

Meeting of the National Conference of State Legislatures'
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TASK FORCE ON STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION

November 20-21, 2015

Loews Miami Beach Hotel
Miami, Florida

Friday, November 20

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Americana Salon 2

Task Force Meets

1:00 – 1:05 p.m.

Welcome

Overview of the Task Force meeting and attendee introductions.

Co-Chairs

- Senator Pam Althoff, Illinois
- Delegate Shelia Hixson, Maryland
- Representative Chris Perone, Connecticut

1:05 – 2:00 p.m.

New Standards Requiring Disclosure of Government Tax Incentives

A new standard from the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) will require state and local governments to make new disclosures about tax incentives to help financial statement users understand their extent and nature. This session will delve into the new standards and what this means for governments and future tax incentives.

Panelists

- Dean Mead, Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB)
- Representative Cyndi Stevenson, Florida

2:00 – 2:15 p.m.

Multistate Tax Commission

Greg Matson, the recently named Executive Director of the Multistate Tax Commission, will introduce himself to the task force and provide an update on activity at the MTC.

Panelists

- Greg Matson, Multistate Tax Commission (MTC)

2:15 – 3:00 p.m.

Work Opportunity Tax Credit

The Work Opportunity Tax Credit (WOTC) is a federal tax credit available to employers to encourage the hiring of individuals from certain target groups who have consistently faced significant barriers to employment. This session will discuss the federal credit, its status in congress, as well the impact of similar programs on the state level.

Panelist

- Evan Migdail, DLA Piper

3:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Remote Sales Tax Collection

Update and discussion of remote sales tax collection legislation in Congress, which would enable states to collect the sales and use taxes that are owed on remote transactions. There will also be discussion on implementation of the federal legislation should it pass Congress as well as measures that states are considering should Congress fail to act.

Panelists

- Neal Osten, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
- Joe Rinzel, Retail Industry Leaders Association (RILA)
- Leslie Fox, International Council of Shopping Centers (ICSC)

4:00 – 4:45 p.m.

Taxation of Digital Goods

Digital goods are internet purchases transmitted electronically to a consumer where they have no tangible item to show for their purchase. Unlike purchases of tangible products, purchases of digital goods are potentially subject to sales tax more than once. Because current state tax regimes lack of consistency, a consumer choosing to make a purchase electronically could be paying multiple states' sales taxes on the same transaction. A national framework will guide multiple jurisdictions in how they can impose taxes on digital transactions, ensuring these transactions are only taxed once like their main street counterpart.

Panelists

- Stephen Kranz, McDermott Will & Emery

4:45 – 5:00 p.m.

Property Taxation of Communications Infrastructure

At the Seattle meeting in August, the task force heard an update on the task force project focused on providing a primer for legislatures on the issue of property taxation of communications infrastructure. During this session, task force staff will provide an update on the document for task force consideration.

Panelists

- Max Behlke, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)
- Jeff Hurley, National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

5:30 p.m.

Task Force Reception/Dinner

NCSL Thanks McDermott Will & Emery for Sponsoring the Reception

The Task Force reception will take place in the South Tower of the Continuum Apartment Complex on South Beach followed by dinner on the Patio.

Continuum on South Beach
100 South Pointe Drive
Unit 1707 – South Tower

(Approximately a 15 minute walk/5-minute taxi ride from the Loew's)

Reception and Dinner are for Task Force Members and Sponsors Only

Saturday, November 21

7:00 – 7:55 a.m. Breakfast

Americana 4 Prefunction

8:00 – 12:00 p.m. Task Force Meets

Americana Salon 2

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Task Force Roundtable

This roundtable discussion among task force members will focus on the important taxation issues expected in the states in 2016.

Co-Chair Moderators

- Senator Pam Althoff, Illinois
- Delegate Shelia Hixson, Maryland
- Representative Chris Perone, Connecticut

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. Escheat/Unclaimed property

Unclaimed Property has become a significant revenue source for many states and a point of contention for many businesses. The Uniform Law Commission is currently working on a revised unclaimed property act that state legislatures will be asked to adopt next year. This presentation will discuss the primary issues being addressed by this project.

Panelists

- Diann Smith, McDermott Will & Emery
- John Gabriel, Tennessee Department of Treasury

9:45 – 10:30 a.m.

Effects of State Taxation on International Investment

Global investment into the United States provides substantial economic benefits across all 50 states, from high paying jobs to supporting manufacturing, innovation, and exports. However, as the world is becoming increasingly competitive, the United States can no longer assume that global companies will locate here and create jobs. This session will discuss the impact of foreign direct investment to the U.S. economy and how states can ensure their tax policies keep them globally competitive.

Panelists

- Evan Hoffman, Organization for International Investment (OFII)
- Alan Pasetsky, Nestle USA

10:30 – 10:50 a.m.

Lodging Taxes: A Primer

Lodging taxes, also known as hotel or transient occupancy taxes, typically apply to rentals of 30 or fewer days in most parts of the country. However, that is not always the case. This session will provide an overview of lodging taxes and how they are applied and collected at the local and state levels.

Panelist

- Scott Peterson, Avalara
- Robert Stephens, Avalara

10:50 – 11:30 a.m.

Room Taxation in the 21st Century Shared Economy

While the sharing economy has offered many new opportunities for consumers and entrepreneurs, it has also challenged the way that states and localities administer and collect taxes. This session will focus on the sharing economy as it relates to occupancy taxes and whether or not those taxes are applicable, and if so, how they should be administered and collected.

Panelists

- T.J. Maloney, Marriott
- Matt Curtis, HomeAway

11:30 – 12:00 p.m.

A Discussion of Taxation Principles: Expenditures and Personal Property

Joe Crosby, of Multistate Associates, will moderate a task force discussion on suggested principles for Tax Expenditure Reports, in regards to defining a normal tax base, as well as principles to consider in regards to personal property tax reform.

Moderator

- Joe Crosby, Multistate Associates



THE NEXT MEETING
OF THE
STATE AND LOCAL TAXATION TASK FORCE
WILL BE HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
WINTER NCSL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
AT THE
HILTON SALT LAKE CITY CENTER
IN
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH
JANUARY 8, 2016

NCSL Task Force on State and Local Taxation's Homepage:
<http://www.ncsl.org/ncsl-in-dc/task-forces/task-force-on-state-and-local-taxation.aspx>