



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

International Day Roundtable Seminar

Sunday, August 5th
1:00 – 3:00 p.m.

1. *Current Priorities:* Every legislature has numerous problems to handle, but it is important to prioritize and address the most pressing issues.
 - a. What are your legislature's priorities?
 - b. Is your current fiscal crisis affecting these priorities?
 - c. Who decides these priorities and how is it done?

2. *Constituent Connections:* Regardless of your election procedures, almost all legislators are expected to help constituents with a variety of problems and have a presence in their communities.
 - a. How do you assist your constituents?
 - b. Do you feel that citizen's expectations are changing?
 - c. What are your "best practices" for making a strong presence in your community?

3. *Member/Staff Relations.* In the best legislative environment, legislators and legislative staff work closely and efficiently so that the legislators have the information, advice and assistance they need to handle their legislative duties. In reality, the relationship between legislators and staff can be challenging.
 - a. What are the important factors and practices for building a strong professional relationship between Members and staff in your country?