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PROFESSIONALS GROUP INC

Form 425

May 10, 2001

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FILED BY: PROASSURANCE CORPORATION
PURSUANT TO RULE 425 UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933
SUBJECT COMPANY: PROFESSIONALS GROUP, INC.
COMMISSION FILE NO. 333-49378

N E W S R E L E A S E

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PROFESSIONALS GROUP ANNOUNCES TRANSACTION FINANCING ARRANGED

OKEMOS, MICH., MAY 10, 2001 -- Professionals Group, Inc. (NASDAQ: PICM) said today ProAssurance Corporation has finalized financing arrangements for the proposed consolidation of Medical Assurance (NYSE: MAI) and Professionals Group. ProAssurance Corporation is the holding company to be formed as a result of that proposed consolidation. The transaction will be financed with internal funds and a credit facility arranged by SouthTrust Bank of Birmingham, Alabama.

Shareholders of Medical Assurance and Professionals Group have been sent a Notice and Proxy allowing them to vote on the proposed transaction at special meetings on June 25, 2001. The proposed consolidation is expected to be closed before June 30, 2001, pending receipt of shareholder and final regulatory approvals.

This news release contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. The words "anticipate," "believe," "estimate," "expect," "intend," "will," and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such statements, which include the statements regarding the above described consolidation and the ability of the parties to complete it, reflect the current views of Professionals Group with respect to future events and are subject to certain risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Should one or more of these risks or uncertainties materialize, or should underlying assumptions prove incorrect, actual results may differ materially from those described herein. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, (1) those discussed in Professionals Group's filings with the SEC, including its Annual Report on Form 10-K/A (Amendment No. 1) for the year ended December 31, 2000, (2) those discussed in ProAssurance's filings with the SEC, including its Form S-4 registration statement, as amended (Registration No. 333-49378), relating to the consolidation, and (3) the risks and uncertainties that are inherent in any business combination such as the above described consolidation.

A registration statement on Form S-4, as amended (Registration No. 333-49378), has been filed by ProAssurance with the SEC regarding the proposed consolidation of Professionals Group and Medical Assurance. You are urged to read the registration statement and the documents included or incorporated by reference therein (including the respective Annual Reports on Form 10-K of Professionals Group and Medical Assurance) because they contain important information regarding the consolidation and the legal rights of security holders. ProAssurance's registration statement, as well as other documents filed by Professionals Group and Medical Assurance with the SEC are available from the SEC's website (<http://www.sec.gov>). These documents are also available without charge upon request to either:

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Professionals Group, Inc.
2600 Professionals Drive
Okemos, Michigan 48864
Attention: Lori A. Beachnau
(800) 292-1036

Medical Assurance, Inc.
100 Brookwood Place
Birmingham, Alabama 35209
Attention: Frank B. O'Neil
(800) 282-6242

Corporate Profile:

Professionals Group is an insurance holding company traded under the symbol "PICM" on the Nasdaq National Market. Professionals Group provides professional liability insurance coverages and services to health care providers through its wholly owned subsidiary ProNational Insurance Company. Professionals Group owns 84% of MEEMIC Holdings, Inc. (Nasdaq listed: MEMH) that provides personal auto, homeowners, boat and umbrella coverages primarily for educational employees and their families through MEEMIC Insurance Company. Both insurance companies are rated A- (Excellent) by A.M. Best.

Press Release Fax Service:

This news release and other Professionals Group releases are available at no charge through Professionals Group's website (www.ProfessionalsGroup.com) and PR Newswire's Company News on-Call fax service, 800-758-5804, extension 115602.

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