



# Legislative Leadership: the Art, the Politics, the Challenge

February 16-18, 2011

The Willard Hotel, 1401 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, D.C.

## Wednesday, February 16, 2011

**1:00p.m. – 1:30p.m.**      **Registration**  
*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

**1:30p.m.-2:15p.m.**      **A Look at the Political Landscape with Charlie Cook**  
*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

With a divided government in Washington, what are the prospects for major legislation? As the 2012 presidential race quietly shifts into high gear, how will that drive policy debates? What does all this mean for states? Charlie Cook is the highly regarded publisher of the Cook Political Report.

*Presiding:* Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts, NCSL President

**2:15p.m. – 3:30p.m.**      **Discussion with Senator Richard Durbin, Assistant Majority Leader, U.S. Senate**  
*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

*Presiding:* Senator Pamela Althoff, Illinois

**3:30p.m. – 4:00p.m.**      **Break**

**4:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.**      **Program to be Determined**

**5:15p.m. – 5:30p.m.**      Meet in hotel lobby to board buses to Capitol; buses to depart 5:30p.m.

**6:00p.m. – 7:00p.m.**      **Reception at U.S. Capitol Honoring Former State Legislators in the 112th Congress**  
*Room HVC - 201*

**7:00p.m. – 7:15p.m.**      Buses return to The Willard.

Dinner on own.

## Thursday, February 17, 2011

**8:15a.m.**      **Breakfast**  
*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

**8:30a.m. – 9:15a.m.**      **Discussion with Congressman Tom Price, Chairman of the House Republican Policy Committee**  
*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

Georgia Congressman Price serves on the Ways and Means Committee and the Budget Committee. He will discuss his party's priorities for the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress.

*Presiding:* Senator Don Balfour, Georgia, NCSL Immediate Past President

**9:15a.m. – 10:30a.m.**      **Working with Congress**  
*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

Join former state legislators who are now members of Congress for a lively discussion of the relationship between state legislatures and Congress and how to make it more effective.

*Presiding:* Assemblymember Fiona Ma, California, Speaker Pro Tem

*Faculty:* **Congressman Jim Costa, California**

**Congressman Pete Roskam, Illinois**

## Thursday, February 17, 2011: Continued

10:30a.m. – 12:00

*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

### **Executive Briefing: New Federal Budget Proposals and the States**

On Monday, President Obama released his proposed FY 2012 budget. One of the nation's top experts on the federal budget, Marcia Howard the Executive Director of Federal Funds Information for the States, will break down the president's budget and share her insight on how it could impact state budgets. She will also look at the key Republican proposals being considered in Congress. What do these first moves in the prolonged federal budget process foreshadow for states?

*Presiding:* Representative Joe Hackney, North Carolina, House Minority Leader

12:00 – 1:30p.m.

*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

Lunch will be served

### **America's Prosperity: On the Decline or Ready for Resurgence?**

Americans are concerned about government spending and the growth of the federal deficit. How will Congress and the administration address deficit spending? What happens if they don't? Will states benefit from deficit reduction? How can states work with the federal government to reduce the deficit?

*Presiding:* Representative Terie Norelli, New Hampshire, NCSL Vice President

*Faculty:* Alison Acosta Fraser, Director of Economic Policy Studies for the Heritage Foundation

1:30p.m. – 2:15p.m.

*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

### **Conversation with Congressman Kevin McCarthy, House Majority Whip**

California Congressman Kevin McCarthy is the new House majority whip, the third-ranking leadership position in his caucus. Serving his third term in the U.S. House, Representative McCarthy is a member of the Financial Services Committee. He will discuss the House leadership's priorities and policy goals.

*Presiding:* Senator Steve Morris, Kansas, NCSL President-elect

2:30p.m. – 3:15p.m.

*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

### **Fiscal Status of the States**

Legislatures face unprecedented challenges once again in balancing state budgets during the 2011 legislative session. Corina Eckl, NCSL's fiscal expert, will share the latest data on state fiscal conditions.

*Presiding:* Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts, NCSL President

3:15p.m. – 4:00p.m.

*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

### **Roundtable Discussion: The States' Agenda for the 112<sup>th</sup> Congress**

*Presiding:* Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts, NCSL President

4:00p.m. – 5:00p.m.

*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

### **Reducing Health Care Costs Through Technology: Electronic Health Records**

What does the federal Electronic Health Records (EHR) Incentive Program mean for states? The program is aimed at improving the "economic and clinical health" of the nation with the use of EHR technology at the state level, reducing costs and increasing the quality of health care services. Is your state ready for the transition? From the Centers of Medicare and Medicaid Services, we have.

*Presiding:* Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts, NCSL President

*Faculty:* Kim Barnes, Virginia HIT Coordinator

Michelle Mills, Technical Director, Center for Medicaid, CHIP, and Survey & Certification, Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services

Mari Savickis, Assistant Director of Federal Affairs & Outreach, American Medical Assn.

5:30p.m. – 6:30p.m.

*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

### **Reception at The Willard Hotel**

- Sponsored by the NCSL Foundation for State Legislatures -

6:30 p.m. – 8:00p.m.

*The Occidental*

### **Dinner**

**Friday, February 18, 2011**

**8:15a.m. – 9:45a.m.**  
*Pierce Room-Lower Level*  
Breakfast will be served

**The Federal Government is Creating Unwarranted Energy Risk to the States: A Conversation with John Hofmeister, former CEO of Shell Oil**

Eight presidents and 19 Congresses have been unable to agree on the nation's energy future. The states risk loss of competitiveness, high costs, energy scarcity and environmental harm as a consequence. How can the states help to remedy this indecisiveness?

*Presiding:* Senator Steve Morris, Kansas, NCSL President-elect

**9:45a.m. – 11:15a.m.**  
*Pierce Room-Lower Level*

**Meetings with Administration Officials**

Legislative leaders will have the opportunity to talk with key cabinet members on critical state-federal issues such as the economy, transportation, health care reform and education.

*Presiding:* Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts. NCSL President

*Faculty:* **Secretary Ray LaHood**, Department of Transportation  
**Secretary Kathleen Sebelius**, Department of Health and Human Services

**11:30a.m. – 1:00p.m.**  
*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*  
Lunch will be served

**The Art of Being a Legislative Leader**

It's tough; it's challenging; it's rewarding. As a leader, you face new challenges seemingly every hour. In this session, nationally recognized legislative leaders will share advice for effective leadership and how to rise to the challenge of this vital role. Among other things, participants will discuss managing the process, delegating the workload, majority-minority relations, legislative-executive relations, disciplining members and ethics.

*Moderator:* **Bill Purcell**, former Majority Leader, Tennessee House of Representatives

*Faculty:* **Mary Panzer**, former Majority Leader, Wisconsin Senate  
**Christopher Rants**, former Speaker, Iowa House of Representatives  
**Andrew Romanoff**, former Speaker, Colorado House of Representatives

**1:15p.m. – 2:15p.m.**  
*Crystal Room-Lobby Level*

**Staying on Message and Thriving in the New Media Environment**

The media landscape is undergoing tectonic shifts. Learn tricks of the trade at this session about the do's and don'ts of effective media relations. How can you make the most of press opportunities? What does this mean for you as a leader trying to get your message out while avoiding pitfalls?

*Faculty:* **Gene Rose**, Director, NCSL Director of Communications