



October 1, 2021

Honorable Rick Scott
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Scott:

On behalf of the National Association of Professional Insurance Agents¹ (PIA), thank you for introducing S. 2915, the Flood Insurance Consumer Choice Act, and S. 2913, the Removing Barriers to Private Flood Insurance Act. PIA strongly supports both bills, as they will reduce obstacles to the growth of the private flood market.

The Flood Insurance Consumer Choice Act would amend the National Flood Insurance Program's (NFIP) continuous coverage requirement by allowing NFIP policyholders who leave the program to purchase a private flood policy to return to the NFIP without penalty. This bill would allow consumers whose private flood policies are cancelled, through no fault of their own, in the middle of a policy year, to return to the NFIP and purchase a policy at their previous rate.

The Removing Barriers to Private Flood Insurance Act would permanently eliminate the NFIP's Write Your Own (WYO) company non-compete clause, which arguably prohibits WYO companies from selling private flood insurance products that compete with NFIP products. While FEMA eliminated the non-compete clause through regulation in 2019, this bill would ensure it is not reinstated and would legally prohibit FEMA from restoring it or a similar non-compete clause. The bill would codify the elimination of the regulatory restriction that has prevented WYOs from selling both NFIP and private flood insurance policies.

PIA supports the cultivation of deliberate, responsible expansion of the private flood insurance market as a complement to the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). These pieces of legislation would provide consumers with more options for broader coverage at a greater range of price points.

Thank you again for your leadership on this important legislation. Please contact Jon Gentile, PIA's vice president of government relations, at jgentile@pianational.org if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

Mike Becker
Executive Vice President and CEO
National Association of Professional Insurance Agents

¹ PIA represents independent insurance agents in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia.