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John Elias Begins Term as New Hampshire Insurance Commissioner

CONCORD, NH – Today, John Elias began his five year term as Commissioner of the New Hampshire Insurance Department. He was nominated by Governor Chris T. Sununu and unanimously approved by the New Hampshire Executive Council in May.

“I am honored to be trusted with this responsibility,” said Commissioner John Elias. “I am excited to get started working in this new role on behalf of New Hampshire.”

Elias’s priorities as commissioner include regulatory modernization, operational efficiency and effectiveness in the pursuit of regulatory value, and the use of data to promote market transparency and to improve regulatory accountability and success in the reduction of public harms.

In 2016, Elias joined the New Hampshire Insurance Department as the Property and Casualty Director and was quickly promoted to Assistant Commissioner. In his two years at the department, he has focused on streamlining business processes, goal setting, and speed to market initiatives. He has also led the department’s first strategic planning initiative, which includes workforce development. He has also served on several National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) committees and task forces and has been involved in the NAIC State Ahead strategic plan.

Commissioner Elias has more than 15 years of insurance industry experience in the fields of profit and loss, state relations, and strategic projects. He has led compliance, underwriting, product and project teams and served as Vice President at two property and casualty insurance companies. He has worked with insurance regulators in 16 states, and embraces customer service and continuous improvement.

“Commissioner Elias will do a tremendous job leading the New Hampshire Department of Insurance,” said Governor Chris Sununu. “I am confident Commissioner Elias will preserve New Hampshire’s individual market, reduce burdensome regulations, and continue to put the customer first. I look forward to working with him in the many years ahead.”

Commissioner Elias has an M.B.A. and a J.D., and earned his Bachelor’s degree in political science. In addition, he holds a Chartered Insurance Operations Professional designation and a Certificate in Strategic Management of Regulatory Enforcement Agencies.

The New Hampshire Insurance Department’s mission is to promote and protect the public good by ensuring the existence of a safe and competitive insurance marketplace through the development and enforcement of the insurance laws of the State of New Hampshire. For more information, visit www.nh.gov/insurance.