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Nominating Committee
2020 NAHU Harold R. Gordon Memorial Award

RE: Shirley H. Hutzler Nomination

I write to wholeheartedly add my voice to those who are encouraging you to consider the selection of Shirley Hutzler as this year's Gordon Award recipient.

Shirley embodied the qualities attributed to Mr. Gordon: she had vision, compassion, and was a true people person. As I am sure her nomination file shows, Shirley was a key (and beloved) figure in the Texas health insurance industry. Among her many contributions to the State of Texas, she played a leading role in establishing the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool, which I was fortunate to serve as Executive Director for many years. The Pool provided meaningful health benefits coverage to more than 100,000 Texans who otherwise would have gone uninsured. Shirley was there every step of the way, ensuring that consumers and agents were well represented.

In 2011 I was delighted to receive the Shirley Hutzler Award for Legislative Excellence, an annual accolade awarded by the Texas Association of Health Underwriters in Shirley's honor. Without exception, Hutzler Award winners consider this tribute to be a career highlight.

Thank you for your important work as you evaluate the nominations for the prestigious Gordon Award. I can assure you that Shirley Hutzler would be a very worthy recipient. It would indeed be a fitting memorial for someone who contributed so much to our profession.

Best regards,



Steven Browning
Executive Director, Retired
Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool