



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

PRESS RELEASE

September 19, 2012

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### **Lt. Governors to Advance State Opportunities in the Global Marketplace & be Featured in European Forum on the U.S. Presidential Race**

Five lieutenant governors will promote economic opportunity for states in Germany during an economic development mission beginning September 23, 2012. The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) delegation will meet with the German Vice Chancellor and with economic affairs leaders to discuss trade, transportation, energy, health care and education.

The delegation includes Massachusetts Lt. Governor Tim Murray, Iowa Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds, Rhode Island Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts, New Mexico Lt. Governor John Sanchez, U.S.V.I. Lt. Governor Gregory Francis, and NLGA Director Julia Hurst.

“Germany is the largest economy in Europe and the world’s fifth largest national economy,” said Hurst. “With a population of 82-million, many consider Germany the largest and most important market in Europe. The mission will result in valuable contacts and visibility across Germany for the states and for subnational trade opportunities.”

The delegation will meet with German Vice Chancellor Dr. Philipp Rosler, U.S. Ambassador to Germany Philip Murphy, the Chancellor’s federal minister, a Saxon state legislative leader, the Saxon Minister of Economic Affairs, and with energy researchers, university and high school teachers and administrators, business owners, a hospital medical director, and more. Meetings take place in Dresden, Lommatzsch, Leipzig, and Berlin.

“The lieutenant governors will be featured at a public forum discussing the U.S. Presidential elections,” said Hurst. “The event is moderated by an editor of Germany’s largest business daily newspaper.”

Lieutenant governors will tour Dresden’s largest hospital and discuss comparative health care and financing with the hospital medical chair and the German Deputy Minister for Health. Mission attendees will meet business owners to discuss business conditions and the German apprenticeship program. At Dresden University, attendees will be briefed on renewable energy projects and hear how German universities and public officials are addressing education funding gaps.

“We will also tour the underground rail tunnel project in Leipzig, one of Europe’s largest ongoing transportation infrastructure projects,” said Hurst. The project, considered one of the most challenging geotechnical construction projects of its time, will create connect Europe’s largest rail terminal (Leipzig) to enhance transportation and rail efficiency across that region of Europe.

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