
Tim Storey Named New NCSL Executive Director

Thirty years after packing his mom's Chrysler K-car to drive cross-country for an internship with the Denver-based National Conference of State Legislatures, Tim Storey took the reins as the organization's executive director.

"I had never been west of Knoxville, Tenn., but at NCSL I found a place that I loved and just stuck with it," he says.

Storey's appointment on July 15 follows the retirement of William T. Pound, who led NCSL for 32 years.

A native of North Carolina, Storey holds a bachelor's degree in English and political science from Mars Hill University in North Carolina and a master's in public administration from the University of Colorado School of Public Affairs.

"NCSL is in good hands with Tim Storey. ... I'm confident he'll take the organization to the next level," says Robin Vos, Wisconsin Assembly speaker and NCSL's incoming president.

At NCSL, Storey, 52, gained expertise in redistricting, elections, legislative organization and management, and education, and has served as director of Leaders Services and Legislative Training. Most recently, he served as director of State Services, which includes the Center for Legislative Strengthening, fiscal research, institutional studies, leaders' services, staff training, and redistricting and elections.

"Working for legislatures is my calling, and I was blessed to discover it early in life," he says. "I love the people who work in them and the people who work around them. What happens in legislatures is what's really important to people: It's about their kids' schools, health coverage, infrastructure and transportation and so much more."

Storey says his passion for the legislative institution as the cornerstone of American democracy is as strong today as when he first walked into the North Carolina General Assembly as a wide-eyed intern in the late 1980s before arriving at NCSL.

"I've had the privilege of speaking to



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"TIM'S KNOWLEDGE, INFECTIOUS ENERGY AND ENTHUSIASM FOR THE WORK OF STATE LEGISLATURES IS GOING TO HAVE A DYNAMIC IMPACT ON THE VISIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR STATES' WORK."

Martha Wigton, incoming NCSL staff chair and the Georgia House Budget and Research Office director

thousands of legislators and legislative staff as well as many others who work in and around legislatures," he says. "I often end those talks by citing NCSL's mission

and encouraging the listeners to be extraordinary stewards and guardians of the legislative institution. It's as important now as ever."

Representative democracy, adds Storey—who lives just outside Denver with his wife, Amy, and their three kids—is not just some ideal to be tossed around.

"It's vital," he says. "We've tinkered with the system for 240 years and it's still not perfect. It's a work in progress and we get the opportunity to help legislatures improve and thrive. I believe in the work we do, the talented group of people who work here and our culture of collaboration and innovation."

And one thing is of paramount importance to NCSL, Storey says: bipartisanship.

"During these increasingly polarized times, bipartisanship must be NCSL's bedrock," he says. "I genuinely respect people from all political backgrounds and enjoy working with them and bringing them together under the NCSL banner."

—Lesley Kennedy