

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

*Championing state government excellence
into the 21st Century.*



CSG, the multi-branch organization of the states and U.S. territories, champions excellence in state government, working with state leaders across the nation and through its regions to put the best ideas and solutions into practice.

To this end, CSG:

- Builds leadership skills to improve decision-making;
- Advocates multistate problem-solving and partnerships;
- Interprets changing national and international conditions to prepare states for the future; and,
- Promotes the sovereignty of the states and their role in the American federal system.

Innovations, solutions, leadership, cooperation: CSG is the hub and voice of state government, directed by elected officials dedicated to excellence.

CSG is a nonpartisan organization that fosters excellence in state government. Based on the proposition that the states are the best source for insight and innovation, CSG identifies and disseminates innovative solutions to common concerns across the states.

Founded in the 1930s by Colorado Sen. Henry Toll, CSG has served the three branches

of state government for most of the 20th century through leadership education, research and information services. The Council's unique structure features four regional offices that focus on the needs, special concerns and opportunities of states in the East, South, Midwest and West. In addition, CSG maintains an office in the nation's capital to monitor federal government activities and their impact on state issues and programs.

CSG's headquarters office in Lexington, Ky., hosts numerous national associations that serve state constitutional officers and other officials. In addition, the national office houses services such as the States Information Center that provide information and publications to state government officials across the country.

The combined assets of a national network built on a regional structure, funded primarily by state government dues, enables CSG to play a dynamic role in strengthening state government.

As it has for six decades, today CSG provides state officials with the tools and strategies they need to implement effective policies and programs. The Council serves as a catalyst for state leadership, building new partnerships within government and among governing entities, promoting multistate, regional and international ventures and establishing vital links with the private sector and other civic leaders.

Advancing the Mission: Key CSG Products and Services

Innovations

State Innovations Briefs. Revised — innovatively — from a format established more than 20 years ago, this long-standing series focuses on innovative state programs selected by state officials from CSG’s four regions for their creative approaches to significant problems common to most states.

“New times bring new needs in government, as in other affairs”

— Henry Toll

distributed to all state legislators and thousands of other state officials.

State Trends and Forecasts. These reports offer policy options for critical issues. Detailed information gathered through 50-state surveys form the context for deliberations of recognized experts reported in these tri-annual reports.

State Trends Bulletin. Keeping state officials abreast of the latest trends in issues, policies and legislation, these timely reports provide quick access to crucial information.

Solutions

The States Information Center. The SIC inquiry service provides quick, reliable and confidential inquiry and reference services on state issues. The center’s library houses more than 20,000 state legislative, executive and judicial branch documents

available on 30-day loan.

Suggested State Legislation. Published annually since 1940 when it began as “suggested war legislation,” this volume contains legis-

lation on current important issues selected by CSG’s Committee on Suggested State Legislation.

Spectrum: The Journal of State Government. Presently in its 69th volume, this journal provides a forum for discussing state issues from political, scholarly and practitioner perspectives. A highly respected journal, *Spectrum* bridges the gap between scholarly researchers and state officials.

Leadership

Toll Fellows. Each year, for the past decade, 35 emerging leaders from across the country have gathered in Kentucky for the Henry Toll Fellowship program, an intensive five-day leadership development program. To develop the next generation of leaders from all branches of state government, the program provides information and perspective not available in the course of everyday public service.

Leaders from the Regions. The Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, sponsored by CSG’s Midwestern Legislative Conference, provides a week of policy workshops and leadership development for 33 lawmakers each summer. The Southern Legislative Conference sponsors attendance at the Center for Creative Leadership. In the East, state officials take advantage of the Yankee Trader Institute, and legislators in the West reap benefits from the ongoing WESTRENDS project of CSG’s Western office.

Public Integrity Annual. Published in cooperation with the American Society for Public Administration, this volume is a resource for anyone concerned with the fundamental questions of integrity in American democracy. With a ready reference to state campaign finance, lobbying and ethics regulations plus more than a dozen peer-reviewed articles, essays and book reviews covering a broad range of issues, PIA shows how ethics empowers individuals and organizations to find and prevent problems.

Cooperation

CSG Networks. Conferences sponsored by CSG’s regional offices, affiliate groups or the headquarters operation, bring state officials together and remain a

“Make no small plans.”

— **Henry Toll**

cornerstone service of the organization. The multiple networking opportunities provided through regional and national conferences serve as the principle means of disseminating the working notes from the laboratories of democracy.

International programs. States are major players in the global marketplace, and CSG’s growing presence there provides key opportunities for state officials to further their expertise in that arena. Seminars, technical assistance programs and citizen exchange are all part of CSG’s international program, coordinated through the standing International Committee, which supports the expanding role of the states in international trade, economic development and other global activities.

Interstate Consulting Service. This CSG service pools the expertise and talents of officials from several states to help an individual state address important management or implementation issues.

These are just a few of the hundreds of products and services provided by CSG as it continues to pursue the vision of Henry Toll. As Toll well knew, the role of the states in the fed-

Henry Toll: The Founder’s Vision

Henry Walcott Toll, founding father of The Council of State Governments, was a tireless visionary, an innovative champion of state government, a courageous opponent of racism, a spirited statesman — in other words, a leader.

The parochial narrow-mindedness of many of his colleagues led Toll to look beyond Colorado’s borders and study other legislatures. Out of his research was born the dream of The Council of State Governments.

Through his tireless drive, the Council grew from a fledgling association of a handful of lawmakers to a nationwide network of state officials. He served as the Council’s first executive director through 1938, and served as the organization’s honorary president until his death in 1975.

Henry Wolcott Toll serves today as a model for state leaders: visionary, innovative, courageous. His vision remains the driving force behind the organization he founded as it prepares to lead the states into the 21st century.

eral system is critical. As stewards of the great cultural, social and economic diversity of the nation, states are constantly on the cutting edge of policy and program development. Through the Council’s many activities, including leadership training, research and information products and regional problem-solving, CSG sparks innovation and effectiveness in state governments. Innovations, solutions, leadership, cooperation: CSG.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS — OFFICES AND DIRECTORS

Daniel M. Sprague, Executive Director
 Shari Hendrickson, Director, Public Relations & Membership Services
 Bob Silvanik, Director, Policy & Program Development
 Linda Swann, Director, Operations & Technology

Headquarters

3560 Iron Works Pike
 P.O. Box 11910
 Lexington, KY 40578-1910
 (606) 244-8000

Midwestern

Michael H. McCabe, Director
 641 E. Butterfield Road, Suite 401
 Lombard, IL 60148
 (708) 810-0210

Western

Kent Briggs, Director
 121 Second Street, 4th Floor
 San Francisco, CA 94105
 (415) 974-6422

Eastern

Alan V. Sokolow, Director
 5 World Trade Center, Suite 9241
 New York, NY 10048
 (212) 912-0128

Southern

Colleen Cousineau, Director
 3355 Lenox Road, Suite 1050
 Atlanta, GA 30326
 (404) 266-1271

Washington

Abe Frank, Director
 444 N. Capitol St., NW, Suite 401
 Washington, DC 20001
 (202) 624-5460

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 1996*

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*Some names may appear more than once

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AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS 1996

American Probation and Parole Association	National Emergency Management Association
Clearinghouse on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation	National Association of State Facilities Administrators
National Association of Governmental Labor Officials	National Association of State Personnel Executives
National Association of State Boating Law Administrators	National Association of State Treasurers
National Association of State Election Directors	National Association of State Telecommunications Directors
National Council of State Emergency Medical Service Training Coordinators	National Conference of Lieutenant Governors

REGIONAL CONFERENCES

EAST

Eastern Regional Conference

Co-Chairs:

Senator John O. Bennet, New Jersey
Honorable Jean-Pierre Charbonneau,
President, National Assembly
of Quebec

Northeast Recycling Council

Janet Matthews, Program Director, New York State Legislative
Commission on Solid Waste Management

MIDWEST

Midwestern Governors' Conference

Governor Jim Edgar, Illinois

Midwestern Legislative Conference

Representative Steve Cutler, South Dakota

SOUTH

Southern Governors' Association

Governor Mel Carnahan, Missouri

Southern Legislative Conference

Senate President John A. "Eck" Rose, Kentucky

WEST

Western Legislative Conference

Senator Andrew Levin, Hawaii

Western States Seismic Policy Council

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