Note from the President

Dear Women Legislators,

I hope each of your legislative sessions has been productive. This is the busiest time of year for most of us, but I hope you’ll take a moment to read about the latest Network programs and activities.

Karen Smith, our dedicated, enthusiastic and professional Alliance Chair will retire from her position at the NCSL Annual Meeting this summer. She has been an incredible asset to our organization for the past three years, and we have appreciated her efforts to support women legislators and further the mission of the Network. Under her leadership, our Alliance membership has grown and our programs have been timely, substantive and of interest both to women legislators and to members of the private sector. Many thanks to Karen for her leadership and support.

I am pleased to welcome Jacqueline Clark, Manager, Public Affairs, Hallmark Cards Inc., as our next Network Alliance Chair. Hallmark has been a devoted supporter of the Network for many years. Jackie will assume her new position after the NCSL Annual Meeting in August 2006. (Read more about her on page 5.)

Several vacancies on the Network Executive Board will occur after the 2006 NCSL Annual Meeting. We always need new and dedicated leadership. Please consider filling out the short application form enclosed in the Network News. If you are interested in becoming an Executive Board or Advisory Council member, e-mail katie.fischer@ncsl.org.

The Network events at the NCSL Annual Meeting will be particularly exciting this year. Please join us for what promises to be a stimulating and informative week of learning.

See you in Nashville!

Nancy Detert
State Representative, Florida
President, Women’s Legislative Network of NCSL

Agenda for Network Events at NCSL’s Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars! Plans for Network events at NCSL’s Annual Meeting are underway! This year, NCSL’s Annual Meeting will be held August 14-18 in Nashville, Tennessee. Please join us for a substantive and exciting week of activities. Among the highlights:

• Former New Jersey Governor and former EPA Administrator Christine Todd Whitman will address the Network at our annual Governor’s Breakfast.

• The 1st Annual Walk for Wellness is a new addition this year, and represents an excellent opportunity to partner with other legislative caucuses to raise awareness about health disparities.

See the preliminary agenda on page 2 or go to http://www.ncsl.org/wln/AMagenda06.htm for up-to-date information.

Interested in Becoming a Network Executive Board Member?

The Network Nominating Committee is accepting applications for Network Executive Board Membership for 2006-2007. The following positions will be vacant: President (Democrat), Vice President (Republican), one Eastern Regional position (Republican), one Midwestern Regional position (Republican), two Southern Regional positions (Democrat and Republican), one Western Regional position (Democrat), one At-Large position (Republican). If interested, please fill out the enclosed form and fax it to (303) 364-7800.
### Agenda for Network Events at NCSL's Annual Meeting

**Monday, August 14**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 2:00 pm</td>
<td>Beyond Bickering Workshop</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 pm - 4:30 pm</td>
<td>Network Executive Board Meeting (All are welcome)</td>
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**Tuesday, August 15**

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| 10:15 am - 11:45 am | For Men and Women Only: Emerging Leadership Styles of the Feminine and Masculine and Why We Need Both  
Facilitator: Donna Zajonc, Bainbridge Leadership Center  
(Cosponsored by NCSL's Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee and the Women's Legislative Network) |
| 11:45 am - 1:00 pm | Annual Network Business Meeting and Luncheon  
Program: "Healing Post Partisan Depression"  
Keynote Speaker: Donna Zajonc, Bainbridge Leadership Center  
(Cosponsored by NCSL's Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee, Women's Legislative Network, Center for Women Policy Studies and Women in Government) |

**Wednesday, August 16**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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| 7:00 am - 8:00 am | Walk for Wellness  
(Cosponsored by the NCSL Health Committee, National Black Caucus of State Legislators, National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators, National Caucus of Native American State Legislators and Women's Legislative Network) |
| 2:45 pm - 4:15 pm | Stamping Out Disease: A Look at the Leading Causes of Death in Women  
(Cosponsored by the NCSL Health Program and the Women's Legislative Network) |
| 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm | Network Reception  
Inaugural Event for Incoming Network President Annie Kuether, State Representative, Kansas |

**Thursday, August 17**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 7:00 am - 8:30 am | Third Annual Governor's Breakfast  
Keynote Speaker: Former New Jersey Governor Christine Todd Whitman. RSVP Required  
Sponsored by Novartis |
| 8:15 am - 9:45 am | Opportunities for Working Families  
(Cosponsored by NCSL's Human Services and Welfare Committee and the Women's Legislative Network) |

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**To Update You . . .**

**Network events at the NCSL Fall Forum, Chicago, Illinois — December 6-9, 2005**

At the Network Executive Board Meeting on Dec. 7, 2005, attendees reviewed past activities, including Network events at the NCSL Annual Meeting and co-sponsorship of the CAWP New England Forum for Women State Legislators, as well as plans for upcoming events at the NCSL Spring Forum, Executive Committee Meeting and Annual Meeting. The board also listened to presentations by NCSL staff regarding potential collaboration on a Women's Health Project and an Asset Building Project. Finally, the Network Executive Board confirmed six new Advisory Council members: Georgia Representative Cecily Hill, Indiana Representative Terri Austin, Montana Representative Janna Taylor, Washington Representative Beverly Woods, West Virginia Delegate Bonnie Brown and Wyoming Representative Rosie Berger.

**Share Your Humorous Legislative Story (Dec. 8, 2005)**

This roundtable discussion was moderated by Georgia Senator Don Balfour, and Delaware Senator Dori Connor was a featured speaker. The session, cosponsored by the NCSL Legislative Effectiveness and State Government Committee and the Women's Legislative Network, provided attendees with the chance to share their favorite stories about events on the floor and on the campaign trail, and about interactions with constituents.

**Site Visit to Jane Addams Hull-House Museum**

The Women's Legislative Network and NCSL's International Program cosponsored a tour on Dec. 9, 2005, of the Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, an historic site and memorial to Jane Addams, the Settlement House programs and associates, and the neighborhood they served. The museum is an internationally recognized symbol of multicultural understanding, reflecting the long Hull-House tradition of social service and reform, educational innovation and urban research. A representative of the Hull House Association, the social service agency that is a direct descendent of Addams’ program, informed participants about the organization’s outreach efforts throughout Chicago.

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**Check out the Network Web site:**

[www.ncsl.org/wln](http://www.ncsl.org/wln)
Advisory Council Corner
State Senator Andrea Stillman, Connecticut

Women and girls represent 80 percent of the 600,000-plus people who are trafficked throughout the world and forced into involuntary servitude in sweatshops, households, agricultural fields and brothels. For the past few years, I have been a leader on the issue of trafficking in people in Connecticut. Working with the Connecticut Permanent Commission on the Status of Women, we formed a study group. The outcome was a law—unanimously passed both the House and the Senate—establishing an Interagency Task Force on Trafficking in Persons. The task force membership combines the expertise of law enforcement agencies, state agency representatives and non-profit organizations. The task force found that law enforcement agencies do not know how to identify traffickers and their activity and, as a result, found that educating law enforcement personnel is one of the most important issues to be addressed. This legislative session, two committees will address the recommendations of the task force. I am pleased that Connecticut can become part of an international effort to fight the trafficking of women and children.

Network Events at the NCSL Spring Forum
Washington, D.C. — April 6-8, 2006

Thursday, April 6 — Women and Asset Development Workshop
• Asset-Building: A Look at State Policies Affecting Women
Today, 45 percent of women in the U.S. do not have enough financial resources to cover basic needs for more than three months. Without assets—cash savings, stocks, homeownership and business equity—families have little chance of surviving a job loss, a divorce or a major illness. State legislators, legislative staff and other interested parties gathered to learn about state policy approaches to increase and protect savings, homeownership and business opportunities for working families.

Speakers:
Andrea Levere, President, Corporation for Enterprise Development.
Heather McCulloch, Principal, Asset Building Strategies
State Representative David Clark, Utah

• Women and Wealth: How Asset-Building Leads to Financial Self-Sufficiency
One in four female-headed households has zero or negative net worth. Public policies, such as the GI Bill and the Homestead Act, have helped millions of American families build assets that lead to self-sufficiency. Participants learned what the Federal Reserve Bank is doing to help working families save and invest and why it’s important to women.

Speaker: Sheila Maith, Assistant Director and Community Affairs Officer, Federal Reserve Board.
Sponsored by Key Bank.

• Reception
State legislators and friends gathered for the unveiling of the new DVD, Resolution: Women, Power and Change in America. The DVD featured U.S. Senators Kay Bailey Hutchinson and Mary Landrieu, as well as seven state legislators, Kansas Representative Barbara Ballard, California Senator Debra Bowen, Maryland Delegate Shirley Nathan-Pulliam, Delaware Senator Liane Sorenson, Texas Senator Leticia Van de Putte and Louisiana Representative Diane Winston.

Women’s Legislative Caucuses Update
Since the publication of the July/August 2005 LegisBrief, “Women’s Legislative Caucuses,” NCSL has received a few updates. At least 32 states have either formal or informal women’s caucuses. To view the updated LegisBrief, visit http://www.ncsl.org/legis/lbbriefs/2005/05LBJunJul_WomenLegCaucuses.pdf.
The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) will host a policy institute for state legislators entitled *Prekindergarten Leadership Institute: Building Bright Futures*, June 4-6, 2006, at the Marriott City Center in Denver, Colorado. The institute is designed to foster the leadership of legislators by providing a forum to learn about the challenges and opportunities of enacting and expanding prekindergarten in their states. Participants will learn from national and state experts and have an opportunity to share experiences with their peers from other states. NCSL is convening the institute with The Pew Center on the States through a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts. Participants will be reimbursed for travel, meals and lodging expenses. Space is limited, and participants will be chosen based on responses to a brief interest form. If you are interested in attending, contact Julie Poppe with NCSL’s Child Care and Early Education Project at (303) 364-7700, ext. 1497 or julie.poppe@ncsl.org.

**National Women’s Health Week**

Women have unique health needs and conditions. For example, heart disease is the number one killer among women, but cancer ranks first among Asian/Pacific Islander women. When it comes to lung cancer, however, white women have the highest mortality rate; African American women have the highest mortality rate from heart disease. Stroke is the third leading cause of death for American women, but it occurs at a higher rate among African American and Latina women.

The Seventh Annual National Women’s Health Week Celebration will be held May 14 - 20, 2006, the week following Mother’s Day. It celebrates the extraordinary progress in women’s health and recognizes that more needs to be done to safeguard the health of women for generations to come. Many groups participate in the week’s activities—national women’s groups, local and national health organizations, disability-related organizations, businesses, social service agencies and others. For information, visit the National Women’s Health Week Web site at www.womenshealth.gov/whw or call 1-800-994-WOMAN (9662).

**Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day**

*Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work Day* is Thursday, April 27. The program provides girls and boys a chance to explore a variety of opportunities at the workplace, exposes them to what the adults in their lives do during the work day, shows them the value of education, and gives them an opportunity to share how they envision their future.

Take Our Daughters and Sons To Work Day offers a rare opportunity for girls and boys to see women legislators in action—debating legislation, making decisions, collaborating with stakeholders or communicating with their constituents. The experience will potentially excite and inspire children and hopefully will encourage them to dream about a career in politics—particularly in state legislatures. Inviting a child to visit your state legislature and spend the day with you will make the political experience a tangible, down-to-earth reality. "Our Daughters and Sons" means more than our own children. If you choose to participate in this effort, please open the invitation to any child—daughters, sons, grandchildren, neighbors, nieces, nephews or other children in your district.

For details, visit www.DaughtersandSonstoWork.org. If you have questions or need additional information, contact LaWanda Abel, TODS Manager (212) 709-4429 or abell@ms.foundation.org.

**“Federal EITC: What Legislators Need to Know” UPDATE**

The Women’s Legislative Network collaborated with NCSL staff to produce an updated version of the “Federal EITC: What Legislators Need to Know” postcard, which has been mailed to all state legislators. Nationally, the federal EITC delivered $39 billion to lower income workers in 2004 and helped lift more working families out of poverty than any other federal program. The brochure lists helpful information about the federal program, including the fact that hurricane victims with reduced annual incomes in 2005 may elect to compute their EITC using their annual income from 2004—resulting in a larger tax refund. For an on-line version of the brochure, visit www.ncsl.org/programs/wln/EITCproject.htm.

**NCSL Publications**

- Chronic Disease and Health Care Costs: A Snapshot for State Legislatures (2005)
- Aging in Place: State Policy Trends and Options (2005)

To order these or other NCSL publications, visit www.ncsl.org/bookstore.
We Couldn’t Do It Without You!

Alliance members are a vital part of the Network. We value our Alliance members and appreciate the support they provide to women legislators through the Network.

sponsor ($5,000)
• AstraZeneca
• Bayer Corporation
• ExxonMobil
• Novartis
• Pfizer
• Procter & Gamble
• Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

Partner ($2,500)
• Equipment Leasing Association
• Johnson & Johnson
• Key Bank
• Merck Vaccine Division
• Sprint Nextel

contributor ($1,000)
• 1-800 Contacts
• Alticor
• American Beverage Association
• Aquila
• Community Financial Services Association
• DaimlerChrysler
• Edison Electric Institute
• GlaxoSmithKline
• Hallmark Cards Inc.
• Intuit
• Mary Kay Inc.
• Maximus
• National Collegiate Athletic Association
• National Education Association
• Pepco Holdings Inc.
• Sanofi Aventis
• Takeda Pharmaceuticals North America

friend ($500)
• Abbott Laboratories
• Avon
• Barr Laboratories
• Direct Selling Association
• Kelly Services
• Reliant Energy

Note from the Alliance Chair

Dear Alliance Members,
I have enjoyed serving as Alliance Chair for the past three years. The Network has grown and changed, and I am so pleased that we have added to its base of support. The organization is truly serving the needs of women legislators and offers a unique opportunity for members of the private sector to work side by side with elected officials.

It’s time for me to retire from my position. Jackie Clark of Hallmark will become the new Alliance chair at the NCSL Annual Meeting in August. Jackie and Hallmark have both been loyal Network supporters for more than a decade. Jackie will provide the Network with new leadership and enthusiasm. I look forward to continuing involvement in Network activities and hope to see you at upcoming Network events.

Thank you for your continued support of the Women’s Legislative Network of NCSL. Alliance members are an important part of the Network, and I encourage you to continue to share your thoughts and opinions about Alliance members’ involvement in the organization with me at (513) 983-2393 or smith.ka.1@pg.com or with Jackie at (816) 274-8893 or jclark7@hallmark.com. I look forward to seeing you at the NCSL Annual Meeting in Nashville this summer.

Karen Smith
Procter & Gamble
Network Alliance Chair

Introducing Jackie Clark

Jackie is Manager of Public Affairs for Hallmark Cards, Inc, where, for more than 16 years, she’s managed the company’s 50-state government relations program and served as a lobbyist in Kansas, Missouri and Connecticut. Jackie also manages political action, crisis, grassroots and voter participation programs for Hallmark. Prior to joining Hallmark, Jackie managed legislative relations for Missouri State Auditor Margaret Kelly, CPA, and managed retail communications for the Missouri Lottery Commission. She holds a master’s degree in public affairs and a bachelor’s degree in political science. She is active in national, state and local business and trade organizations, including serving as the co-chair of the National Conference of State Legislatures/State Government Affairs Council Liaisons. She currently is president of the Greater Kansas City chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.
Sharing Our Views

Our Commitment to Disease Awareness and Education

AstraZeneca recognizes the importance of education and disease awareness in both branded and nonbranded television advertisements. In October 2005, AstraZeneca launched a first-of-its-kind nonbranded disease awareness campaign aimed at enhancing awareness of the risk of breast cancer recurrence and how to reduce that risk for women with early breast cancer. The program consists of a television commercial, “If You Were My Sister;” an interactive Web site, www.getbcfacts.com; and an educational information kit. All feature real women who are breast cancer survivors. The campaign encourages consumers to learn and share critical information about the risk of breast cancer recurrence and encourages women to talk with their doctor about appropriate treatment options and the importance of adherence to prescribed treatment.

This disease awareness campaign is directed at a specific health risk for women. According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death among all women. Although it is understandable that survivors want to put cancer behind them, a woman’s risk of recurrence is highest in the five years immediately following diagnosis, and no studies have proven that there is a specific time when a breast cancer survivor will be free of the risk of recurrence. AstraZeneca believes it is important for all breast cancer survivors to talk to their doctors about the risk of recurrence and what they can do to help reduce their risk.

Driving for Efficiency

Despite cleaner fuels and better engines, average U.S. fuel economy hasn’t changed. Science suggests it can.

Who would argue against improving fuel economy? The obvious benefits of using oil supplies wisely have made most people—including energy producers—advocates for energy efficiency.

America has made progress since the 1970s “energy shock.” The U.S. economy today is nearly 50 percent more energy-efficient than it was 30 years ago. All forms of transportation now benefit from improved fuels and engine systems. So why is it that, despite this overall progress, the average fuel economy of American cars is unchanged in two decades?

It’s because underlying engine efficiency gains have been largely offset by the increasing weight of vehicles, reflecting that a growing share of the market is moving to light trucks and sport utility vehicles. The size and flexibility of SUVs have made them popular and many consumers find those benefits difficult to give up, even at higher fuel costs.

So what to do? Although some technologies hold promise for the longer term, the more immediate challenge is to continue improving engines and fuels to achieve maximum efficiency, regardless of vehicle size. The best available science suggests that a further 50 percent improvement in the efficiency of the internal combustion engine may be achievable without limiting consumer choice. Today’s hybrids are a start.

Would a 50 percent improvement be worth the investment needed to achieve it? We think so. And, through partnerships with manufacturers such as Toyota and Caterpillar, we’re working on fuel and engine systems that could dramatically improve efficiency and reduce emissions without restricting America’s ‘right to drive.’

Taking on the world’s toughest energy challenges,™
Help Is Here for Your Uninsured Constituents

Nearly 46 million people are without health insurance in the United States today.1 Although the uninsured come from all walks of life, the vast majority come from working families.2 Many are low-income, and some are living in poverty. They represent numerous ethnic groups.

Without access to doctors, medical tests and prescription medicines, the uninsured often wait until conditions become critical—and more difficult and costly to treat—before they seek care. Nearly half of the uninsured have postponed needed care,3 and at least 18,000 Americans die prematurely each year because they lack health coverage.4

Many more Americans simply lack insurance for prescription drugs. This limits them from obtaining medicines to help prevent disease development and progression.

Fortunately, there are programs that can help your uninsured constituents.

Pfizer Helpful Answers™ is a family of programs that helps people without prescription coverage save on many Pfizer medicines, no matter their age or income. People with limited incomes may qualify to obtain their Pfizer medicines for free. For more information, call (1-866) 706-2400 or visit www.PfizerHelpfulAnswers.com.

The Partnership for Prescription Assistance is an industry program that offers a single point of access to more than 475 patient prescription assistance programs, including more than 180 programs offered by pharmaceutical companies, such as Pfizer Helpful Answers. For more information, call (1-888) 4PPA-NOW or visit www.PPARx.org.

Preventive care—such as regular doctor visits and life-saving medicines—is essential to good health. We must work together to ensure that these essentials are available to all.

Andrea Bevacqua
Senior Director / Team Leader, Pfizer Helpful Answers Pfizer Inc.

Notes
3. The Kaiser Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, “Myths about the Uninsured” (April 28, 2005).
4. Ibid.

A Mission to Control High Blood Pressure

Did you know that cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death among American women? We all can take steps to prevent heart disease. Hypertension, or high blood pressure, is a major risk factor for both heart attack and stroke, and, typically, there are no noticeable symptoms. Thus, it’s important for to check blood pressure regularly.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation has created the BP Success Zone Program, which helps to educate people about the damage high blood pressure can cause. The education is customized for each individual, which may help manage blood pressure and work toward a healthier lifestyle. Since we embarked on this mission nearly two years ago, we believe our efforts have helped raise awareness and have educated hundreds of thousands.

We continue to engage patients and health care professionals and constantly evaluate our program to ensure our efforts are helping people successfully achieve target blood pressure goals and manage hypertension.

Medical guidelines state that a normal blood pressure for most adults is less than 120/80 mm Hg. If your blood pressure is above 140/90 mm Hg, it is considered high. Getting your blood pressure into the BP Success Zone (less than 140/90 to 120/80 mm Hg or below) may help prevent eye and kidney damage, stroke, heart failure and other serious problems. To learn more, visit www.bpsuccesszone.com.

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation is committed to helping those in need access innovative, life-saving medicines. In 2005, NPC provided more than $283 million worth of free or discounted prescription drugs to those needing assistance. To learn about the savings programs NPC offers, call the Novartis Savings Network Hotline at (800) 277-2254.

Kevin Rigby
Vice President, Public Affairs
Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corporation

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the authors; NCSL does not endorse the views on this page.
Wal-Mart is taking significant steps to make its health benefits even more affordable and accessible to the working families we employ. This year, Wal-Mart introduced a new Value Plan. Now, both full- and part-time associates have access to health coverage for as little as $11 per month for individuals and $.30 per day for children, no matter how many children an associate has. Unlike many plans, after the first year, the Wal-Mart medical plan has no lifetime maximum for most expenses, protecting our associates against catastrophic loss and financial ruin. Associates also have access to world class health care at the Mayo Clinic, Stanford University Hospital and Johns Hopkins University Hospital.

Wal-Mart now offers associates the choice of as many as 18 medical coverage options, so benefits can be tailored to individual needs. And this is just a start.

Wal-Mart is also significantly reducing the health care waiting period for part-time Wal-Mart associates, and children of part-time associates will become eligible for health coverage as soon as their parent becomes eligible. More than 50 new health clinics are planned in Wal-Mart stores nationwide this year alone.

These improvements are helping; during our most recent open enrollment period, we signed up more than 70,000 associates who didn’t have our health insurance before; 50,000 of those working men and women previously were uninsured.

We’re proud that Wal-Mart is leading the way to find real solutions, and we’re eager to work with lawmakers to build on that success.

Maggie Sans
Director, Public Affairs
Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

For more information on Wal-Mart, please visit www.walmartfacts.com.

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the authors; NCSL does not endorse the views on this page.

Equipment Leasing Association

The Equipment Leasing Association represents companies that engage in business-to-business transactions to finance equipment. These lessors are increasingly being drawn into consumer proposals for recycling of household electronic products, although we operate only in the commercial sector.

Equipment lessors are not retailers. Lessors do not have physical possession of equipment prior to lease, nor do they maintain inventory. Dialogue with individual states and collaboration between states on Northeast and Midwest model bills has provided forums to differentiate commercial leasing from household purchases of electric products. Please contact us if an electronics recycling proposal is under consideration in your state.

Dennis Brown
Equipment Leasing Association
Telephone: (703) 516-8368
dbrown@elamail.com

Join Us!

Please join the Network for a luncheon honoring Women Legislators from Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Speaker: The Honorable Allyson Schwartz
Member of Congress, Pennsylvania

Friday, May 5, 2006
11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Davio’s Northern Italian Steakhouse
111 South 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103
(2nd floor of the Provident Bank Building
one half-block from the Westin Philadelphia, site of the NCSL Executive Committee Meeting)

Following the luncheon will be a tour of the Merck Vaccine Plant in West Point, Pennsylvania. A bus to the plant will be provided, and will depart immediately following the luncheon. The bus will return to the Westin Hotel no later than 5:00 pm.

Space is limited, and priority will be given to state legislators.
RSVP for the luncheon or tour to Katie Fischer by April 17 at (303) 856-1514 or katie.fischer@ncsl.org.
Meet YOUR Board . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

President
Representative Nancy Detert (R)
Florida

Vice-President
Representative Annie Kuether (D)
Kansas

Past President
Delegate Carol Stoker Petzold (D)
Maryland

Eastern Regional Members
Senator
Dori Connor (R)
Delaware

Representative Marie Lopez Kirkley-Bey (D)
Connecticut

Western Regional Members
Representative
Elsie Arntzen (R)
Montana

Representative
Danice Picraux (D)
New Mexico

Midwestern Regional Members
Representative
Kathy Hawken (R)
North Dakota

Representative
Peggy Welch (D)
Indiana

At-Large Members
Representative
Sheryl Allen (R)
Utah

Representative
Linda Lopez (D)
Arizona

Southern Regional Members
Representative
Nan Grogan Orrock (D)
Georgia

Representative
Lynn Smith (R)
Georgia

NOBEL Representative
Senator
Diana E. Bajoie (D)
Louisiana


We need you!
The Women's Legislative Network Advisory Council has vacancies in several states. (See chart on page 10.) Advisory Council members serve as liaisons between their states and the Network. The Network Advisory Council strives to be politically and geographically balanced. If you are interested in serving on the advisory council or you would like to nominate a fellow legislator, please send nominations to wln-info@ncsl.org. For more information, visit the Network Advisory Council Web page: http://www.ncsl.org/wln/AdvBoard05.htm.
## Women’s Legislative Network of NCSL
### Advisory Council (2005-2006)

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<td>Alaska</td>
<td>Sen. Bettye Davis</td>
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<td>Arizona</td>
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<td>Idaho</td>
<td>Rep. Donna Boe</td>
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<td>Idaho</td>
<td>Rep. Maxine Bell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Rep. Barbara Flynn Currie (Majority Leader)</td>
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<td>Illinois</td>
<td>Rep. Elizabeth Coulson</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Rep. Terri Austin</td>
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<td>Indiana</td>
<td>Sen. Connie Lawson</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
<td>Rep. Pam Jochum</td>
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<td>Iowa</td>
<td>Sen. Maggie Tinsman</td>
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<td>Kansas</td>
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<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>Rep. Joni L. Jenkins</td>
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<td>Kentucky</td>
<td>Rep. Susan Westrom</td>
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<td>Louisiana</td>
<td>VACANT</td>
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<td>Maine</td>
<td>Rep. Hannah Pingree</td>
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<td>Maryland</td>
<td>Sen. Delores Kelley</td>
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<td>Del. Shirley Nathan-Pulliam</td>
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<td>Massachusetts</td>
<td>Rep. Marie St. Fleur</td>
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<td>Michigan</td>
<td>Sen. Martha G. Scott</td>
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<td>Minnesota</td>
<td>Rep. Nora Slavik</td>
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<td>Rep. Kathy Tingelstad</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Rep. Jessica Uphaw</td>
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<td>Mississippi</td>
<td>Sen. Alice Harden</td>
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<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Rep. Barbara Fraser</td>
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<td>Missouri</td>
<td>Rep. Kathleen Fares</td>
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<tr>
<td>Montana</td>
<td>Sen. Trudi Schmidt</td>
<td>D</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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.
WINGS Announcements

Women in Informal Networking Groups (WINGS) is an interactive network of national organizations that serve women legislators in a variety of 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:

- Center for American Women and Politics (http://www.cawp.rutgers.edu)
- Center for Policy Alternatives (http://www.stateaction.org)
- Center for Women Policy Studies (http://www.centerwomenpolicy.org)
- National Order of Black Elected Legislative Women (NOBEL Women)
- National Women’s Political Caucus (http://www.nwpc.org)
- Women in Government (http://www.womeningovernment.org)
- Women’s Legislative Network of NCSL (http://www.ncsl.org/wln/)

Center for Women Policy Studies (CWPS)
The Center for Women Policy Studies will convene its inaugural GlobalPOWER (Partnership of Women Elected Representatives) program from May 31 to June 3 in Washington, D.C. GlobalPOWER brings together elected women leaders from around the world to develop permanent partnerships to address critical human rights issues, beginning with international trafficking of women and girls as a global human rights crisis. The Class of 2006 includes women Members of Parliament from 10 countries and graduates of the Center’s Foreign Policy Institute for State Legislators from five states. To learn more, contact policy associate Amy Bain at abain@centerwomenpolicy.org or visit www.centerwomenpolicy.org and click on the new portal for US PACT (Policy Advocacy to Combat Trafficking).

Conference on Social Security and Retirement Options for Women Legislators
Women legislators from the New England states will have an opportunity to explore policy options to address the growing concern about social security and retirement options at a conference June 23-25 at the Rockefeller Center at Dartmouth College in Hanover, New Hampshire. CAWP is providing administrative and technical support for this event. Questions? Contact kcasey@rci.rutgers.edu.

Women In Government (WIG)
WIG 2006 Regional Conferences
7th Annual Southern Regional Conference
May 18-20, 2006
Little Rock, Arkansas

13th Annual Midwestern Regional Conference
June 11-13, 2006
Cincinnati, Ohio

8th Annual Eastern Regional Conference
July 20-22, 2006
Woodstock, Vermont

9th Annual Western Regional Conference
September 7-9, 2006
San Antonio, Texas

For more information about the regional conferences, to register or to receive scholarship information, contact Teri Bisceglia at (202) 333-0825, ext. 217, or tbisceglia@womeningovernment.org.

Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP)

CAWP is expanding its Ready to Run™ Training Network by providing support to partners in three states to conduct similar programs. The new project, supported by a grant from the Women’s Campaign Fund, is based on CAWP’s long-standing Ready to Run™ program, which has trained almost 600 women in New Jersey. Oklahoma was the first of the three states to host the training, which was held March 24-25, 2006. It included two training tracks: one for women who want to run for office and the other for women interested in learning more about grassroots activism.

The Ready to Run™ curriculum incorporates the political culture and climate of the locale and uses state and local campaign experts to highlight the specifics of running in a particular state or region. The program demystifies the process of running for elected office and encourages more women to mount campaigns. For more information, contact Kathleen Casey at (732) 932-9384, ext. 265, or kcasey@rci.rutgers.edu.

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William T. Pound, Executive Director
Leah Oliver, Network Coordinator

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If you would like to receive future newsletters via e-mail, contact Leah Oliver (303-856-1486 or leah.oliver@ncsl.org).