The Forum

December 9 - 12, 2014
Washington, D.C.

Attend the NCSL Forum to speak with one strong, unified voice on the issues that matter most to the states on Capitol Hill. You’ll get innovative ideas on how to approach critical problems, hear from national experts, and help develop the States’ Agenda before Congress and the administration.
Tuesday, Dec. 9

Public Health Emergencies: Are We Prepared to Respond?
Learn how state and federal authorities respond to a public health event, current capabilities, and barriers to achieving readiness goals.

Wednesday, Dec. 10

Congressional Briefing
Senator Thomas Carper, Delaware Representative Jason Chaffetz, Utah Representative Peter Welch, Vermont Representative Steve Womack, Arkansas

Thursday, Dec. 11

The Future of Federal Transportation Funding
Secretary Anthony Foxx U.S. Department of Transportation

Friday, Dec. 12

U.S. Economic Outlook
Beth Ann Bovino Standard & Poor’s
State legislators are a powerful voice in Washington. Join fellow legislators on Wednesday, Dec. 10, to advocate for the states and promote the States’ Agenda on Capitol Hill. Discuss pressing state-federal issues with members of your congressional delegation, including transportation funding and the Marketplace Fairness Act. NCSL will arrange all congressional appointments.

For questions, contact lobbyday@ncsl.org.

**Exclusive Tours and Briefings for Legislative Staff**

**Amtrak Briefing and Tour**
Hear the latest on Amtrak’s infrastructure needs to service not only the Northeast Corridor but the cross country routes. This briefing will include a tour of one of the Amtrak facilities.

**Arts & Education and Economic Development at the Kennedy Center**
Join this discussion on community development through the arts and the importance of connecting economic development to education. Includes a behind-the-scenes tour of the Kennedy Center.

**Library of Congress and U.S. Supreme Court Tour and Briefing**
Learn the latest on what will happen on Capitol Hill during the final hours of the 113th Congress. The briefing will be followed by a tour of the Library of Congress and U.S. Supreme Court.

Plus interactive training on effective communications strategies and the opportunity to share your thoughts with NCSL officers about legislative staff engagement.
TACKLING THE CRITICAL ISSUES
The Forum brings you sessions on the top issues facing states.

**Cannabis Conundrum**
Explore the role of state legislatures in complex matters of marijuana regulation, revenue, substance abuse, and federal law.

**A Dysfunctional Chamber: The Future of the United States Senate**
Marty Gold, a foremost expert on Senate procedure, will lead a discussion on what is wrong with the U.S. Senate and what its future is in the next Congress.

**Crude Oil by Rail: Exploring the Safety Effects and Economic Impacts**
Examine efforts to improve the safety of rail cars and explore how the growth in transporting crude oil by rail is displacing other commodities.

**Federal Budget Update**
Learn about the impact Washington’s fiscal dilemmas may have on states and receive an update on the latest budget negotiations by Congress.

**Supreme Court Update**
Hear about top cases before the court, sleeper cases that may emerge, and state-federal implications.

**Making College Affordable**
Learn about state policy strategies that can help make college more affordable, and look at potential actions in this area.

[View the Full Agenda]
Registration
Register by November 17 to save with early bird rates.

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<th>Registration Fee</th>
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Hotel Information
All meetings will take place at the Marriott Wardman Park.
A block of rooms has been reserved at the following hotels. Rates are available until Monday, Nov. 17 or until rooms sell out, whichever comes first. Reference “NCSL 2014”

Marriott Wardman Park
2660 Woodley Rd., NW
Washington, DC 20008
Tel: 1-877-212-5752
Rate: $199/night, plus tax

Omni Shoreham
2500 Calvert St. NW
Washington, DC 20008
Tel: 1-800-843-6664
Rate: $199/night, plus tax

Washington Hilton
1919 Connecticut Ave NW
Washington, DC 20009
Tel: 202-483-3000
Rate: $183/night, plus tax