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NCSL STANDING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE MEMBERS

Updated December 8, 2017

NCSL’s Natural Resources and Infrastructure Committee is one of nine NCSL Standing Committees. These committees are vital to NCSL’s successful representation of state interests in Washington, D.C., and the facilitation of policy innovation among state and territorial legislatures. Please contact any of the committee staff for details about the committee, state-federal policies under its jurisdiction, or upcoming meetings and educational events.

COMMITTEE OFFICERS

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Co-Chair: Representative Ed Orcutt, Washington
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Vice Chair: Senator Tyson R. Larson, Nebraska
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Vice Chair
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Vice Chair
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NCSL D.C. Office: Ben Husch and Kristen Hildreth
NCSL Denver Office: Jocelyn Durkay

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Rep. Mickey Stephens

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Sen. Pat Woods

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Sean Hamel (staff)
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Jennifer McGinnis (staff)
Rep. Chuck W. McGrady
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Giles Perry (staff)
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Rep. John D. Szoka
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MNA Mireille Jean

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Sen. Frank A. Ciccone III
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Rep. Brian P. Kennedy
Sen. Frank S. Lombardi
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Paula G. Benson (staff)
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Rep. Thomas J. Brunner
Rep. Michael Clark
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Rep. Herman Otten

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Jason Powell (staff)
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Sen. William M. Stanley
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Sen. Frank W. Wagner
Delegate R. Lee Ware Jr.

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Rep. Jake Fey
Rep. Joe Fitzgibbon
Sen. John R. McCoy
Rep. Jeff R. Morris
Rep. Ed Orcutt
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Gary Wilburn (staff)

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Delegate Mick P. Bates
Seth Gaskins (staff)
Delegate Marty Gearheart
Sen. Richard N. Ojeda II
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Sen. Randy E. Smith
Noelle Starek (staff)
Sen. David C. Sypolt

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Steven McCarthy (staff)
Sen. Mark F. Miller
David Moore (staff)
Mary Pfotenhauer (staff)
Michael Queensland (staff)
Rep. Romaine R. Quinn

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Sen. James Lee Anderson
Josh Anderson (staff)
Rep. Hans D. Hunt
Anna Mumford (staff)
Matt Obrecht (staff)
Ian Shaw (staff)
**NATURAL RESOURCES AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

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<tr>
<th>Co-Chairs:</th>
<th>Representative Curt A. McCormack, Vermont</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislative Staff Co-Chairs:</td>
<td>Gene Hogan, South Carolina</td>
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<td>Hope Stockwell, Montana</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vice Chairs:</td>
<td>Representative Ed Orcutt, Washington</td>
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<td>Legislative Staff Vice Chairs:</td>
<td>Sean Hamel, North Carolina</td>
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<td>Larry Konopacki, Wisconsin</td>
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<td>Jason Powell, Virginia</td>
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<td>Brandon White, Kentucky</td>
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*All sessions will take place on Hotel del Coronado property unless otherwise noted*

### Sunday, December 10

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:45 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Sea Breeze</td>
<td>NCSL Task Force on Energy Supply</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Kristy.Hartman@ncsl.org">Kristy.Hartman@ncsl.org</a> for more information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 – 12:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Carousel</td>
<td>Autonomous Vehicles Preconference</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Amanda.Essex@ncsl.org">Amanda.Essex@ncsl.org</a> for more information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 – 7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Vista Walk</td>
<td>Opening Reception</td>
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### Monday, December 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 – 8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Coronet</td>
<td>The Environmental and Economic Benefits of American-Made E15 Fuel</td>
<td>Ethanol is an integral component of the nearly 140-billion-gallon U.S. domestic fuel market, contained in over 90 percent of the gasoline sold in the United States. The E15 blend that is available in 29 states can help increase octane ratings and facilitate compliance with emissions standards. Join us for a hot breakfast and an educational discussion on the environmental and economic benefits, and the challenges, presented by American-made E15 fuel.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Moderator: **Senator Rita Hart**, Iowa, co-chair, NCSL Agriculture Task Force
Panelists:  
**Doug Berven**, vice president of corporate affairs, POET  
**Chris Billey**, vice president of regulatory affairs, Growth Energy  
**Steffen Mueller**, principal economist, Energy Resources Center, University of Illinois

*NCSL is grateful for POET’s and Growth Energy’s support of this session.*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Discussion</th>
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| 9 – 10:15 a.m.| Coronet: Wildfire Response: Best Practices for an Ever-Growing Disaster | As wildfire season continues to get longer, drier and hotter, how can states effectively manage to both mitigate potential disasters as well as successfully respond when a fire breaks out. As wildfires become costlier, how are state budgets responding? Is a federal solution just around the corner or will states be left to their own devices?  
Moderator:  
Representative Ed Orcutt, Washington, co-chair, NRI Committee  
Speakers:  
Philip Cook, principal researcher, Policy Analysis Group, University of Idaho  
Caroline Godkin, deputy secretary for legislation, California Natural Resources Agency  
Randy Moore, regional forester, pacific southwest region, United States Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service |
| 10:15 – 11:30 a.m.| Coronet: Answering the Call to Eliminate Distracted Driving Deaths | Fatalities on U.S. roadways rose in 2015 and 2016, with distracted driving a significant cause of these motor vehicle deaths. While many states have laws on the books to prohibit certain forms of distracted driving, it is a significant challenge to write enforceable laws and crack down on this dangerous driving behavior. Join us for a discussion on the dangers of distracted driving, technologies available to reduce distraction, and methods of enforcement utilized to lessen the prevalence of distraction on U.S. roadways.  
Moderator:  
Representative Carolyn Dykema, Massachusetts  
Speakers:  
Mark McCullough, officer, San Diego Police Department - Traffic Division  
Jake Nelson, director of traffic safety advocacy and research, AAA  
Leighton Yates, manager, state government affairs, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers |
| 11:45 – 1:15 p.m.| Ballroom: Plenary Luncheon – California: History and Politics | Welcome to California! Join us for an engaging discussion on the rich history and politics of our nation’s 31st state. With more than a quarter century of reporting before becoming state librarian, Greg Lucas has written on everything from presidential politics to the introduction of prune burgers |
in school cafeterias. Senator Toni Atkins, former speaker of the California Assembly, will introduce the discussion. Don’t miss this start to your time in the Golden State.

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:30 – 4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>NRI Committee Federal Update and Business Meeting</td>
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<td>All legislators and legislative staff are encouraged to attend the NRI Committee Business Meeting and consider Policy Directives and Resolutions that will guide the NRI Committee’s advocacy efforts before Congress and the administration. Immediately following, federal agency representative and committee staff will provide updates on the latest federal news and the committee will engage in a discussion session on pressing state-federal issues. Join us as the committee debates and votes on policies that guide the Committee’s advocacy work in Washington D.C, and as we explore current federal actions affecting states.</td>
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<td>Presiding:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Representative Curt A. McCormack, Vermont, co-chair, NRI Committee</td>
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<td>Representative Ed Orcutt, Washington, co-chair, NRI Committee</td>
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<td>Speakers:</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Katie Jereza, deputy assistant secretary, transmission permitting and technical assistance, Department of Energy</td>
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<td>Leslie Rogers, regional administrator – region IX, Federal Transit Administration</td>
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<td>4:00 – 5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Scoping Meeting for Smart Cities – A Public-Private Partnership</td>
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<td>As cities and regions struggle to meet increased population growth and resource demands, many are exploring smart cities to remain productive, competitive and livable. Promoting the intelligent implementation of emerging communications, transportation and energy technologies can help states access the benefits that smart cities offer. Discuss and provide input on the Smart Cities Public-Private Partnership, which will explore and provide resources on policies and programs that can help create smart cities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 – 6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Reception</td>
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<td>Network with your colleagues while enjoying stunning views of the Pacific.</td>
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Tuesday, December 12

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8 – 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Plenary Breakfast: The Next Ten Years: What You Need to Know</td>
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<td>The iPhone is 10 years old, we have apps for everything and we can talk with Siri, Bixby and Alexa when we need something. What’s next? What do the next 10 years--and beyond—portend for technology and how will it continue to change our world and affect the role of state policymakers? John Feland, CEO of Argus Insights, Inc., will parse the tea leaves of technological trends and provide a glimpse into the future.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>Session Title</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>9:45 – 10:45 a.m.</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Intersection of Cybersecurity and Autonomous Vehicles</strong></td>
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<td>Coronet</td>
<td>A new transportation world is on the horizon where autonomous vehicles are</td>
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<td>potentially an everyday presence with the ability to drastically reduce, if</td>
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<td>not eliminate, traffic fatalities. However, these advanced vehicle safety</td>
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<td>technologies will depend on an array of electronics, sensors, and computing</td>
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<td>power potentially leaving them vulnerable to unauthorized access. How can</td>
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<td>states, the federal government and the automotive industry work together to</td>
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<td>ensure a robust cybersecurity environment for these dynamic new technologies?</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
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<td>Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin, California</td>
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<td><strong>Panelist:</strong></td>
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<td>José-Marie Griffiths, president, Dakota State University</td>
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<td>Chris Murphy, administrator, region 9, National Highway and Traffic Safety</td>
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<td>Administration</td>
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<td><strong>11:00 – Noon</strong></td>
<td><strong>Addressing the Energy Transmission Infrastructure Challenge</strong></td>
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<td>Coronet</td>
<td>Changes in baseload power generation, aging infrastructure and the rapid</td>
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<td>expansion of distributed and renewable energy are testing the capacity of the</td>
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<td>nation’s electric grid. In addition, existing transmission lines are being</td>
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<td>upgraded to meet 21st century needs, but replacing, siting and permitting</td>
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<td>transmission brings many challenges where states, regional grid operators</td>
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<td>and federal agencies all have a role. This session will examine efforts by</td>
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<td>state and federal officials, regional grid operators and the electric utility</td>
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<td>industry to address the challenges related to transmission infrastructure.</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
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<td>Delegate Sally Jameson, Maryland</td>
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<td><strong>Panelists:</strong></td>
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<td>Dana Cabbell, principal manager of transmission and interconnection planning,</td>
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<td>Southern California Edison</td>
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<td>Doug Marker, constituent account executive, Intergovernmental Affairs,</td>
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<td>Bonneville Power Administration</td>
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<td>Mike Ross, officers and senior vice president for government affairs and</td>
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<td>public relations, Southwest Power Pool</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Noon – 1:00 p.m.</strong></td>
<td><strong>Understanding Residential PACE Financing</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Coronet</td>
<td>Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing for commercial or residential</td>
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<td>sectors allows building and property owners to finance energy and water</td>
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<td>efficiency, renewable energy, and seismic or storm hardening upgrades. This</td>
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<td>non-traditional financing mechanism requires state and local governments,</td>
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<td>financial institutions and customers to have a sophisticated understanding of</td>
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<td>how these programs operate. Learn about residential PACE financing’s structure,</td>
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<td>discuss current challenges, and hear about state approaches to protect</td>
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<td>consumers and ensure strong business practices.</td>
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<td><strong>Moderator:</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Senator Tyson Larson**, Nebraska, vice-chair, Natural Resources and Infrastructure Committee

Panelists:
**Cisco DeVries**, CEO, Renew Financial
**Kevin Gould**, sr. vice president, director of state government relations, California Bankers Association

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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</table>
| 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. | **Sponsored Briefings and Tours**  
NCSL is offering several briefings and tours to various sites around San Diego including Balboa Park, the U.S. Navy SEAL Training Facility, Cannabis Production Facility and more. See the full online agenda for more details. Lunch will be available to take with you on your tours. |

### Wednesday, December 13

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| 8 – 9:30 a.m. | **Plenary Breakfast: What’s Happening in Washington and How Will It Affect Elections in 2018?**  
After taking control of Congress and the presidency last November, Congressional Republicans announced an ambitious agenda. With almost 11 months into this Congress and the Trump administration, there is little progress. Hear what to expect in our nation’s capital from Reid Wilson and how will it affect state capitols across the country and the 2018 elections. Wilson is the national correspondent for The Hill newspaper, Washington’s most widely-read political publication, and an expert in spotting political trends. |
| 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. | **Business Meeting**  
All legislators and legislative staff are encouraged to attend the Business Meeting and consider Policy Directives and Resolutions that will guide NCSL's advocacy efforts before Congress and the administration, amendments to the Bylaws and Rules of Procedure, election of NCSL officers and approval of the Conference budget. All other meeting participants are welcome to observe. |
| 10:15 – 11:45 a.m. | **Managed Lanes, Congestion Pricing and Transit: Opportunities and Challenges**  
The single occupancy vehicle (SOV) is the lifeblood of America’s transportation system. But, in part because of over reliance on SOVs, congestion is increasingly strangling transportation networks in metropolitan regions across the country. Learn from national experts on transportation demand management about strategies to use a combination of tolls, dedicated transit corridors and managed lane facilities to alleviate pressure from congestion and traffic. Hear about equity, taxation and funding issues associated with building new highway capacity and managing demand. |
NRI COMMITTEE SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

The Environmental and Economic Benefits of American-Made E15 Fuel

**Doug Berven, vice president of corporate affairs, POET** - Doug Berven joined POET in March 2003 and has served the organization in several roles since then. In his current role as vice president of corporate affairs, Berven promotes the corporate objectives of POET, the importance of agriculture, and the benefits of ethanol domestically and internationally. Berven sits on several of POET’s ethanol plant Boards of Directors, BIO’s Industrial and Environmental Section of Governing Board, and serves on the Board of ACORE. Berven also manages strategic corporate relations for POET, promotes state, regional and national policy objectives for the industry, and is a recognized authority on ethanol, renewable energy and agriculture. Prior to joining POET, Berven held various roles in banking, real estate development and medical consulting.

**Chris Bliley, vice president of regulatory affairs, Growth Energy** - Chris Bliley serves as Growth Energy’s vice president of regulatory affairs. Prior to joining Growth Energy in 2011, Bliley was a director at the Nussle Group, a Washington, D.C.-based consulting firm. He served as the associate administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency running the agency’s Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations from 2007 until 2009 under President George W. Bush. He was also chief of staff and legislative director for Congressman Jim Nussle. Prior to joining Nussle’s staff, Bliley was director of government relations for the Smokeless Tobacco Council, a Washington-based trade association.

**Steffen Mueller, principal economist, Energy Resources Center, University of Illinois** - Dr. Steffen Mueller is the principal economist directing research in the areas of biofuel and bioenergy at the Energy Resources Center. The work of this research cluster focuses on resource assessments for biofuel and bioenergy production processes, as well as life cycle analyses of emissions related to different biofuel and bioenergy production pathways. Along with his colleague, Ken Copenhaver, Dr. Mueller has recently been developing the UIC LandViewer tool, a geospatial platform to help assess land use change at a field level scale. The LandViewer tool is used by seed companies to assess biofuels feedstocks, by grain buyers to manage risk, and by agricultural certification agencies to explore geospatial land use applications. Dr. Mueller holds a PhD in Public Policy Analysis from the University of Illinois at Chicago, a Master of Business Administration from Kelly Graduate School of Management, a B.S. in Environmental Engineering from Berufsakademie Karlsruhe, Germany, and a Certificate in Financial Markets and Trading, Energy Specialization from Illinois Institute of Technology.

Wildfire Response: Best Practices for an Ever-Growing Disaster

**Philip Cook, principal researcher, Policy Analysis Group, University of Idaho** – Philip Cook is the principal researcher with the Policy Analysis Group at the University of Idaho where he investigates natural resource policy and economic issues facing the state of Idaho. Before moving to Idaho 22 years ago, Philip worked for the U.S. Forest Service, National Wildlife Federation, and Kansas State University. He holds a B.S. in Natural Resources from the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee, and an M.S. in Forest Economics from Virginia Tech in Blacksburg.

**Caroline Godkin, deputy secretary for legislation, California Natural Resources Agency** - Ms. Godkin was appointed by Governor Brown as the deputy secretary for legislation for the California Natural Resources Agency in November of 2016. Immediately prior to her appointment to the California Natural
Resources Agency, Ms. Godkin was the Governor’s appointee as the deputy director of legislation at the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) from 2011 where she managed the Administration’s legislative priorities for wildland firefighting, regulation of the timber industry, as well as for the Office of the State Fire Marshal including oil pipelines in State. She began her state service as senior fiscal and policy analyst at the California Legislative Analyst’s Office from 2008 to 2011 where she was responsible for advising the Legislature on budget issues related to Natural Resources and Environmental Protection departments. She also had responsibility for the General Fund forecast for the State Budget. She earned a Master of Science in Public Policy and Management from Carnegie Mellon University, and a Master of Engineering in Manufacturing Engineering from the University of Cambridge.

Randy Moore, regional forester, pacific southwest region, United States Department of Agriculture’s Forest Service - Randy Moore became pacific southwest regional forester in October 2007, giving him overall responsibility for 18 National Forests in California, covering one-fifth of the state or 20 million acres of land, as well as responsibility for State & Private Forestry programs in Hawaii and the affiliated Pacific Islands. He was previously the regional forester for the Eastern Region headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, a position he took in 2002. Moore graduated from Southern University and began his federal career with the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service in North Dakota. He started his U.S. Forest Service career on the Pike and San Isabel National Forests in Colorado, and the Comanche and Cimarron National Grasslands in Kansas. He served as deputy forest supervisor on the National Forest of North Carolina and the Mark Twain National Forest in Missouri, before serving as the Forest Supervisor of the Mark Twain National Forest. Moore also has national-level experience in Washington, D.C., serving as acting associate deputy chief and the national deputy soils program manager.

**Answering the Call to Eliminate Distracted Driving Deaths**

**Mark McCullough, officer, San Diego Police Department - Traffic Division** - Officer Mark McCullough has been with the San Diego Police Department for 31 years. Officer McCullough has worked in the Traffic Division for 25 of those 31 years. Officer McCullough has worked Collision Investigations, on the DUI Enforcement Squad, in the Commercial Enforcement Unit as well as a short time in the Investigation unit. Officer McCullough has been working the last 16 years in the San Diego Police Department’s Traffic Division Safety office as a Community Relations office but has kept in touch with the collision investigations as he works for the Fleet Safety Sergeant. During Officer McCullough’s time at the Traffic Division he has personally taken part in investigating over 500 serious injury or fatal collision investigations. Officer McCullough has testified in court as well as at many depositions based on the outcome of his investigations. Over the past several year Mark has presented at several national conferences on traffic safety issues and how the San Diego Police Department deals with them.

**Jake Nelson, director of traffic safety advocacy and research, AAA** – As director of traffic safety advocacy and research for AAA, Nelson provides insight and analysis on all issues related to traffic safety. He has been featured in national media outlets from USA Today and the New York Times to appearances in ABC’s World News Tonight and the Dr. Oz Show, speaking on issues from older driver safety to substance-impaired driving. As the association’s safety expert, he frequently works with transportation stakeholder groups, public health practitioners, and elected officials, frequently representing the federation before state policy audiences, Congress and U.S. federal agencies. He has an undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and completed his graduate studies in public health at the George Washington University and in public policy at the University of Chicago.

**Leighton Yates, manager, state government affairs, Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers** - Leighton Yates is the manager of state government affairs for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers, an association representing 12 domestic and foreign vehicle manufacturers which produce 70 percent of the cars sold in the United States. Leighton serves as the Alliance’s representative before policymakers in 16 states.
and is responsible for formulating policy-based strategies to respond to legislative and regulatory issues. Leighton has nearly 10 years of experience around state and federal government in both the public and private sectors. Previously, he has served as manager of grassroots advocacy for the American Society of Landscape Architects and as staff for a member of the Texas House of Representatives.

**NRI Committee Federal Update and Business Meeting**

**Katie Jereza, deputy assistant secretary, transmission permitting and technical assistance, Department of Energy** - Catherine (Katie) Jereza is the deputy assistant secretary for transmission permitting & technical assistance (TPTA) in the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE). She is responsible for leading the Department's efforts to facilitate the development of reliable and affordable electricity infrastructure. Ms. Jereza has 25 years of experience in the energy, water and manufacturing industries, where she led multiple startup, turnaround and major problem-solving initiatives that delivered real-world solutions and high-impact results. Prior to joining OE, Ms. Jereza served as the director for infrastructure resilience at the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) where she co-led the smarter energy infrastructure initiative and helped launch the Electricity Subsector Coordinating Council's Cyber Mutual Assistance program. She was a management consultant with the McLeod Group, LLC and Energetics Incorporated and also worked for the Maryland Department of the Environment, GE Water and Process Technologies (formerly BetzDearborn), and the Lincoln Electric Company. She holds an MBA from the Loyola University Maryland and BS in Chemical Engineering from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University.

**Leslie T. Rogers, regional administrator – region IX, Federal Transit Administration** - Leslie Rogers is the regional administrator of the Federal Transit Administration’s (FTA) Region IX Office and has served in this position since May 1996. Headquartered in San Francisco, Region IX is comprised of the states of California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii, and the territories of Guam, American Somoa, and the Northern Marianas. As Regional Administrator, Mr. Rogers leads a professional and paraprofessional staff, including a satellite office in Los Angeles, which provides the planning, grant making and project management for the delivery of the FTA program in Region IX that annually exceeds $2.4 billion. The transportation program portfolio that he manages is in excess of $15 billion. Prior to his appointment as Regional Administrator, he had held the position of Deputy Region IX Administrator from 1993. His 39-year tenure with the FTA also has included service in the Office of the Chief Counsel in Washington, D.C. and as regional counsel in the Denver and New York City Regional Offices. During his years with FTA, Leslie has dealt with national and regional issues covering various policy, budget and legal matters. His range of experience includes responding to the needs and concerns of tribal governments, rural and small bus operators and to those of two of the country's largest transit systems in New York City and Los Angeles. Mr. Rogers is a graduate of Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and the Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C.

**The Intersection of Cybersecurity and Autonomous Vehicles**

**José-Marie Griffiths, president, Dakota State University** - President of Dakota State University, she previously served as vice president for academic affairs at Bryant University in Smithfield, Rhode Island, as the dean of the school of information and library science at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and many others. Dr. Griffiths research spans information and library science, technology and leadership. She has had appointments to multiple projects as lead or key personnel for over 28 United States federal agencies, departments and offices, among them the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, the Department of Energy, the National Institute of Science and Technology, and the Department of
Defense. Dr. Griffiths has carried out projects and/or served in advisory roles on projects in science and technology with over 20 major corporations such as AT & T Bell Laboratories, IBM, Eastman Kodak, Johnson & Johnson, and Du Pont. She has a B.Sc. with honors in Physics, a Ph.D. in Information Science and a Post Doctorate in Computer Science and Statistics, all from University College London, London, England.

Chris Murphy, administrator, region 9, National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration - Chris Murphy is the administrator for the region 9 office of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) in Sacramento, CA. States and Territories that fall under his responsibility are California, Arizona, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. Prior to his Region 9 assignment, Chris was the region 7 administrator, where he oversaw highway safety programs for Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Iowa, and Arkansas. Murphy serves as the federal representative for the administration in providing numerous services to its States and Territories, as well as other public and private sector customers to include technical assistance, administering the agency's grant fund programs, assisting in coalition building, and delivering training. Prior to NHTSA, Murphy led the largest Highway Safety Office in the nation, as he was appointed by Governor Schwarzenegger in 2005 and Governor Brown in 2013 to serve as the governor’s highway safety representative and director of the California Office of Traffic Safety. In this position, he was responsible for the administration and distribution of more than $85 million annually in traffic safety grants.

Addressing the Energy Transmission Infrastructure Challenge

Dana Cabbell, principal manager of transmission and interconnection planning, Southern California Edison – Dana M. Cabbell, P.E. has worked for Southern California Edison (SCE) for 34 years in the areas of transmission, subtransmission, and distribution planning as the Principal Manager of the Electric System Planning Group. In this position, she was responsible for leading a group of power system engineers in electric grid evaluations and facility planning to ensure the long-range adequacy of the SCE’s bulk power/subtransmission systems and the interconnections with other utilities; evaluation of new transmission, subtransmission, and generation interconnections; performing joint studies with the California Independent System Operator and neighboring utilities; and ensuring compliance with mandatory NERC Reliability Standards and WECC Reliability Criteria. Dana currently is the Principal Manager of SCE’s Programs & Strategy Group within the Transmission, Substations & Operations (TS&O) Organization. In the Programs area, Dana is responsible for ensuring the successful execution of SCE’s Transmission and Substation Capital Infrastructure Replacement Programs, and Subtransmission Expansion Projects. She also leads Strategic and Operational Services group, which is responsible for the oversight and implementation of cross-TS&O business programs and strategic initiatives. Dana graduated from California Polytechnic University, San Luis Obispo with a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering in 1982. She became a Registered Professional Electrical Engineer with the state of California in 1989.

Doug Marker, constituent account executive, Intergovernmental Affairs, Bonneville Power Administration - Doug Marker is a constituent account executive with the Bonneville Power Administration. BPA is the federal power marketing agency that manages 75 percent of the Pacific Northwest’s high-voltage electric transmission system and markets the electricity generated by federal hydroelectric system in the Columbia Basin. Marker focuses on congressional and federal affairs, and California electricity policy. Marker was previously Fish and Wildlife Division director at the Northwest Power and Conservation Council. He earlier served as chief of staff for U.S. Representative Peter DeFazio of Oregon. Marker is a past President of the City Club of Portland.

Mike Ross, officers and senior vice president for government affairs and public relations, Southwest Power Pool – Mark Ross currently serves as an officer and senior vice president for government affairs and public relations for Little Rock based Southwest Power Pool (SPP). As a Federal Energy Regulatory
Commission (FERC) designated regional transmission organization (RTO), SPP manages the electric grid, operates the wholesale electricity market and plans transmission for all or part of 14 states. His responsibilities include leading SPP’s government affairs at the federal level and the 14 state region it serves; and has responsibility for external affairs and corporate communications for the company. Prior to joining SPP, Mike served six terms in the U.S. House of Representatives from Arkansas’ Fourth Congressional District. During his tenure, he was a member of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, House Financial Services Committee, House Foreign Affairs Committee, House Agriculture Committee, House Small Business Committee, and House Science and Technology Committee. He was appointed by house leadership to represent the United States as a member of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, and was later elected its vice president. Additionally, Mike spent 10 years in the Arkansas State Senate. Mike currently serves on the University of Arkansas at Little Rock College of Business Advisory Council, the Philander Smith College Business Advisory Board, the Arkansas Water Foundation Board, Mount Sequoyah Board of Trustees and the Pulaski Heights United Methodist Church Finance Committee and Board of Stewards. He earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Arkansas at Little Rock.

Understanding Residential PACE Financing

Cisco DeVries, CEO, Renew Financial - Cisco DeVries is founder and CEO of Renew Financial Group LLC, a leading provider of Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) financing for energy and water efficiency and renewable upgrades to homes and businesses. PACE enables local governments and communities across the U.S. to use private financing to make crucial residential and commercial property upgrades. Invented by Mr. DeVries, PACE has been used to finance nearly $4 billion in property improvement projects across the country. PACE was named one of the top 20 “world-changing” ideas by Scientific American magazine. Renew Financial, which Mr. DeVries founded in 2008, provides financing through PACE and its Energy Loan products in states from California to Florida. The company regularly accesses the institutional capital markets through rated securitizations and other transactions. Prior to founding Renew Financial, Mr. DeVries spent 15 years in politics and policy in several public and private sector roles.

Kevin Gould, sr. vice president, director of state government relations, California Bankers Association - Kevin Gould joined the California Bankers Association (CBA) in 2004, bringing with him more than seven years of legislative experience. In his role as senior vice president and director of state government relations, he oversees the management and operation of CBA’s state government relations department and also serves as one of CBA’s three registered lobbyists. Gould’s advocacy responsibilities and issues focus mainly in the areas of bank operations, commercial lending, residential property lending, and wealth and asset management issues. Mr. Gould oversees CBA’s State Government Relations Committee and internal policy committees, who provide expertise and directives that guide the priorities of the association’s state government advocacy program. Mr. Gould is a member of the 2009 graduating class of the Pacific Coast Banking School.
The NCSL Natural Resources & Infrastructure Committee (NRI) is pleased to notify you of our updated website, where you can find up-to-date committee information and resources at any time.

- **COMMITTEE HOMEPAGE**: Overview page for the NRI Committee including links to specific resource pages (listed below) and timely news alerts.
- **COMMITTEE POLICIES**: All state-federal policies that have been approved by the committee, used for NCSL’s advocacy in Washington, D.C.
- **NRI COMMITTEE AND CONGRESS**: Regularly updated collection of letters and testimonies sent to the U.S. Congress, related to NRI Committee policy.
- **NEWSLETTERS**: 3 monthly Federal Updates covering energy and agriculture; environment and transportation issues and two monthly state-federal policy newsletters on transportation (the Transporter) and energy (Plugged In).
- **INFO ALERTS & ARCHIVES**: A one-stop-shop for all NRI Committee-related info alerts (concise informational briefs on breaking news of interest to our committee).
- **MEETING RESOURCES**: Information from recent NCSL meetings—including agendas, presentations from our sessions (when available) and other resources of interest—plus details about upcoming events.
- **NATURAL RESOURCES & INFRASTRUCTURE BILL-TRACKING DATABASES**: A series of up-to-date databases that track legislation introduced in all 50 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico:
  - **ENVIRONMENT/ENERGY**
  - **TRANSPORTATION**
  - **AGRICULTURE**
Overview & Review of Procedures

Consideration of (listed in order of consideration):

- Proposed Policy Resolutions
  - Encouraging Congress to Support the Emerging Conservation Economy: This is a new policy resolution encouraging Congress to support business and initiatives that create jobs to meet the growth of the conservation economy.

- Proposed Amendments to Existing Policy Directives
  - Animal Agriculture Production: This is an existing policy directive. The proposed changes include striking lines 25 – 55 covering “Equine Industry and USDA Inspection of Horse Meat,” and replaces it with a new subsection titled “Equine Rescue and Responsible Equine Ownership.”

- Federal Update
  - Leslie Rogers, regional administrator – region IX, Federal Transit Administration
  - Katie Jereza, deputy assistant secretary, transmission permitting and technical assistance, Department of Energy
WHEREAS, one of the guiding principle of the conservation economy is the taking care of and protecting everything that makes our world: land, oceans, living beings, diverse cultures, and our communities, and understanding we have finite resources that must be carefully stewarded to insure we have a more livable Earth for future generations; and

WHEREAS, we live in a time of tremendous change, the extent of which is the subject of intense debate around the world, and at the heart of this debate is the clash of immediate human needs of food and water with current practices that have a long-term impact on the land and water’s capacity to support life including livelihoods and heritage including traditional indigenous subsistence living; and

WHEREAS, increasing population and migration of people across the country strains each State’s biodiversity and the current management of land and water natural resources resulting in a sense of urgency to understand the impacts, among other things, of storm water run-off, rain acidity, wastewater, and fish farms; and

WHEREAS, new initiatives embrace natural resource management to monitor natural resources by integrating innovative science, green initiatives, clean technology, cultural knowledge, traditional and innovative management tools through collaboration between all sectors to insure food security, economic security and the well-being of communities; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing need and demand for new partnerships to be established across the country between state agencies, NGOs, conservationists, scientists, consumers, producers, urban planners, entrepreneurs, grassroots and indigenous organizations, and financial backers because each partner holds a piece of the puzzle including their knowledge, tools, and resources for better management of natural resources through socio, financial, and environmentally friendly technological solutions; and
WHEREAS, collectively the partnerships have the capacity to collaborate to achieve environmental, social, and economic prosperity for future generations by advancing knowledge of nature’s ecosystems and improving stewardship through traditions and customs of indigenous people embodying the mutual respect for one another and a commitment of service to the natural world, and

WHEREAS, there is a unique collective impact when taking into account our country’s economy, our country’s future, and our country’s Heritage, and the perpetuation of the health and well-being of its people is inextricably intertwined with the health and well-being of the natural environment; and

WHEREAS, new technology exists such as wireless devices, advanced satellite monitoring, embedded microprocessors, weather stations, drones, and robots that collect data to help us in the development of conservation management solutions to respond quicker to changes in our environment; now therefore:

WHEREAS, the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) supports a conservation economy in which economic wealth is harvested from a bioregion’s natural resources in a way that meets local communities’ needs and does not lessen the natural and social capital of a bioregion, and

WHEREAS, NCSL recognizes the importance of embracing new technologies and the values and practices to better manage natural resources and the country’s diverse bioregional economies, and encourages public and private sector businesses to aggressively seek new technologies and an educated workforce for better natural resource management, and

WHEREAS, NCSL recognizes enduring 'conservation economies' are made up of small plus medium-sized business owners ('conservation entrepreneurs’ and social entrepreneurs) who embrace a conservation ethic and take an interest in maintaining and nurturing ecosystems that contribute to the health and well-being of communities across our nation.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED, NCSL recognizes an emerging industry and encourages Congress to support businesses and initiatives that create jobs to meet the growth of the conservation economy.
The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) believes a strong animal production agriculture capacity is imperative in maintaining domestic and international consumer confidence in the safety of the United States meat supply.

Animal Identification
The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) believes a national animal identification, if properly implemented in cooperation with the states and territories, could be beneficial in maintaining consumer confidence in meat from the United States, an invaluable tool in reducing and tracking future outbreaks of infectious disease, and serving as a important firewall against any attempted terrorist attack on the food production system in the United States.

Any future effort by USDA to develop a national animal identification program must be designed and implemented in full consultation with state legislatures to ensure proper attention to public interest and financial considerations. Any program must be designed and implemented in cooperation with the departments of agriculture of the states and territories. USDA must work to ensure that any animal identification system is compatible with the current inspection and enforcement systems of the state governments. Any applicable federal program should not be applied to animals involved in intrastate commerce without state consultation.

Equine Industry and USDA Inspection of Horse Meat
The processing of horses has become a controversial and emotional issue, resulting in the closure of the last horse processing facility in the United States. Without affordable and economic alternatives, unwanted horses are abandoned. The nation’s inadequate and overburdened horse rescue and adoption facilities cannot begin to handle the influx. These additional unwanted horses will compete for adoption with wild horses that are currently fed and sheltered at a public expense. In the Western United States (US), the additional
pressure on public lands from horses turned out to run wild is only intensifying the over-
population, over-grazing, and ultimate destruction of the ecosystem.

NCSL urges members of Congress to:

- Recognize the need for humane horse processing facilities in the United States.
- Not to interfere with State efforts to establish facilities in the United States. State
  livestock programs that were once able to recoup the costs of caring and feeding for
  abandoned animals by marketing them, are now forced to greatly increase their
  budgets at the expense of taxpayers.
- Recognize the positive economic impact of willing market for the US horse industry.
  These, and ethnic markets inside the US would appreciate an additional source of
  high quality protein untainted by disease concerns of other species of livestock.
- Oppose legislation that would restrict the market, transport, processing, or export of
  horses. Horse processing in the United States is particularly tightly regulated, and
  the horse is the only animal whose transportation to processing is regulated. Horse
  processing facilities in the United States are required to have United States
  Department of Agriculture (USDA) veterinarians supervise the euthanasia, and the
  euthanasia method is humane, according the American Veterinary Medical
  Association and the United States Department of Agriculture.
- Oppose limitations under federal appropriations law prohibiting the use of federal
  dollars to be spent on the salaries of inspectors for ante-and post mortem
  inspections.

Equine Rescue and Responsible Equine Ownership

The slaughter of horses for human consumption is opposed by 80 percent of Americans,
according to the latest polls.

Horse slaughter is fraught with terror, pain, and suffering. In the past, horse slaughter
plants that existed in the U.S. had a history of polluting local water supplies, lowering
property values, and draining local economies. Horses are not raised for food and over the
course of their lives are given a wide variety of drugs and veterinary treatments that make
their meat unfit for human consumption.
The vast majority of horses sold for slaughter are young and healthy and fall victim to the slaughter pipeline often because owners are unaware of other humane options. For example, these horses could be rehomed through either sale or adoption, relinquished to therapeutic riding programs or other charitable enterprises, or surrendered to a reputable horse rescue or sanctuary.

Even the minority of horses that aren’t suitable for rehoming due to age, infirmity, or intractable behavior problems deserve the benefit of humane euthanasia. In America we don’t butcher our surplus dog and cat population, and we shouldn’t be doing it with our horses either.

The horse rescue and welfare community in the U.S. is robust and thriving, and constantly finding new ways to save horses from abuse, neglect, and slaughter, and to support responsible horse ownership. Such organizations include:

- The Homes for Horses Coalition, which provides training, expertise, and other resources to the nation’s top horse rescue organizations.
- The Global Federation of Animal Sanctuaries, which inspects and accredits horse sanctuaries and rescues throughout the U.S., and which sets animal care and organizational standards to ensure its member organizations are operating sustainably and according to best practices.
- Oregon Hay Bank, which provides direct assistance in the form of free hay to horse owners in need.
- Front Range Equine Rescue, which develops emergency disaster assistance for distressed horse owners.
- A number of organizations throughout the country provide rehoming and training programs to help retired Thoroughbred race horses find new homes and rewarding second careers as show horses, jumpers, trail horses, and companions.
- Gentle Giants Draft Horse Rescue, which saves retired, abused, and neglected draft horses at risk of going to slaughter and providing them with permanent sanctuary or safe new homes.
NCSL urges members of Congress to:

▪ Recognize the fact that the overwhelming majority of Americans value horses as companions and partners in recreation, work, and sports, and oppose the slaughter of American horses for human consumption.

▪ Recognize that diverting tax dollars from the USDA budget to fund inspections at proposed American horse slaughter plants is fiscally irresponsible since neither Americans nor their pets consume horsemeat. American tax payers should not be subsidizing a market to satisfy the appetites of foreign diners who want to eat horse meat.

▪ Recognize that from the auction to the slaughterhouse, the horse slaughter industry is inherently inhumane and causes unacceptable levels of pain and suffering to horses. As naturally skittish animals, horses suffer severe injuries during long-distance transport and are difficult to effectively render unconscious at the slaughter plant. When horse slaughter plants operated on U.S. soil, the U.S. Department of Agriculture documented horses arriving at the slaughter plants badly injured, collapsed from fatigue, and even dead. This terrible suffering occurred at the expense of the American taxpayer.

▪ Recognize that horse slaughter is a predatory and abusive industry that perpetuates the irresponsible overbreeding of horses. As long as slaughter remains an option, irresponsible breeders have no incentive to reduce the number of horses they breed. Ending the slaughter market will ultimately improve the American horse industry by raising prices, improving quality, and encouraging a market that is humane and sustainable.

▪ Recognize that American horse owners give their equine companions medications throughout their lives that are prohibited for livestock intended to enter the food chain. These toxic substances render the flesh of American horses hazardous to human consumers, and represent a threat to the safety and reputation of American meat exports. This is especially true considering the high incidence of the illegal commingling of horse meat with other meat products, an issue that the European Union continues to combat.
Encourage the American people to support and promote reputable charitable and equine industry organizations and programs that rescue, rehabilitate, and rehome horses and provide programs to help horse owners provide proper care for their equine companions, including compassionate and dignified end-of-life euthanasia by a veterinarian.

**Interstate Sale of State-Inspected Meat and Poultry**

The Farm Bill program authorizes USDA to promulgate rules to establish the parameters of the state programs. The proposed draft rule would allow these states to establish an interstate meat shipment program and request selected establishment status for those businesses who wish to remain state inspected, but wish to market products in interstate commerce. The creation of interstate sales of state-inspected meat and poultry programs will level the economic playing field for small business, spur more competition in the marketplace, create a more uniform inspection system, and enhance consumer confidence in the food supply—all of which will benefit farmers, ranchers, processors, small business, and consumers.

The National Conference of State Legislatures supports the establishment of interstate shipment of state-inspected meat and poultry programs in qualifying states, and urges USDA to create rules that facilitate the program.
We look forward to seeing you at the 2017 Legislative Summit from July 30 – August 2 in Los Angeles, CA

For more information, please visit our website.