



For Immediate Release
October 24, 2007

Contact: Tom Shields
(O) 517-372-4400
(C) 517/449-9810

Statement on the House passage of the Blue Cross Blue Shield bills (HB 5282, 5283, 5284, 5285) from a coalition of tax paying, Michigan-based property casualty insurers

“Today’s vote in the House was a public mugging of the Michigan consumer,” said Kurt Gallinger, Vice President and Assistant Counsel of Amerisure Companies. “These bills were written by Blue Cross – for Blue Cross. They are designed to prevent competition and will result in less choices and higher costs for Michigan consumers. We have confidence that State Senate will take a serious look at the consequences of these bills and refuse be a rubber stamp for the Blues.”

“We would like to thank the 22 legislators who stood up for the Michigan consumers and voted against this effort to railroad these bills through the House without the proper vetting,” said Gallinger. “They deserve to be applauded.”

The House passed the legislation in less than two weeks...from start to finish. There were no work groups, no study groups, no sub-committee, no opportunity for input from any other insurer. The Attorney General has not taken a position on the bills, The Office of Financial and Insurance Services has stated real concerns with numerous provisions.

The growing coalition of property casualty companies includes, Amerisure Companies, Auto-Owners Insurance, Citizens Insurance, Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company and A-P Capital.