insurance in the past 5 years (2002 to 2007), compared to a total of 3,367 insurance complaints in the same 5-year period.

Therefore, the Department does not see the need to adopt or study the English Marine Insurance Act.

We thank the Committee for this opportunity to testify and respectfully request that these resolutions be held.