



For Immediate Release
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Judge Manderfield Was Right the First Time

Coalition of Michigan insurance companies urge Attorney General to appeal Judge's decision to reverse herself on the Blues ability to use their tax-free dollars to buy other insurance companies

Lansing: A group of Michigan based insurance companies called on Attorney General Mike Cox to appeal Judge Manderfield's decision today to reverse herself in a suit against Blue Cross Blue Shield for illegally purchasing out of state worker's compensation firms through the Accident Fund.

On October 6, 2008, Judge Manderfield issued an opinion refusing to dismiss the case against the Blues. However, today she said she was "mislead" and reversed her decision and dismissed the case. The Attorney General had filled the case in July of 2008.

"We think Judge Manderfield had it right the first time" said Tom Shields, spokesperson for the Coalition for a Fair and Competitive Insurance Market. "In October she said the law 'clearly states that is bars not only direct but indirect ownership control' of these out of state insurance companies. We don't know what has clouded her view since then, but this calls for an appeal to the Court of Appeals to clear things up. We certainly hope that the Attorney General will appeal this issue to the Court of Appeals."

The Coalition for a Fair and Competitive Insurance Market is a group of Michigan based property casualty companies including: Amerisure Insurance, American Physicians, Auto-Owners Insurance Co., Citizens Insurance and Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance who have more than 7,500 Michigan employees. Michigan based companies write more than 50% of the property/casualty insurance in our state and pay their taxes each and every year. They have joined with consumer groups like AARP, almost all the national industry groups representing thousands of insurance companies and the Attorney

General of Michigan in opposing the Blues' attempt to ignore and bypass Michigan's insurance laws.

For more information go to: NoBluesopoly.com

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