

NCSL Opportunities for Working Families Meeting State Action Plans

Georgia

Years of Participation: 2004, 2007, 2009, 2010

2004 ACTION PLAN

Team Members

Rep. Lynn Smith

Rep. Nan Orrock

Priority Issue(s): Help low income families become stabilized through incentives for personal responsibility that help build assets and financial options

Action Items

- Build bi-partisan support for asset building to help low-income working families build self-sufficiency.
- Broaden understanding and develop support for IDA's with goal of passing legislation in 2005.
- Encourage, support and partner with Governor's state wide task force.
- Expand outreach / more information to eligible constituents about filing for the federal EITC.

Next Steps

1. Persuade bipartisan Legislative Women's Caucus to focus on asset building for low income families at its first biennial retreat following the election
2. Encourage asset building as an agenda item for the biennial retreat for all legislators at its' general retreat in December.

Team Member Responsibilities

- Study Pennsylvania and Delaware models. Lead a legislative initiative to build coalitions both inside the legislature and with other groups including the executive branch. Build buy-in across party lines.

TA Requests

- Work with Casey Foundation and use its expertise. Invite NCSL to facilitate discussion of advantages and or provide presentation on asset building for low-income families at legislative retreats

NCSL Follow-up

Mary to follow up with Rep. Orrock and Rep. Smith about organizing one or more briefings for state legislators following the election. Shift in majority party control in the House. Contacted Rep. Smith 11/04 to offer assistance. Nothing expected to happen until after the House is reorganized and 2005 session is well underway.