Resolution in Honor of Past President Representative George Keiser (ND)

*Adopted by the NCOIL Executive Committee on March 6, 2022

*Sponsored by Sen. Jerry Klein (ND); Sen. Shawn Vedaa (ND); Rep. Tracy Boe (ND); Rep. Emily O’Brien (ND); Rep. Deborah Ferguson, DDS (AR); Sen. Jason Rapert (AR); Asm. Ken Cooley (CA); Sen. Travis Holdman (IN); Rep. Matt Lehman (IN); Sen. Neil Breslin (NY); Asm. Kevin Cahill (NY); Rep. Tom Oliverson, M.D. (TX)

WHEREAS, George Keiser served with distinction for nearly 30 years in the North Dakota House of Representatives, having first been elected in 1992; and

WHEREAS, George applied his experience and wisdom as a successful business owner and employer to his role as Chair of the North Dakota House Industry, Business & Labor Committee from 2003-2019; and

WHEREAS, prior to his legislative service, George served his country in the U.S. Army and as Bismarck City Commissioner; and

WHEREAS, George, the youngest of ten children, was proud to be a father and husband to his wife, Kathy, and four children, Jenny, Jeff, Sarah, and Katie; and

WHEREAS, George was a longtime active NCOIL member and leader, having served in each of the NCOIL Officer positions, culminating with his successful tenure as NCOIL President in 2011; and

WHEREAS, throughout his time at NCOIL, George was at the forefront of several important NCOIL efforts including being the sponsor of:

- Resolution in Support of the Enforcement of the Department of Defense Predatory Lending Regulation
- Resolution Concerning Best Practices for Pension De-Risking through Private Annuitzation
- Accumulator Adjustment Program Model Act
- Transparency in Dental Benefits Contracting Model Act
- Patient Safety Model Act
- Model State Uniform Building Code
WHEREAS, George was an active legislator outside of NCOIL and was consistently recognized for his expertise in insurance as he was the first state legislator ever to be appointed to serve on the Federal Advisory Committee on Insurance; and

WHEREAS, throughout his legislative career, George was a passionate supporter of the state-based system of insurance regulation, and always voted based upon what he believed was in the best interests of the citizens of North Dakota; and

WHEREAS, upon being diagnosed with ALS (Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis) in the Spring of 2019, George fought the illness with courage, good humor and grace just as he lived his life; and

WHEREAS, NCOIL lawmakers and participants remember warmly the times they worked with, laughed with, and grew to know him as a great legislator and both a great and good man; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that NCOIL lawmakers Recognize and Honor Representative George Keiser for his significant personal and professional contributions he made to NCOIL over the years and acknowledges him as a dedicated, extremely effective legislator, and
BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that NCOIL, with great appreciation, will send this resolution to George’s family in honor of his special place in NCOIL history.