Alert for N.C. Property Owners: Insurance Commissioner Mike Causey Prepares to Raise Rates Again

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RALEIGH, N.C. — Only a day after his victory in the Republican primary election, North Carolina Insurance Commissioner 'Rate Hike Mike' Causey's office <u>announced</u> that he would postpone a hearing on the insurance industry's proposed 50.6% state dwelling insurance rate increase.

Commissioner Causey has a longstanding pattern of promising hearings on property insurance rate increases and then settling privately before the hearings can occur. Just last year, <u>Causey canceled a hearing</u> on another proposed dwelling insurance rate hike and negotiated a settlement with insurance companies, handing North Carolina homeowners a 9.9% rate increase without ever requiring insurance companies to explain directly to the people why their rates would rise. In June 2021, Causey postponed a hearing on a proposed homeowner's rate increase, then settled five months later, handing North Carolina consumers a 7.9% increase in their rates, again without a single public hearing.

"North Carolina consumers beware: 'Rate Hike Mike' Causey is preparing to raise your insurance rates again, as he has done 19 times since becoming Insurance Commissioner," said Causey's Democratic opponent, Sen. Natasha Marcus. "I've called on Mike Causey to commit to transparency and an end to backroom deals with the insurance industry, but he appears dead-set on handing North Carolina consumers another rate hike. I'm running for Insurance Commissioner because you deserve an advocate who will insist on full public hearings, not make private agreements to raise rates."

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Natasha Marcus is a three-term State Senator from Mecklenburg County and the Democratic Nominee for North Carolina Commissioner of Insurance. To learn more about Sen. Marcus, visit her website, NatashaMarcus.com.

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