



Note from the President

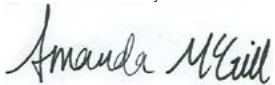
Hello,

I'd like to give a hearty welcome and congratulations to all the women who are beginning your first terms in the legislature. This is a very exciting time. As you settle into your new role, I hope you will turn to the National Conference of State Legislatures for assistance and ideas. NCSL staff will give you well-researched and balanced information about any policy issue from A to Z and are available to provide technical assistance in your state. NCSL training materials will give you the tools you need to be effective. Through my participation with NCSL, I have learned about human trafficking and veteran supports and taken that information back to Nebraska.



The Women's Legislative Network exists to promote the participation, empowerment and leadership of female legislators. We bring together women from the 50 states to learn from one another and rejoice in our common bond. I recently enjoyed participating in a roundtable discussion about advice for newly elected women. This "webinar" is archived on the Network website, and I hope you will take the time to listen. We had a lot of fun sharing stories and recounting what we wish we had known when we were first elected.

To all female legislators, new and veteran, I hope you will stay involved with the Network in 2013 and beyond. I am always interested to hear your ideas for meetings and workshops. We are planning events for NCSL's Spring Forum in May and the Legislative Summit in August, so stay tuned. In the meantime, please keep us informed of events involving women in your state, whether it is a meeting of a women's legislative caucus, a women's day at the capitol, or the female high school students you mentor. I look forward to meeting many of you at NCSL events, and I wish each of you success in 2013!



Amanda McGill
State Senator, Nebraska
Acting President, Women's Legislative Network of NCSL

Join Us!

NCSL Spring Forum | May 2-4, 2013 | Denver, Colorado

The Women's Legislative Network will host events at the Spring Forum. May is a beautiful month in Colorado, so consider joining us if your schedule permits. Check the Network website for more information.

Events at the NCSL Fall Forum

December 4-7, 2012 | Washington, D.C.

For complete meeting information and handouts, visit www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 25500.

Improving Women's Health: Research, Innovation and Leadership

This preconference for legislators and legislative staff featured lively discussion among women's health experts and meeting participants. Session topics included an overview of women's unique health care needs from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention; a discussion of several state women's health initiatives; and a panel about women, Alzheimer's and long-term care. The second day of the meeting featured a special workshop with trainer Morag Barrett about cultivating winning relationships. Participants also were asked to review and comment on a draft of an NCSL publication about women's health that will be released soon.

Expanding Employment for Military Veterans

Labor and Economic Development Committee, Task Force on Military and Veterans' Affairs, Women's Legislative Network

This session featured several examples of work being done to expand and grow job opportunities for our military veterans and ensure that they receive the benefits they deserve. Speakers were from the Department of Veterans Affairs, VetJobs.com, Humana Inc. and the Boot Campaign.

Leadership Workshop: Tough Conversations

Legislative Effectiveness Committee and the Women's Legislative Network

This workshop was led by trainer Morag Barrett of Skye Associates. She shared tips about how to prepare for and get through difficult conversations in our professional and personal lives.

Roundtable Discussion

Legislators gathered for an informal roundtable discussion about the 2012 election, top issues for state legislatures and ideas for Network programming in 2013.

Events at the NCSL Legislative Summit

August 6-9, 2012 | Chicago, Illinois

For complete meeting information and handouts, visit www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 24822.

Women's Legislative Network Executive Board Meeting

Members discussed the Network's year at this summer board meeting of the Women's Legislative Network.

Connecting to Citizens

NCSL Legislative Effectiveness Committee and the Women's Legislative Network

Legislators often list constituent service as their No. 1 priority, but they may be on the lookout for ways to freshen their practices. Veteran legislators shared some new strategies to sharpen their connections to constituents, and attendees participated in roundtable discussions on the topic.

- Moderator: Senate Majority Policy Leader Les Ihara Jr., Hawaii
- Panelists: Representative Rick Miera, New Mexico
- Senator Ellen Roberts, Colorado
- Presenter: Representative Jay Kaufman, Massachusetts (by video)

Women's Legislative Network Roundtable Discussion

Members of the Women's Legislative Network of NCSL gathered for informal, bipartisan discussions on topics that included women's health, women in politics, women in the military, financial stability and the 2012 session.

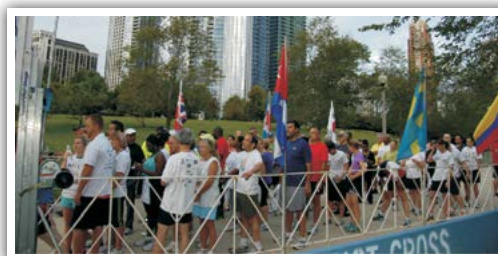
Women's Legislative Network Reception

The Network honored incoming president Delaware Senator Dori Connor, the executive board and female lawmakers from around the world.

Women's Legislative Network Lunch and Business Meeting

The session began with the annual Network business meeting and elections. Following the business meeting, a panel of Illinois experts discussed women in the military and female veterans.

- Erica Borggren, Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs
- Valerie Creedon, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Illinois
- Kinna Patel, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Illinois
- Jenny Garretson, Jesse Brown VA Medical Center, Illinois



Walk for Wellness

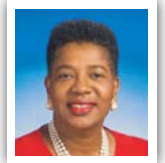
Cosponsored by the National Asian Pacific American Caucus of State Legislators, the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators, the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators, the Women's Legislative Network of NCSL, the Legislative Staff Coordinating Committee and the NCSL Health Committee

Legislators, staff and friends came out for a 5K walk or run along Lake Michigan to raise awareness of chronic diseases and health disparities.

News and Announcements

Tennessee Representative Brenda Gilmore Receives Humanitarian Award

On Oct. 11, 2012, the Northwest Nashville YMCA hosted the annual James "Tex" Thomas Humanitarian breakfast. James "Tex" Thomas is a longtime Nashville community leader, activist and pastor of Jefferson Street Baptist Church. The featured honoree was Representative Brenda Gilmore.



A graduate of Tennessee State and Vanderbilt universities, Representative Gilmore spent almost 20 years of her career as Vanderbilt's director of University Mail Services. Previously, she was director of the State of Tennessee Postal Services. Drawn to public service, Representative Gilmore was elected to the Metro Council in 1999 and then to represent House District 54 in the Tennessee General Assembly in 2006. Much of her district is the Bordeaux community where the Northwest Y is located. She has been a YMCA volunteer for many years and a member of the board since 1999. Representative Gilmore served as chair of the capital campaign for the Northwest YMCA, raising approximately \$5 million, which was used to build an indoor swimming pool for the young people in the community. In 2011, she was awarded the Red Triangle Award (YMCA's highest volunteer honor).

News from Massachusetts Senator Harriette Chandler

Massachusetts Governor Deval Patrick signed Senate Bill 2359, *An Act Establishing Standards for Long-Term Care Insurance* into law in October. Sponsored by Senator Harriette Chandler, the bill aims to strengthen and establish legal standards regarding long-term care insurance in the Massachusetts.



“The long-term care (LTC) insurance bill has been in the works for more than eight years, so it's been a long time coming,” said Chandler. “It is a win for everyone. This legislation presents a new channel of business with standards and offers savings for both the state and those who will purchase and use it. After a long and hard fight, today marks a very important day, and I am absolutely thrilled.”

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The bill will:

- Ensure availability of long-term care insurance policies.
- Protect LTC applicants from deceptive enrollment practices.
- Promote flexibility and customization according to an individual's LTC needs.
- Facilitate better public understanding and comparison of LTC insurance policies.
- Provide safeguards through certain provisions that are prohibited in LTC insurance policies:
 - A policy may not be cancelled on the basis of age or deterioration of mental or physical health.
 - An LTC policy may not contain a provision containing a new preexisting condition limitation period when

existing coverage is converted to a new one within the same insurance company.

- The policy may not provide coverage for skilled nursing care only, or provide significantly more coverage for skilled care than for lower levels of care.
- Make LTC insurance policies more understandable and more portable across state lines by meeting federal standards for coverage.
- Protect the assets of policyholders.
- Ensure that a policy must:
 - Have sufficient benefits available to cover nursing home care for at least 730 days.
 - Have benefits available of at least \$125 per day for nursing home care, except where the actual cost is less, regardless of whether the policy counts days or dollars toward the benefit level.

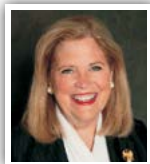
The need for this bill is particularly essential as baby boomers enter their 60s and nursing home care remains a large part of the Medicaid budget. Massachusetts is one of the few states that lacked a long-term care statute, making it a less attractive marketplace for long-term care products. Having long-term care standards in place will promote a market that not only offers better quality, availability and choice with respect to long-term care policies, but also will protect consumers. The bill also requires that the commissioner of insurance undertake a study to determine potential methods to stabilize long-term care insurance rates and prevent exceptional rate increases in the future.

On Dec. 4, 2012, Senator Chandler was presented with the Legislator of the Year Award by the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys (MassNAELA) for her efforts to pass the long-term care bill.

In December 2012, Senator Chandler headed a New England legislative delegation to Taiwan sponsored by the Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Boston. The purpose of this trip was to increase knowledge and understanding of Taiwan and U.S. relations, engage with foreign leaders on a wide range of issues (including educational, economic and health care activities with which Senator Chandler is deeply involved), and to exchange best practices.

Illinois Representative Patti Bellock Recognized

Illinois State Representative Patti Bellock was recognized by four organizations for her tremendous effort as a legislator this fall. The National Multiple Sclerosis Society awarded Bellock *Legislator of the Year* for her contributions of time and talent to further its mission. Illinois Farm Bureau ACTIVATOR named her a *Friend of Agriculture* for recognizing the economic significance of Illinois agriculture. The Illinois Chamber of Commerce presented her with the *Champion of Free Enterprise* award for her efforts to make Illinois a more business-friendly state, and Roosevelt University gave her the *Saving Lives Award* for her dedication to the cause of heroin prevention.



Representative Bellock has been very active in The New Leadership Program she helped found in 2005 for young college wom-

en in Illinois. This program has graduated 140 college juniors who will go on to be leaders in Illinois and the United States.

Florida State Senator Arthenia Joyner Honored

In April 2012, Florida Senator Arthenia Joyner was honored by the American Civil Liberties Union (and presented with its Defender of Women's Rights award for her efforts in passing legislation that bans shackles on female inmates who are in labor, delivery or postpartum recovery. Senator Joyner recognized that moving the "Healthy Pregnancies for Incarcerated Women Act" would not be an easy undertaking. However, Senator Joyner's tenacity and personal commitment to women's rights resulted in Florida's being added to a growing list of states that have enacted this ban. "Restraints on women during delivery pose a serious medical threat to both mother and baby. While I understand the need for security, I am overjoyed that the law will now clearly provide for humane treatment during this very special time when a mother gives birth," said Senator Joyner.



Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus Launches Three New Public Service Announcements

The Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus (LLWC) has launched three new public service announcements through a partnership between the Women's Caucus Foundation and Cox Louisiana. This round of PSAs encourages women to run for public office in Louisiana, extends gratitude to Louisiana women veterans and those currently serving in the armed forces, and encourages young women in Louisiana to pursue higher education degrees in the areas of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM).

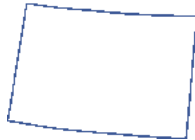


The LLWC created the PSAs in response to its findings about degrees earned in Louisiana and the number of women serving in elected public offices prior to the 2012 elections. The women legislators learned that women in Louisiana earned more than 18,600 degrees compared to more than 12,600 degrees earned by men. Although women earned more degrees, the Women's Caucus found that men earned more degrees in the STEM fields. Even though Louisiana women comprise 51 percent of the state's population, the women legislators found only 25 percent of elected public service positions in Louisiana were held by women during a snapshot review of elected offices prior to the 2012 elections. These numbers were even worse in the Louisiana Legislature, where women held slightly more than 11 percent of the legislative seats. Women held 27 percent of seats on Louisiana public boards and commissions.

The Louisiana Legislative Women's Caucus wants to 1) see more Louisiana women earn STEM degrees, 2) increase the number of women serving in public offices and on Louisiana boards and commissions, and 3) thank the Louisiana women who currently are serving or have served in the armed forces. The three PSAs will begin airing on Cox Channels in Louisiana in January. Visit the Caucus website to view them: <http://llwc.louisiana.gov/>.

Wyoming Women Explore Core Values and Civic Engagement

Executive Speech Coach Deb Sofield heard an old preacher once say, “When you die there are two dates on your tombstone, the day you were born and the day you die, and in between those dates a dash tells the world how you lived your life.” In a speech to more than 200 people at Leap into Leadership 2013, Sofield asked, “What are you doing in the dash?”



Now in its sixth year, Leap into Leadership aims to increase women's leadership at all levels. At least six Leap into Leadership alumni were elected to local or state office in the 2012 elections, part of a 125 percent increase in the number of women on county commissions and a 15 percent increase in the number of women in the Wyoming Legislature.

Leap into Leadership 2013 focused on the theme “We the People” to address core values, civic engagement and ethics with a program that included keynote speaker Sofield as well as an ethics workshop from the University of Wyoming College of Business, a simulated congressional hearing by students participating in *We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution Program* and leadership development workshops.

State Auditor Cynthia Cloud hosted participants for breakfast in her office in the state capitol, and former Auditor Rita Meyer spoke with participants about her path to leadership. “Look for where you want to go,” counseled Meyer, “You don't always have

to be successful, just keep going in the right direction.” Meyer, who currently is the Wyoming vice president of Rocky Mountain Power, encouraged attendees to be the heroes of their own lives.

The Wyoming Women's Legislative Caucus and Wyoming Women's Foundation will host two local Leap into Leadership workshops in May 2013—in Sheridan on May 21 and in Riverton on May 22.

Founded in 2006, the bipartisan Wyoming Women's Legislative Caucus is sponsored by The Equipoise Fund. For more information, please visit www.wyowlc.org.

Archived Webinar: Wise Women: Sage Advice from Seasoned Lawmakers for New Female Legislators

www.ncsl.org Go 25496

NCSL gathered a veteran group of female legislators for this webinar. These experts provided new legislators with tips on how to master the rules, carry legislation, provide constituent service and earn the respect of fellow lawmakers. They shared advice about maximizing your strengths, building relationships with your colleagues, finding a mentor and staying true to yourself.

Moderator: Patty Berg, former state Assemblymember, California. Director, Institute for Elected Women, California

Panelists:

State Senator Elsie Arntzen, Montana

State Representative Cheri Gerou, Colorado

State Senator Amanda McGill, Nebraska

Speaker Terie Norelli, New Hampshire

Dear Alliance Sponsors and Friends of the Network,



I am very excited to take over the role as Alliance chair from our good friend Dennis Brown. I have some large shoes to fill and hope that I can be as valuable to the Network as Dennis.

I have worked for Walmart for the past six years and am responsible for the local, state and regulatory program in Texas. I also help direct our Foundation contributions in the state. Prior to joining Walmart, I was with the International Bottled Water Association in Alexandria, Va., and with the Food Marketing Institute in Washington, D.C.

My experience with Walmart and the trade associations has given me a large network of friends throughout the country. I hope to use these connections to help grow the private sector partners in the Alliance and expand the reach of the Women's Network.

I am particularly excited to be in the company of so many female lawmakers who are dedicated to the empowerment and leadership of women legislators. It will be an honor to work with Senator Amanda McGill of the great state of Nebraska and NCSL's Women's Network Staff Manager Katie Ziegler to promote the Network and its goals.

I look forward to seeing you at the Spring Forum in Denver on May 2-4 and for the NCSL Legislative Summit in Atlanta from August 12-15, where we can share ideas and build valuable relationships for years to come.

Best wishes.

Kellie Duhr
Kellie Duhr
Alliance Chair
Walmart

Thank you to our Alliance members

Sponsor (\$5,000)

- Exxon Mobil
- Intuit
- Novartis
- Walmart Stores Inc.

Partner (\$2,500)

- Equipment Leasing and Finance Association
- State & Federal Communications

Contributor (\$1,000)

- Alticor
- Ash Grove Cement Company
- Baxter Healthcare
- Hallmark Cards Inc.
- Mary Kay Inc.

Friend (\$500)

- American Beverage Association
- Avon
- Procter & Gamble

Women in State Legislatures 2013

Visit www.ncsl.org Go 25455 for complete information and a list of women serving in legislative leadership positions.

State	Women in the House	Women in the Senate	Total Women	Percentage of Female Legislators
Alabama	13	5	18	12.9%
Alaska	13	4	17	28.3%
Arizona	19	13	32	35.6%
Arkansas	17	6	23	17.0%
California	21	10	31	25.8%
Colorado	28	14	42	42.0%
Connecticut	46	9	55	29.4%
Delaware	10	6	16	25.8%
Florida	28	12	40	25.0%
Georgia	46	8	54	22.9%
Hawaii	16	8	24	31.6%
Idaho	22	5	27	25.7%
Illinois	42	15	57	32.2%
Indiana	23	8	31	20.7%
Iowa	25	10	35	23.3%
Kansas	27	12	39	23.6%
Kentucky	18	7	25	18.1%
Louisiana	12	4	16	11.1%
Maine	47	7	54	29.0%
Maryland	46	11	57	30.3%
Massachusetts	39	12	51	25.5%
Michigan	24	4	28	18.9%
Minnesota	44	23	67	33.3%
Mississippi	21	7	28	16.1%
Missouri	38	5	43	21.8%
Montana	32	10	42	28.0%
Nebraska	0	10	10	20.4%
Nevada	14	4	18	28.6%
New Hampshire	130	9	139	32.8%
New Jersey	24	11	35	29.2%
New Mexico	25	6	31	27.7%
New York	36	11	47	22.1%
North Carolina	31	8	39	22.9%
North Dakota	16	8	24	17.0%
Ohio	23	8	31	23.5%
Oklahoma	16	4	20	13.4%
Oregon	18	8	26	28.9%
Pennsylvania	37	8	45	17.8%
Rhode Island	22	9	31	27.4%
South Carolina	21	1	22	12.9%
South Dakota	18	6	24	22.9%
Tennessee	16	7	23	17.4%
Texas	31	6	37	20.4%
Utah	12	5	17	16.3%
Vermont	64	9	73	40.6%
Virginia	19	6	25	17.9%
Washington	28	17	45	30.6%
West Virginia	21	1	22	16.4%
Wisconsin	24	9	33	25.0%
Wyoming	13	2	15	16.7%
TOTAL	1,376	408	1,784	24.2%

(Data as of Feb. 12, 2013. Subject to change due to resignations and special elections)

First Women to Serve in State Legislatures

State/ Jurisdiction	House		Senate	
	Year	Name	Year	Name
Alabama	1923	Harriet Hooker Wilkins	1983	Ann Bedsole Frances Strong
Alaska (Territory)	1936	Nell Scott	1949	Anita Garnick
Alaska (State)	1959	Helen Fischer Blanche McSmith Doris Sweeny	1959	Irene Ryan
Arizona	1915	Rachel Emma Berry	1915	Frances Willard Munds
Arkansas	1922	Frances Matthew Jones Hunt	1964	Dorothy Allen
California	1919	Esto Broughton Grace Dorris Elizabeth Hughes Anna Saylor	1977	Rose Ann Vuich
Colorado	1895	Clara Cressingham Carrie Clyde Holly Frances Klock	1913	Helen Robinson
Connecticut	1921	Emily Sophie Brown Rev. Grace Edwards Lillian Frink Mary Hooker Helen Jewett	1925	Alice Merritt
Delaware	1925	Florence Hanby	1947	Vera Davis
Florida	1929	Edna Giles Fuller	1963	Beth Johnson
Georgia	1923	Bessie Kempton Viola Ross Napier	1925	Margaret Johnson
Hawaii (Territory)	1925	Rosalie Keliinoini	1933	Elsie Wilcox
Hawaii (State)	1959	Dorothy Devereux Eureka Forbes	1963	Patsy Mink
Idaho	1899	Clara Campbell Hattie Noble Mary Wright	1935	Margaret Bognet Pike
Illinois	1923	Lottie Holman O'Neill	1925	Florence Fifer Bohrer
Indiana	1921	Julia Reynolds Nelson	1943	Arcada Balz
Iowa	1929	Carolyn Campbell Pendray	1933	Carolyn Campbell Pendray
Kansas	1919	Minnie Tamar Johnson Grinstead	1929	Patricia Solander
Kentucky	1922	Mary Elliott Flanery	1950	Carolyn Moore
Louisiana	1940	Doris Lindsey Holland Beatrice Hawthorne Moore	1936	Doris Lindsey Holland
Maine	1923	Dora Pinkham	1927	Katharine Allen Claire Carter Dora Pinkham
Maryland	1922	Mary Risteau	1935	Mary Risteau
Massachusetts	1923	Sylvia Donaldson Susan Fitzgerald	1937	Sybil Holmes
Michigan	1925	Cora Belle Reynolds Anderson	1921	Eva McCall Hamilton
Minnesota	1923	Myrtle Cain Sue Metzger Dickey Hough Hannah Jensen Kempfer Mabeth Hurd Paige	1927	Laura Johnson Naplin
Mississippi	1924	Nellie Nugent Somerville	1924	Carrie Belle Kearney
Missouri	1923	Melleene Smith Sarah Lucille Turner	1973	Mary Gant
Montana	1917	Margaret Smith Hathaway Emma Ingalls	1945	Ellenore Bridenstine

State/ Jurisdiction	House		Senate	
	Year	Name	Year	Name
Nebraska	1925*	Mabel Gillespie Clara Humphrey Sarah Muir	1945	Nell Krause
Nevada	1919	Sadie Hurst	1935	Frances Friedhoff
New Hampshire	1921	Jessie Doe Dr. Mary Farnum	1931	Edgar Maude Ferguson
New Jersey	1921	Margaret Laird Jennie Van Ness	1966	Mildred Barry Hughes
New Mexico	1923	Bertha Paxton	1925	Louise Holland Coe
New York	1919	Mary Lilly Ida Sammis	1935	Rhoda Fox Graves
North Carolina	1921	Lillian Clement	1931	Gertrude Dills McKee
North Dakota	1923	Minnie Craig Nellie Dougherty	1951	Agnes Kjørlije Geelan
Ohio	1923	Nettie Clapp Lulu Gleason Adelaide Ott May Van Wye	1923	Nettie Loughead Maude Waitt
Oklahoma	1921	Bessie McColgin	1921	Lamar Looney
Oregon	1915	Marian Towne	1915	Kathryn Clarke
Pennsylvania	1923	Alice Bentley Rosa DeYoung Sarah McCune Gallaher Helen Grimes Sarah Gertrude MacKinney Lillie Pitts Martha Speiser Martha Thomas	1925	Flora Vare
Rhode Island	1923	Isabella Ahearn O'Neill	1929	Lulu Mowry Schlesinger
South Carolina	1945	Harriet Johnson	1929	Mary Ellis
South Dakota	1923	Gladys Pyle	1937	Jessie Sanders
Tennessee	1923	Marian Scudder Griffin	1921	Anna Lee Worley
Texas	1923	Edith Wilmans	1927	Margie Neal
Utah	1897	Sarah Elizabeth Anderson Eurithe LaBarthe	1897	Dr. Martha Hughes Cannon
Vermont	1921	Edna Beard	1923	Edna Beard
Virginia	1924	Sarah Lee Fain Helen Henderson	1980	Eva Mae Scott
Washington	1913	Frances Axtell Dr. Nena Jolidon Croake	1923	Reba Hurn
West Virginia	1923	Anna Johnston Gates	1934	Hazel Edna Hyre
Wisconsin	1925	Mildred Barber Hellen Brooks Helen Thompson	1975	Kathryn Morrison
Wyoming	1911	Mary Bellamy	1931	Dora McGrath
American Samoa (Territory)	1953	Zilpher Jennings Mabel Reid		
Guam (Territory)		Unicameral	1955	Cynthia Torres
Puerto Rico (Territory)	1933	Maria Luisa Arcelay De La Rosa	1937	Maria Martinez De Perez Almirotty
U.S. Virgin Islands (Territory)		Unicameral	1953	Ann Christian Abramson

*= The Nebraska legislature had two chambers until 1936.

"Year" denotes the year a woman first served in the legislature. In most cases, this means the January following a November election.

Source: Elizabeth M. Cox, *Women State and Territorial Legislators, 1895-1995: A State-by-State Analysis, with Rosters of 6,000 Women* (Jefferson, N.C.: McFarland & Co. Inc., 1996).



Clara Cressingham, Carrie Holly and Frances Klock, Colorado
The nation's first female legislators

Sharing Our Views

Sharing Our Views provides an opportunity for some of our most dedicated Alliance members to express their perspectives. If you would like to see your company's viewpoint included in the next edition, contact Katie Ziegler at (303) 856-1514 or katie.ziegler@ncsl.org.

In the last decade, significant advances in the treatment of serious medical conditions, such as rheumatoid arthritis and cancer, became possible because of our ability to make human proteins using recombinant DNA technology. These products are known as biologics.



More recently, “biosimilars”—subsequent versions of biological medicines that share the same mechanism of action and have the same therapeutic indications as the originator biologics—promise safe, efficacious and less-costly treatments. Biosimilars have been widely and safely used in Europe since 2006.

In the United States, there was no formal regulatory approval pathway for biosimilars prior to the Biologics Price Competition and Innovation Act of 2009 (BPCIA.) The law specifies that the FDA may approve a product as a biosimilar or as an interchangeable biosimilar. It defines an interchangeable biosimilar as one where switching between the biosimilar and its reference product creates no greater risk than using the reference product alone.

The substitution of traditional generic drugs is governed by states, not the FDA. States likely will want to consider amending their existing drug substitution laws or regulations to accommodate biosimilars and interchangeable biosimilars. The AMA has concluded that, for biosimilars, “Substitution practices in the outpatient arena should be governed by the same standards that apply to A-rated traditional generic products.”

Appropriately, Congress charged the FDA with making interchangeability determinations since it is the only agency that sees the data. State governments will want to recognize this scientific expertise and the FDA decisions when they update laws or regulations governing substitution. In this way, patient safety will be assured, enabling state savings and increasing access to these important products.

Walmart's Global Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative

In September 2011, Walmart launched its Global Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative, an effort that leverages our global size and scale to improve women's lives across the world. By working with leaders of Non Governmental Organizations, philanthropic groups, academia and other partners, by the end of 2016 we aim to:



Increase Sourcing from Women-Owned Businesses:

- Source \$20 billion from women-owned businesses in the United States and double sourcing from women suppliers in international retail markets.
- Launch a dedicated women-owned product marketplace on walmart.com.

- Train 200,000 women for their first jobs in retail in our emerging markets through partnerships with NGOs, public schools, multilateral institutions and universities.

Empower Nearly 1 Million Women Through Training:

- Implement a women's empowerment program to train 60,000 women in 150 factories and processing facilities that are producing for top retail suppliers in industries with high percentages of women.
- In emerging markets, train 500,000 women in the agriculture value chain.
- Empower 200,000 women through job training, education, career counseling and mentoring in the United States through Walmart Foundation giving targeted at workforce readiness for women.

Promote Diversity and Inclusion Representation Within Our Merchandise and Professional Services Suppliers:

- In the United States, work with our major professional service firms and merchandise suppliers with more than \$1 billion in sales to increase women and minority representation within the Walmart-facing teams.
- Internationally, focus on gender balance of supplier teams starting with global accounts.

We're embedding these goals within our business. We also will support these goals with more than \$100 million in grants from the Walmart Foundation and corporate donations, making economic opportunity for women one of the largest areas of focus for Walmart's philanthropic giving. For more information, please visit www.walmartstores.com.

WINGS Announcements

Women in Informal Networking Groups (WINGS) is an interactive network of national organizations that serve women legislators in various capacities. These organizations have joined to share information and resources and to work together on leadership, education, training and development to empower legislative women throughout the nation. Participating organizations include:

- Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics
www.cattcenter.las.iastate.edu/
- Center for American Women and Politics
www.cawp.rutgers.edu
- Center for Women Policy Studies
www.centerwomenpolicy.org
- National Order of Black Elected Legislative Women
www.nobel-women.org
- National Women's Political Caucus
www.nwpc.org
- Women in Government
www.womeningovernment.org
- The Women Legislators' Lobby
www.willwand.org
- Women's Legislative Network of NCSL
www.ncsl.org/wln/

Center for Women Policy Studies Announces Publication of New Policy Papers in 2012

The Center's new Papers on Reproductive Laws for the 21st Century address the full range of complex issues that women elected officials face in the United States and globally. Several papers are particularly useful for U.S. legislators, including two that address the impact of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) on reproductive rights and health:

**Details & Devils: Contraceptive Coverage, Health Reform's Medicaid Expansion and the Enduring importance of the States*, by Sheila Bapat.

**Pre-Existing Conditions: How Restrictions on Abortion Coverage and Marginalization of Care Paved the Way for Discriminatory Treatment of Abortion in Health Reform and Beyond*, by Amy Alina, Jessica Arons, and M. Elizabeth Barajas-Roman.

Three other papers bring to light often unseen crises for women that state legislative initiatives can address, including:

**Disability and Justice in Abortion Debates*, by Sujatha Jesudason and Julia Epstein.

**"She Doesn't Deserve To Be Treated Like This:" Prisons as Sites of Reproductive Injustice*, by Rachel Roth.

**Pregnancy Exclusions in State Living Will and Medical Proxy Statutes*, by Megan Greene and Leslie R. Wolfe.

These and all the 2012 policy papers are available for download at the Center's website at www.centerwomenpolicy.org.

The Women Legislators' Lobby

(WiLL), a program of Women's Action for New Directions (WAND), is pleased that several women state legislators accepted positions on our two boards. Joining the WAND Education Fund Board of Directors are Representative Karen Camper (Tenn.), Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton (Nev.), Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez (Md.), Senator Lena Taylor (Wis.) and Representative Anna Tovar (Ariz.). Representative Angela Williams (Colo.), Representative Joni Jenkins (Ky.), Representative Phyllis Kahn (Minn.), Representative Jennifer Seelig (Utah) and Delegate Jeion Ward (Va.) joined the board of WAND Inc. We welcome their leadership and vision!



In September, WiLL partnered with the EastWest Institute to bring elected women from around the world together for

dialogue. Representative Karen Camper (Tenn.), Senator Barbara Favola (Va.), Delegate Ana Sol Gutiérrez (Md.), Senator Nan Orrock (Ga.), Delegate Joseline Peña-Melnyk (Md.), Senator Charleta Tavares (Ohio) and former Senator Mary Margaret Whipple (Va.) met with the Honorable Shinkai Karokhail, renowned women's activist and member of the National Assembly of Afghanistan and the Honorable Donya Aziz, member of the National Assembly of Pakistan in Washington, D.C.

Over the summer, WiLL members called on Congress to find a balanced approach to the looming "fiscal cliff." As Congress entered a lame duck session in November, we urged them to find a solution that does not allow Pentagon spending to rise at the expense of critical domestic programs upon which our constituents and state and local governments rely. WiLL members penned op-eds and letters to the editor, spoke to the media and on public panels, and contacted their congressional delegations to voice these concerns.

WiLL members also have raised awareness about the Women, Peace and Security Act, introduced in Congress earlier this year. The act supports the U.S. National Action Plan for Women, Peace and Security and aims to "empower half the world's population as equal partners in preventing conflict and building peace in countries threatened and affected by war, violence, and insecurity."

WiLL's biennial conference convenes Sept. 29-Oct. 1, 2013, in Washington, D.C. Save the date now and join your colleagues for two days of training, panel discussions and networking, followed by a day on Capitol Hill meeting with your congressional delegation!

We also are pleased to offer a small, highly personalized media training for our members this February in Minnesota. Be on the lookout for more details. We welcome and encourage women legislators across the nation to connect with the WiLL network and raise our voices together! Legislators are invited to contact WiLL president, Senator Nan Orrock (Ga.), willpres@wand.org, (404) 524-5999; WiLL vice president, Senator Sandy Pappas (Minn.), sandy@wand.org (651) 247-8698; or Maureen Campbell, will@wand.org, (202) 544-5055, ext. 2603, for information about upcoming conferences, training and future opportunities. Web updates are available at www.willwand.org.

The Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) is launching a new initiative to develop the leadership capacities of women and girls and encourage their full participation in our democracy, and we need your help! In 2011, President Obama challenged the nations of the world to take action to encourage women's public leadership. In response, a dozen nations, along with the United States, have joined in the global *Equal Futures Partnership* launched by Secretary Clinton in 2012, with each country making plans to encourage women to participate fully in public life and to lead and benefit from inclusive economic growth.



CAWP's new initiative, **Teach a Girl to Lead**, will support and expand civic learning and engagement opportunities for women and girls. CAWP will collaborate with the White House and the U.S. Department of Education to align this initiative with the administration's broader civic engagement efforts.

Specifically, CAWP is developing a "Teach a Girl to Lead" website with resources to educate young people about the impor-

tance of civic participation and the significant roles women have played and continue to play in our democracy. Resources will be targeted to specific audiences, including parents, educators, leaders of youth organizations, librarians and students. The web site will include:

- **Leaders Lineup:** A virtual speakers bureau listing women public leaders who are committed to addressing young people about the role and importance of women's full civic participation;
- **Teaching Toolbox:** Multi-media resources, extra-curricular educational materials, reading lists and activities for K-12 and college students; and
- **Programs and Places:** A clearinghouse of research on women's civic participation, organizations and websites committed to enhancing the civic participation of women and girls, and links to historic sites in women's political history.

We would like to have as many women state legislators as possible participate in our Leaders Lineup. To learn more or sign on, contact: Jean Sinzdak at (732) 932-9384, ext. 260, or sinzdak@eagleton.rutgers.edu.



New from NCSL!

A Mission to Serve: State Activities to Help Military Veterans Access Transportation

www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 25751

Today, about 23 million Americans are military veterans, with tens of thousands more returning home as the American presence in Iraq and Afghanistan winds down. Many of these men and women need reliable, affordable and accessible transportation choices to get to work and school, visit family and friends, and receive medical care and community services. In January 2013, NCSL produced an analysis of state activities that help military veterans access transportation, based on nationwide survey research. Focusing on state-level activities, the report summarizes how states support veterans' transportation through interagency coordination; funding; veterans' transportation programs; leadership; exemptions from fees, taxes, fares and tolls; and more.

Federal Health Reform: State Implementation Entities, Reports and Research

www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 21995

This web page provides access to state-based reports, research papers, fiscal analyses, websites, timelines and presentations related to the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

American Health Benefit Exchanges

www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 21393

The principal intent of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act was to enable low- and moderate-income people and small employers to obtain affordable health coverage through state-based exchanges. In 2014, individuals and small busi-

nesses will be able to purchase private health insurance through state-based exchanges. This document reflects information and guidance issued through statute, rule or communication from the federal government concerning activities and options related to development of a health benefit exchange.

Child Care and Early Education 2012 Legislative Action

www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 25635

During the 2012 legislative session, state lawmakers in 46 states introduced more than 800 bills to address issues relating to young children. In all, lawmakers enacted 92 bills on child care quality, licensing and costs; school readiness and kindergarten assessments; and early literacy development. This report provides an overview and analysis of the new laws.

Tax Credits for Working Families: Earned Income Tax Credit

www.ncsl.org [Go](#) 19276

An earned income tax credit (EITC) is designed to help low- to moderate-income working people get ahead. The federal tax credit, enacted in 1975, was made permanent in 1978. Twenty-five states and the District of Columbia also have earned income tax credits. This report describes the federal and state earned income tax credits, answers common questions about them, and provides examples of how to help working people find and use free tax preparation services.

Meet The Network Board



Acting President
Senator
Amanda McGill (X)
Nebraska



Vice President
Representative Jane
Powdrell-Culbert (R)
New Mexico



Past President
Representative
Rosie Berger (R)
Wyoming

Eastern Regional Members



Senator
Harriette Chandler (D)
Massachusetts



Representative
Patti Komline (R)
Vermont

Western Regional Members



Assemblywoman
Marilyn Dondero Loop (D)
Nevada



Representative
Libby Szabo (R)
Colorado

Midwestern Regional Members



Representative
Kristin Conzet (R)
South Dakota

VACANT

At-Large Members



Delegate
Addie Eckardt (R)
Maryland



Representative Sharon
Beasley-Teague (D)
Georgia

Southern Regional Members



Senator
Nancy Adams Collins (R)
Mississippi



Senator
Barbara Favola (D)
Virginia

NOBEL Women Representative



Senator
Sharon Weston Broome (D)
Louisiana

Note: The Midwestern Regional position (Democrat) is vacant. This region encompasses the states of Ill., Ind., Iowa, Kan., Mich., Minn., Mo., Neb., N.D., Ohio, S.D., and Wis. Contact Katie Ziegler, katie.ziegler@ncsl.org, to apply for the position.

Become an Advisory Council member!

The Advisory Council consists of two members from each state and is politically balanced. Advisory Council members serve as liaisons between their states and the Network to fulfill the Network's purpose: to promote the participation, empowerment and leadership of women legislators. Advisory Council members work with the Network on activities and events within their state, provide information to the Network regarding organizations and activities involving women legislators, and assist with program and fundraising efforts as determined by the Executive Board.

Review the list of members on the following page, and consider applying to represent your state. Contact Katie Ziegler at katie.ziegler@ncsl.org or (303) 856-1514 for more information.

Women's Legislative Network of NCSL

Advisory Council (2012 – 2013)

State/Jurisdiction	Title/Name	Party
Alabama	Rep. Becky Nordgren	R
Alabama	Rep. Laura Hall	D
Alaska	VACANT	D
Alaska	Sen. Lesil McGuire	R
Arizona	VACANT	D
Arizona	VACANT	R
Arkansas	Rep. Sheilla Lampkin	D
Arkansas	Rep. Stephanie Malone	R
California	VACANT	D
California	VACANT	R
Colorado	VACANT	D
Colorado	VACANT	R
Connecticut	Sen Andrea Stillman	D
Connecticut	Rep. Sandi Nafis	D
Delaware	Sen. Patricia Blevins	D
Delaware	Rep. Valerie Longhurst	D
Dist. of Columbia	VACANT	D
Florida	Sen. Arthenia Joyner	D
Florida	VACANT	R
Georgia	Rep. Dee Dawkins-Haigler	D
Georgia	Rep. Donna Sheldon	R
Hawaii	Sen. Suzanne Chun Oakland	D
Hawaii	VACANT	R
Idaho	VACANT	D
Idaho	Rep. Maxine Bell	R
Illinois	Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie	D
Illinois	Rep. Patricia Bellock	R
Indiana	Rep. Terri Austin	D
Indiana	VACANT	R
Iowa	Rep. Pam Jochum	D
Iowa	VACANT	R
Kansas	Rep. Barbara Ballard	D
Kansas	Sen. Vicki Schmidt	R
Kentucky	Rep. Joni L. Jenkins	D
Kentucky	Rep. Susan Westrom	D
Louisiana	VACANT	D
Louisiana	VACANT	R
Maine	VACANT	R
Maine	VACANT	R
Maryland	Sen. Delores Kelley	D
Maryland	Del. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam	D
Maryland	Del. Donna Stiffler	R
Massachusetts	VACANT	D
Massachusetts	Rep. Anne Gobi	D
Michigan	VACANT	D
Michigan	Rep. Amanda Price	R
Minnesota	VACANT	D
Minnesota	VACANT	R
Mississippi	Rep. Jessica Upshaw	R
Mississippi	VACANT	D
Missouri	VACANT	D
Missouri	Rep. Jeanie Lauer	R

State/Jurisdiction	Title/Name	Party
Montana	VACANT	D
Montana	Sen. Janna Taylor	R
Nebraska	Sen. Kate Sullivan	X
Nebraska	Sen. Kathy Campbell	X
Nevada	Sen. Debbie Smith	D
Nevada	Assy. Teresa Benitez-Thompson	D
New Hampshire	VACANT	D
New Hampshire	VACANT	R
New Jersey	Sen. Nia Gill	D
New Jersey	Sen. Loretta Weinberg	D
New Mexico	Rep. Patricia Lundstrom	D
New Mexico	VACANT	R
New York	Assy. Barbara Clark	D
New York	VACANT	R
North Carolina	Rep. Beverly Earle	D
North Carolina	Sen. Shirley Blackburn Randleman	R
North Dakota	VACANT	R
North Dakota	Rep. Lois Delmore	D
Ohio	Rep. Tracy Maxwell Heard	D
Ohio	VACANT	R
Oklahoma	Rep. Lee Denney	R
Oklahoma	Rep. Leslie Osborn	R
Oregon	Rep. Sherrie Sprenger	R
Oregon	Rep. Sara Gelsler	D
Pennsylvania	VACANT	D
Pennsylvania	Rep. Marguerite Quinn	R
Puerto Rico	Rep. Jenniffer González Colón	NPP
Rhode Island	Sen. Elizabeth Crowley	D
Rhode Island	VACANT	D
South Carolina	Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter	D
South Carolina	Rep. Jenny Anderson Horne	R
South Dakota	VACANT	D
South Dakota	VACANT	R
Tennessee	Rep. Karen Camper	D
Tennessee	Rep. Brenda Gilmore	D
Tennessee	Speaker Beth Halteman Harwell	R
Texas	Rep. Dawnna Dukes	D
Texas	Rep. Cindy Burkett	R
Utah	Rep. Rebecca Chavez-Houck	D
Utah	VACANT	R
Vermont	Rep. Anne O'Brien	D
Vermont	VACANT	R
Virginia	VACANT	D
Virginia	Del. Beverly J. Sherwood	R
Washington	Sen. Karen Fraser	D
Washington	VACANT	R
West Virginia	VACANT	D
West Virginia	Sen. Donna Boley	R
Wisconsin	VACANT	D
Wisconsin	Rep. Amy Loudenbeck	R
Wyoming	Rep. Mary Throne	D
Wyoming	Rep. Sue Wallis	R

Names that are italicized are legislators who have been nominated to serve on the Network Advisory Council, but have not been confirmed by the Network Executive Board.