The new NAIC E-Commerce Working Group, chaired by Maryland Commissioner Kathleen Birrane, met today for the first time. The Working Group is charged with finding antiquated processes that slow down innovation in insurance and inside department processes. In addition, Commissioner Birrane hopes to identify where the lack of uniformity and pain points exist for consumers, insurers, and within the regulatory process itself.

The Working Group discussed producing a whitepaper or a bulletin that identifies particular insurance practices that are burdensome, outdated, or otherwise inefficient. For example, filing paper jurat pages and other more complex issues such as e-signatures, wet signatures and any other processes that weigh down our transactions such as notary requirements. Information identified by the Working Group may be used to update individual state laws or potentially update NAIC models through the various Working Groups.

Commissioner Birrane is planning on having another call around the time of the summer national meeting. She will work with NAIC on how best to collect this information from the industry and regulators, perhaps via a survey, but nonetheless in an organized fashion.

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