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North Carolina Looses a Giant Death of Jim Long rocks state association

(Greensboro, NC)—David Smith, the 2008-2009 President of the North Carolina Association of Health Underwriters (NCAHU) issued the following statement on the death of Jim Long on the 21st of this month:

“North Carolina and our industry lost one of its giants. Jim Long, who led our state’s Insurance Department, for nearly a quarter century, passed away at Rex Hospital.

“Jim had always been a friend to insurance agents throughout the State. He had always been a strong proponent for consumers and stressed the important role that health insurance agents played in advocating on behalf of our clients.

“I was proud to have first met Jim when I was in my early twenties, but that was after I had already met his parents. Jim’s father served in the North Carolina legislature and was a judge; he was a real character. He and his wife Helen were members of a club in the mountains, at which I worked while I was home from college during the summers. Mr. Long would dance and cut up with the best of them. Jim’s mother was always very nice and kept us in line, but you could tell from where the Commissioner got his steel and backbone. It was in honor of his father that Jim wore a red tie.

“I am proud to have called Jim Long my friend, as many of us have had that privilege. I ask that you keep his wife Peg, Jim’s kids, and the entire staff of the Department of Insurance in your thoughts and prayers in the coming days. On behalf of the association we extend to the Long family our sympathy and sadness for the loss of our friend, Jim.”

The North Carolina Association of Health Underwriters is a 1,000 member strong chapter of the National Association of Health Underwriters that represent more than 20,000 professional health insurance agents and brokers who provide insurance for millions of Americans. NAHU is headquartered in Arlington, VA. For more information, visit their website at www.nahu.org or our website at www.ncanhu.org.

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