THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF TELEVISION CONSUMERS IN THE BROADCAST DIGITAL (DTV) TRANSITION

WHEREAS, in 1996 Congress mandated that full power over-the-air broadcast television stations return the analog spectrum they are currently using to the federal government, and begin broadcasting exclusively in digital format effective February 17, 2009, an event known as the "Broadcast Digital Television (DTV) Transition";

AND WHEREAS, to facilitate the transition to digital television, Congress loaned each full powered television broadcaster an extra channel of spectrum, so that a digital format could be broadcast simultaneously with the analog format until the 2009 transition is complete; at that time the analog channel would be returned to the government either for resale or for enhance communications for emergency services providers like police, fire and emergency rescue;

AND WHEREAS, the transition from analog to digital signal represents the most significant advance in television technology since the introduction of color television in the 1960s;

AND WHEREAS, the benefits of digital television are clear: sharper pictures, superior sound quality, and additional programming choices;

AND WHEREAS, the DTV Transition requires all full power over-the-air broadcast television stations nationwide to convert their service from the old method of transmitting TV signals known as analog to the new digital format as of February 17, 2009, and to cease providing analog services as of that date;

AND WHEREAS, any TV set that is not connected to cable or another video service, or does not have a built in digital tuner, will need to be equipped with a "digital-to-analog converter box" to continue receiving and displaying local broadcast TV stations after the DTV Transition occurs;

AND WHEREAS, the federal government is offering consumers $40 coupons to be applied toward the purchase of these converter boxes; however, these coupons are available on a first come first serve basis up to a maximum of two per household capped at a national outlay of $1.5 billion. There are an estimated 48 million homes that rely on roof-top or "rabbit ear" antennas for their television reception;

AND WHEREAS, it is anticipated that millions of residents may not be aware of the availability of these coupons for analog televisions they own that will cease to work on February 17, 2009 unless they are connected to a digital-to-analog converter box;

AND WHEREAS, we are aware that any older analog TV set that a consumer has connected to the local cable system will continue to receive local broadcast TV signals after the DTV Transition, but millions of Americans own televisions not connected to cable or another video service and will require digital-to-analog converter boxes to work properly;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, (Municipality, County) urges all residents to become more informed about the upcoming DTV Transition and to apply for their $40 discount coupons by either calling the Coupon Program 24-hour hotline at 1-888-DTV-2099 (1-888-388-2099) (voice) or 1-877-530-2634 (TTY) or by visiting https://www.dtv2009.gov, and further, to assist their neighbors and fellow residents, such as senior citizens and those with disabilities, to do the same.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution shall be certified and forwarded to all local media and the State Municipal Organization.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

M. Jodi Rell — Kim Koppelman

Governor M. Jodi Rell	Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG President	2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION ON ENERGY SECURITY AND CLIMATE STEWARDSHIP

WHEREAS, The Council of State Governments (CSG) is concerned about the potential impact of climate change;

WHEREAS, U.S. state governments have taken the lead in developing climate policies;

WHEREAS, there is strong support and expectation for federal action addressing climate change;

WHEREAS, federal action could spur innovation and investment in low-carbon technologies which could create new economic opportunities and stimulate job growth in various sectors;

WHEREAS, the U.S. federal government should craft a comprehensive national response to climate change while protecting the economy and lifestyle of its citizens;

WHEREAS, federal action should reflect the availability and cost effective deployment of GHG-reducing technologies;

WHEREAS, federal action should apply to all sectors of the economy and address emissions from all sectors without disproportionately affecting any individual or regional sector;

WHEREAS, climate change is a global issue that requires global solutions and requires participation of the entire world economy, including China and India.

NOW, BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that CSG strongly urges Congress and the Administration to act in close partnership with state governments as they establish a market-based approach to help the U.S. achieve GHG-reduction targets, while maintaining the competitiveness of U.S. manufacturing and industry in respect to foreign competition;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CSG urges Congress to adopt policies that involve all sectors of the economy and all sources of GHG;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CSG urges Congress and the Administration to encourage state efforts to reduce GHG emissions by providing additional funding and incentives for research into renewable energy, the adoption of carbon capture and storage technology, advanced nuclear designs, increased energy efficiency and conservation, and increased carbon sequestration from U.S. forests and agricultural lands;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CSG strongly urges the federal government to engage the international community in the development of an international plan to address climate change that establishes clear GHG emission reduction targets for all;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted, January 2009, to the members of the U.S. House of Representatives Committees on Energy and Commerce, Natural Resources, Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, and Agriculture, and the U.S. Senate Committees on Agriculture, Commerce, Environment and Public Works, and Energy and Natural Resources; and,

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that this resolution be submitted, in January 2009, to the President and Vice President of the United States, the Governor of each state, and the Secretaries of the United States Departments of Agriculture, Transportation, Commerce, Interior, State, Energy, Health and Human Services, and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell	Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG President	2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION OPPOSING CONTINUING FEDERAL INSURANCE CHARTERING EFFORTS

WHEREAS, regulation, oversight, and consumer protection have traditionally and historically been powers reserved to state governments under the McCarran-Ferguson Act of 1945; and

WHEREAS, state legislatures are more responsive to the needs of their constituents and the need for insurance products and regulation to meet their state's unique market demands; and

WHEREAS, state officials continue to monitor, review and regulate the banking, insurance and securities industries as it relates to their individual jurisdictions with distinction; and

WHEREAS, initiatives are being contemplated by certain members of the United States Congress and the U.S. Department of the Treasury that have the potential to destroy the state system of insurance regulation and create an unwieldy and inaccessible federal bureaucracy—all without consumer and constituent demand; and

WHEREAS, such initiatives include H.R. 5840—the *Insurance Information Act*—proposed legislation would create a foundation for an OFC that would bifurcate insurance regulation and result in a quagmire of federal and state directives promoting ambiguity and confusion; and

WHEREAS, the enactment of legislation leading to a federal insurance charter would allow companies to opt out of state insurance regulatory oversight and evade important state consumer protections; and

WHEREAS, a potential federal insurance office cannot by its very nature, respond, as state regulation does, to states' individual and unique insurance markets and constituent concerns; and

WHEREAS, the attempt to link the financial collapse of the American International Group (AIG) to the lack of regulation at the state level is disingenuous since the insurance lines of AIG regulated by state regulators remain among its most financially viable and attractive assets; and

WHEREAS, AIG's financial problems were precipitated by the parent company's risky and largely unregulated securities transactions in credit default swaps, an area subject to the regulatory oversight of the federal U.S. Office of Thrift Supervision; and

WHEREAS, an optional federal regulatory system would only be optional for insurers, not for consumers, taxpayers, businesses and local economies; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments supports and encourages state actions to preserve the preeminence of state-regulated insurance systems and seeks to alert and educate state officials about the continuing efforts to preempt state regulatory authority with a movement toward an optional federal charter.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell
2008 CSG President

Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION OF THE SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION ACT AS IT APPLIES TO JUVENILE OFFENDERS

WHEREAS, the Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) requires that juvenile sex offenders age 14 years and older be included on both state and national public sex offender registries;

WHEREAS, under SORNA, sex offender registries may publish the addresses of a juvenile offender's home, school or work, a photograph and description of the juvenile, and license plate number;

WHEREAS, these provisions of SORNA contradicts the rehabilitative intent and confidentiality that has been inherent in the juvenile justice system;

WHEREAS, SORNA ignores important developmental differences between juveniles and adults, namely that juvenile sex offenders are at a much lower risk to reoffend than adult sex offenders;

WHEREAS, SORNA further ignores evidence that a youth's brain is still developing until their early twenties, meaning juveniles are not fixed in their sexual offending behavior and may respond well to treatment;

WHEREAS, juveniles have fewer numbers of victims than adult offenders, and on average, engage in less serious and less aggressive behaviors;

WHEREAS, juvenile sex offenders do not pose the same public safety threat as adult sex offenders;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments strongly opposes SORNA's application to juvenile sex offenders and urges Congress to revise the law to more accurately address the needs of juvenile offenders.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

M. Jodi Rell

Kim Koppelman

Governor M. Jodi Rell 2008 CSG President	Rep. Kim Koppelman 2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE STATE VIDEO TAX FAIRNESS ACT OF 2007 (H.R. 3679)

WHEREAS, Section 602 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 prohibits political subdivisions of state governments from imposing and collecting taxes and fees on direct broadcasting satellite services (DBS); and

WHEREAS, Section 602 also preserves the authority of the states to impose and collect such taxes and fees on DBS and to remit some or all the proceeds of such taxes and fees to its political subdivisions; and

WHEREAS, the Congress prohibited such taxation by the states' political subdivisions not to provide the DBS industry with a tax advantage over other providers of video services but to spare the DBS industry, at that time a fledgling industry, from the administrative burden of collecting and remitting taxes to over 7,500 taxing jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, some states have recognized that DBS' exemption from the administrative burden of local taxation has created a competitive advantage for DBS over other multichannel video service providers and have achieved tax parity by enacting statutes that impose a state tax rate on DBS that appropriately takes into account all the state and local taxes and fees paid such other providers; and

WHEREAS, some states have remitted some or all of the proceeds from such taxes to local jurisdictions as permitted by Section 602; and

WHEREAS, the State Video Tax Fairness Act of 2007 (H.R. 3679) would label such tax arrangements as discriminatory taxation; and

WHEREAS, the State Video Tax Fairness Act would interfere with state tax authority over multichannel video programming services, including digital broadcasting satellite services and reverse state action upheld by state and federal courts to ensure the parity in the tax treatment of multichannel video service providers; and

WHEREAS, the State Video Tax Fairness Act would freeze into place the preferential treatment that DBS providers currently have over other multichannel video providers and prevent states from fairly equalizing the total tax burden imposed on these services;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments opposes the State Video Tax Fairness Act of 2007 (H.R. 3679) and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that CSG calls upon the Congress to resist this unjustified interference into state efforts to create a tax neutral choice for consumers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be sent to all members of the 111th Congress and the 44th President of the United States.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell	Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG President	2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS RESOLUTION
SUPPORTING THE AMENDMENT OF THE
UNFUNDED MANDATES REFORM ACT

WHEREAS, Unfunded federal mandates place unreasonable demands on limited state resources; and

WHEREAS, The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act was adopted in 1995 to limit these mandates by requiring accurate cost estimates of federal legislation and rule making;

WHEREAS, Loopholes in the original legislation have prevented the intent of the legislation from being fully implemented;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments encourages Congress to amend the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act to:

1. Apply UMRA's cost estimation requirements to legislation that alters the conditions for receiving already existing federal grant assistance such as Medicaid and federal grants under the No Child Left Behind Act.
2. Expand the scope of cost estimates to include indirect costs imposed by new legislation and rule making such as lost revenue.
3. Remove the exception for mandates issued by independent regulatory agencies such as the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC).
4. Remove the current exception for urgent federal regulations issued without prior notice by requiring cost estimates to be issued for such urgent rule making decisions within six months after their adoption.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

M. Jodi Rell

Governor M. Jodi Rell
2008 CSG President

Kim Koppelman

Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE CHILD SUPPORT PROTECTION ACT OF 2007 (S. 803) OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION

WHEREAS, The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 will significantly impact state child support enforcement programs by reducing the amount of child support collected for needy children and families at all income levels; and

WHEREAS, The Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 undermines the Office of Child Support Enforcement's mission to "assure that assistance in obtaining support (both financial and medical) is available to children through locating parents, establishing paternity and support obligations, and enforcing those obligations."

WHEREAS, state child support programs collected nearly $25 billion in support for over 17 million children in 2007;

WHEREAS, federal matching of state funds currently provides 66% of the operations costs states currently need to run their child support enforcement programs;

WHEREAS, child support helps families make ends meet, leave welfare, and avoid a return. Child support provides 31% of family income for lower-income single-mother families when received;

WHEREAS, many of the successful programs currently supported in large part by federal funds will be eliminated if the funding is not restored;

WHEREAS, if the funding is not restored, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that $11 billion in support owed to children will go uncollected over the next ten years, even if states are capable of replacing even half of the lost federal funds;

WHEREAS, The Child Support Protection Act of 2007 and similar legislation would restore federal performance matching funds that were cut by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005 and allow state child support agencies to maintain their level of performance to ensure that parents support their children;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments strongly urge Congress to restore funding to the child support enforcement program by passing The Child Support Protection Act of 2007 (S. 803) or similar legislation.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

M. Jodi Rell | Kim Koppelman

Governor M. Jodi Rell
2008 CSG President

Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION SUPPORTING AN INCREASE IN THE FEDERAL MEDICAID ASSISTANCE PERCENTAGE IN A CONGRESSIONAL ECONOMIC STIMULUS PACKAGE

WHEREAS, at least 39 states face serious budget deficits, totaling more than $60 billion dollars, and ranging from $11 billion for California to $1.5 billion for New York, to $458 million for Alabama and $294 million for Kentucky, to $24 million for Mississippi and Vermont;

WHEREAS, state income tax revenues are expected to continue to decline given the loss of 240,000 jobs in October, bringing total job losses to nearly 1.2 million jobs for the first ten months of 2008;

WHEREAS, according to the U.S. Labor Department's statistics, the unemployment rate rose to 6.5% in October 2008 from 6.1% in September 2008, and is the highest unemployment rate since March 1994;

WHEREAS, Medicaid provides health coverage and long term care support services to 44.5 million people in low income families and nearly 14 million elderly and disabled people;

WHEREAS, states can expect an increase in Medicaid enrollment and program spending as the economy weakens and more individuals become eligible;

WHEREAS, Medicaid accounts for about 22 percent of state budgets, second only to education in spending; and

WHEREAS, states are required to balance budgets, so that as state revenues decline and rainy day funds are exhausted, the only choice left to states is to cut services;

WHEREAS, most economists agree that an effective national economic stimulus package should include temporary and targeted assistance to boost aid to state and local governments to offset shrinking revenues;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Council of State Governments supports a temporary increase in the Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) as part of an economic stimulus package of state aid to offset reductions in tax receipts.

BE IT THEREFORE FURTHER RESOLVED that the Council of State Governments supports Federal legislation to establish a provision to automatically increase the Federal Medicaid Assistance Percentage (FMAP) in the event of certain defined triggering events, such as an economic downturn, a natural disaster, an act of terrorism, or a public health emergency.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell
2008 CSG President

Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION TO REDUCE HEALTH DISPARITIES AFFECTING HIV/AIDS

PURPOSE: To urge Congress and the President to take decisive action to reduce health disparities, particularly as they relate to the impact of HIV/AIDS on persons of color.

WHEREAS, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) found that ethnic and racial minorities tend to receive lower quality health care services and account for a great share of the disease burden across a broad range of diseases, including HIV/AIDS;

WHEREAS, the IOM also found that disparities in the quality of health care, including HIV care, are associated with higher death rates among ethnic and racial minorities;

WHEREAS, the IOM concluded that the lack of health insurance presents a major barrier to reducing health disparities, and approximately half of the uninsured Americans are racial and ethnic minorities, despite comprising only 37% of the population;

WHEREAS, the IOM determined that culturally and linguistically appropriate care can improve health outcomes and increase patient compliance with treatment plans;

WHEREAS, the devastating impact of HIV/AIDS in communities of color continues to grow, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reporting an estimated 71 percent of AIDS cases diagnosed during 2006 were among ethnic and racial minorities;

WHEREAS, the CDC has determined that Hispanic men are more than twice as likely to be living with HIV than are white non-Hispanic men. Disparities among women are higher, with Hispanic women four times more likely to be diagnosed with HIV than white non-Hispanic women. Overall, an estimated 82 percent of AIDS cases in female adults and adolescents reported through 2005 is among African American and Hispanic women.

WHEREAS, the Census Bureau projects that by 2050, half of the U.S. population will be persons of color, the unchecked impact of health disparities will rapidly cause our national experience with HIV/AIDS to assume epidemic proportions; and

WHEREAS, the President of the United States and the United States Congress are in a position to address the problem of health disparities and improve prevention and treatment services for HIV/AIDS:

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments:

(1) urges the President to provide focused leadership domestically to reduce health disparities, particularly as they relate to HIV/AIDS;

(2) requests the Congress to increase funding for state and local grant programs authorized by the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act, especially to assure funding for faith-based initiatives providing culturally and linguistically competent prevention and treatment programs;

(3) calls on the Congress and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to ensure that AIDS Drug Assistance Program funding counts towards an individual's out-of-pocket contributions for Medicare beneficiaries enrolled in Part D;

(4) encourages the Secretary of Health and Human Services to issue guidance requiring that all states' Medicaid preferred drug lists provide prompt access to HIV/AIDS treatments consistent with established HIV treatment protocols;

(5) urges the Congress to provide increased funding to the Department of Health and Human Services and relevant agencies, including the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Human Resources and Services Administration, to:

    (A) implement the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National HIV Prevention Strategic Plan;

    (B) expand the Minority AIDS Initiative to provide additional support to minority-serving community-based organizations;

    (C) augment outreach and HIV testing efforts targeting populations including racial and ethnic minorities at higher risk of contracting HIV;

    (D) develop additional evidence-based HIV prevention interventions targeting ethnic and racial minorities;

    (E) and otherwise improve HIV prevention and treatment services for ethnic and racial minorities.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

M. Jodi Rell | Kim Koppelman

Governor M. Jodi Rell
2008 CSG President

Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION ON FUTURE OF TRANSPORTATION PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, America's surface transportation system drives economic growth and competitiveness, supports rural and urban connectivity and sustains jobs and the quality of life for our citizens; and

WHEREAS, Americans who use the transportation system should pay for consumption of the system and expect certain levels of performance and reliability; and

WHEREAS, there should be broad federal purposes for the transportation program and states should lead a cooperative intergovernmental process with local governments and metropolitan planning organizations to establish performance-based outcome measures to aid the planning and programming process with no increase in federal regulation; and

WHEREAS, America's infrastructure is aging rapidly and traditional funding mechanisms have proven to be inadequate to meet the minimum levels needed to maintain the existing transportation system; and

WHEREAS, state departments of transportation are struggling to meet the demands of repairing crumbling infrastructure, building new roads, and providing transportation alternatives to citizens with existing revenue sources; and

WHEREAS, improvements in system condition, performance and capacity are needed to deal with access and connectivity, traffic congestion, the interregional and interstate movement of freight, and the high number of traffic fatalities; and

WHEREAS, the high price of motor fuels makes providing transit and other transportation alternatives an imperative in both rural and urban areas; and

WHEREAS, annual funding levels for transportation need to be significantly increased to meet the maintenance and expansion needs of the nation's transportation infrastructure; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. needs to invest sufficiently over the next 50 years to upgrade the transportation network to a good state of repair, and build more advanced facilities to remain competitive; and

WHEREAS, the federal fuel tax at current rates has proven insufficient to maintain the national transportation network and build needed improvements; and

WHEREAS, the upcoming re-authorization of federal highway programs provides an excellent opportunity to re-examine the funding of surface transportation and the prioritization of projects and policies; and

WHEREAS, many alternative finance options show great promise for raising revenue, alleviating congestion, and encouraging use of different modes of transport in more urban and high traffic locations, though they are not always appropriate in rural low traffic and low population areas; and

WHEREAS, there are mechanisms for generating funds that are more strongly linked to actual use of the transportation system and that promote more efficient use of the system, yet must be carefully structured or combined with other actions to be fair toward low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, the transportation sector is responsible for about a third of the nation's greenhouse gas emissions and future transportation policy should focus on reducing transportation's impact on greenhouse gas emissions and air quality.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to pass a federal authorization bill that provides short term funding stability, long term vision, strong federal funding and maximum flexibility to states in meeting transportation and infrastructure needs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments recognizes that increasing and indexing the federal gas tax may be necessary in the short term to provide a revenue source for the Highway Trust Fund until a new, more stable long-term funding mechanism can be put in place; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to plan for the eventual migration of the Trust Fund to a new funding stream with a diversified portfolio of revenue sources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to authorize additional research on and pilot program funding for alternative finance options for transportation, including vehicle miles traveled pricing systems, and to clear any legal hurdles so that states may implement them; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on the Federal Government to encourage innovation by states by providing them with maximum flexibility to address their unique challenges and by removing federal regulatory barriers to implementing new revenue mechanisms; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments urges Congress to broaden eligibility for existing core and other federal transportation programs and allow states to shift federal transportation dollars to programs and projects that work best for each individual state, guided by the State Transportation Improvement Program and state-led performance measures jointly developed with local governments, metropolitan planning organizations and transportation providers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments urges Congress to cap earmarks for transportation projects at an appropriate percentage of the federal program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress in the next federal authorization to allow states and other transportation providers to focus on customer service including safety and performance in the transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports the development of innovative alternative financing mechanisms that support state transportation goals and that are flexible enough to work in different regions of the country; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments will encourage states to adopt laws that provide dedicated funding sources for transportation and that prohibit the transfer of state transportation funds to non-transportation related General Fund expenditures; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports a transportation authorization that considers the needs of both urban and rural areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports a strong federal-state-local partnership on transportation policy and encourages Congress to consider the impacts of revenue raising mechanisms and other proposed actions for each level of government; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports a future federal surface transportation funding strategy that does not attempt to compete with, disable or federalize funding streams already utilized at the state or local level including tolling, value pricing and public-private partnerships and that does not intrude into state and local tax bases, which would only shrink the revenues available for transportation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports the protection of the public interest when states enter into public-private partnerships (P3s) such as long-term leases of transportation assets. It supports the principles of transparency and public participation throughout P3 negotiation processes; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to pass a federal authorization bill that appropriately addresses reducing congestion including funding public transportation, intercity passenger rail and transit options with the goal of substantially increasing transit ridership over the next several decades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to commit resources to fund highway improvements to better connect rural communities and smaller metropolitan areas and to provide better public transportation in those areas; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments supports the concept of a National Infrastructure Bank to allow the Federal government to finance infrastructure projects more effectively with public and private capital and recommends that the bank be structured to be accessible to rural as well as metropolitan projects, and further supports federal level bonding such as Build America Bonds proposals as an additional means of funding transportation programs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on states and other intergovernmental partners to consider the synchronization of transportation, land use, housing, environment, and energy policies through the planning process; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to give priority to preservation and modernization of the existing transportation system; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to give priority to air quality, mitigating greenhouse gas emissions, and funding community-level transportation enhancements while also reforming environmental review, permitting and federal planning requirements and reducing the federal regulation of state and local governments to speed the delivery of transportation and infrastructure projects and reduce administrative costs; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to improve the national freight network through an initiative funded through freight-related user fees generated outside the Highway Trust Fund and with a focus on eliminating chokepoints, increasing throughput and improving interregional and interstate freight movement; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to establish national traffic safety standards and to work with states and metropolitan areas to implement strategies to improve transportation safety with the goal of reducing highway traffic fatalities by half within two decades; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments calls on Congress to authorize transportation energy research to develop alternatives to petroleum and to encourage early transition to fleets not dependent on fossil fuels; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments strongly supports the continuation of a robust Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) Research and Development program to advance safety and mobility, to improve freight delivery and to address climate change; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of State Governments will seek to partner with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and other organizations that share these principles on the future of transportation funding in advocacy before Congress.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell	Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG President	2008 CSG Chair

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION ON THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE
NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the National School Lunch Program operates in more than 100,000 schools and child care facilities;

WHEREAS, it provided lunches for more than 30.5 million children each day in 2007;

WHEREAS, commodity foods, though they comprise 20 percent of the school meal, often set the tone of the meal or is the centerpiece of school lunches;

WHEREAS, more than 50 percent of the commodity foods nationally are sent to processors before they reach schools, processing that often involves adding salt, fat or sugar;

WHEREAS, the USDA provides school districts with more than 180 different food items each year with a value of about $1 billion, making it the largest single source of food for schools;

WHEREAS, fewer than one-third of public schools in the 2004-05 school year offered and served lunches that met the USDA standards for total fat (no more than 30 percent of calories) or saturated fat (less than 10 percent of calories);

WHEREAS, no schools during the 2004-05 school year met the sodium standards put forth by the School Meals Initiative;

WHEREAS, nearly two-thirds of the students participating in the school lunch program are from low-income families, which means they are at a higher risk of becoming either overweight or obese;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments encourages Congress to align the School Meal Initiative Standards with current Dietary Guidelines for Americans, urges states to work with their U.S. senators and representatives to ensure that schools are meeting those guidelines, and urges state legislators to work with their Departments of Education to ensure local school districts are meeting the nutritional standards already in place.

Adopted this 6th day of December, 2008 at the CSG 75th Anniversary Celebration and Annual Meeting in Omaha, Nebraska.

Governor M. Jodi Rell	Rep. Kim Koppelman
2008 CSG President	2008 CSG Chair