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RALPH S. TYLER  
Commissioner

JAMES V. MCMAHAN, III  
Deputy Commissioner

525 St. Paul Place, Baltimore, Maryland 21202-2272  
Direct Dial: 410-468-2007 Fax: 410-468-2005  
Email: kbarrow@mdinsurance.state.md.us  
1-800-492-6116 TTY: 1-800-735-2258  
www.mdinsurance.state.md.us

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**INSURANCE COMMISSIONER TYLER APPOINTS ELIZABETH SAMMIS  
AS DEPUTY INSURANCE COMMISSIONER**

Baltimore, MD (November 6, 2007)... Insurance Commissioner Ralph S. Tyler announced today the appointment of Elizabeth (“Beth”) Sammis as Deputy Insurance Commissioner. Sammis is currently Vice President for Government Affairs, Mid-Atlantic Region, for United Healthcare, and she previously held senior positions at Mid-Atlantic Medical Services Inc. (MAMSI), prior to its acquisition by United Healthcare. Between 1993 and 1996, Sammis was Deputy Director of the Health Care Access and Cost Commission (now the Health Services Cost Review Commission), and before that (1985-1993), she was a Legislative Analyst with the Department of Legislative Reference.

“I am thrilled that Beth Sammis will be joining the Insurance Administration,” Tyler said. “She has a wealth of experience, particularly in the area of health care, that will be of enormous value as this agency addresses insurance issues of importance to the citizens of Maryland.”

Sammis is expected to start her new position by early December.

Sammis is a graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and she received her M.A. and Ph.D degrees in sociology from the University of California, Los Angeles.

*The Maryland Insurance Administration (MLA), founded as the Maryland Insurance Division in 1872, is an independent State agency located in downtown Baltimore. This agency regulates Maryland's \$26 billion insurance industry and makes certain that insurance companies, health plans and producers (agents and brokers) comply with Maryland insurance law. The MLA also licenses over 110,000 producers and approximately 1,500 insurance companies, regulates insurance rates, monitors insurer solvency, investigates consumer complaints and travels across the State providing consumers with educational materials on insurance. These materials may also be found at [www.mdinsurance.state.md.us](http://www.mdinsurance.state.md.us).*