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November 21, 2005

Senator Ken Hollis
P.O. Box 94183
Baton Rouge, LA 70804

Representative Gil Pinac
P.O. Box 495
Crowley, LA 70527

Dear Senator Hollis and Honorable Pinac:

"An ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure" was the fire prevention advice Ben Franklin gave to colonists facing that much-feared peril. In 1752, Franklin became the father of American insurance by founding the Philadelphia Contributionship for Insurance to help those who suffered fire damage to their homes.

As the citizens in the state of Louisiana face the perils associated with hurricanes, Franklin's words remain relevant. The mitigation of future damage is essential to the economic future of the state and the implementation of a statewide uniform building code is fundamental along with effective code enforcement.

NAMIC commends your leadership in authoring legislation addressing the issue and hopes the differences between Senate Bill 44 and House Bill 76 can be worked out during the remaining days of the special session. Our members strongly support the passage of a rigorous, standardized building code for the state of Louisiana.

Founded in 1895, NAMIC is a full-service national trade association with more than 1,400 member companies that underwrite 43 percent (\$196 billion) of the property/casualty insurance premium in the United States. One of NAMIC's members is Franklin's Philadelphia Contributionship which has been in business for more than 250 years. In the state of Louisiana, NAMIC's members write 34 percent of the property/casualty premium.

Sincerely,

Tami Stanton
NAMIC State Affairs Manager

cc: Commissioner Robert Wooley

