

# RESOLUTION

## THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING THE STATE DEPARTMENT OFFICE OF GLOBAL INTERGOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

**WHEREAS**, The Office of Global Intergovernmental Affairs, led by Special Representative Reta Jo Lewis, serves as a bridge between U.S. state and local elected leaders and their sub-national counterparts abroad;

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the office by Secretary Clinton was unprecedented and future Secretaries will be responsible for deciding whether or not to continue the practice;

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Office of Global Intergovernmental Affairs is to strengthen the partnership between U.S. state and local elected leaders and the Department of State;

**WHEREAS**, the Special Representative for the office fosters diplomacy by conducting outreach to domestic and foreign sub-national leaders, participating in domestic and international conferences to engage state and local officials, and coordinating peer-to-peer opportunities for sub-national dialogue;

**WHEREAS**, the Office of Global Intergovernmental Affairs amplifies targeted capacity-building programs by utilizing the technical expertise of state and local officials in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, The Council of State Governments has been officially named by the U.S. Department of State as its partner on sub-federal relations with Brazil;

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that The Council of State Governments urges the current and future U.S. Secretaries of State to continue the practice of appointing a Special Representative to the Office of Global Intergovernmental Affairs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that The Council of State Governments urges continued and enhanced partnership between states and the Office of Global Intergovernmental Affairs.

Adopted this 3<sup>rd</sup> Day of December, 2012, at CSG's 2012 National Conference in Austin, Texas.