

Rep. Bonner Says Repeal Sends Signal to All Insurance Companies to Safeguard Interests of the Insured □

WASHINGTON – Congressman Jo Bonner, R-Alabama, has voted for passage of legislation to repeal the limited anti-trust exemption for health insurance companies.

Congressman Bonner said the repeal of the McCarran-Ferguson Act’s anti-trust exemption for health insurance companies is necessary to prevent insurance companies from engaging in practices that unfairly disadvantage their insured customers.

The elimination of the anti-trust exemption would send a strong signal to all insurance companies, including property insurers, that they cannot continue to ignore the interests of the insured without penalty.

“Like most Alabamians, I don’t believe government should be in the insurance business and I have opposed efforts by the Democrat majority to allow government to control and dictate terms

of private enterprise,” Rep. Bonner said.

“However, like many Alabamians I remain frustrated that insurance companies continue to arbitrarily drop coverage for homeowners along the Gulf Coast solely in the name of improving the companies’ risk factor.

“When many thousands of residents are denied coverage without recourse, the public’s interest is not being served. I hope the insurance industry understands Alabamians want them to look out for the interests of those they serve, and not simply themselves.”

The legislation to repeal the McCarran-Ferguson Act’s anti-trust exemption for health insurance companies (HR 4626), passed the U.S. House on Wednesday by a vote of 406 to 19.