



National Lieutenant Governors Association

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NLGA CONDUCTS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO CHINA

National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) members conducted an economic development mission to China on September 20 – 24, 2010. The NLGA mission included meetings with high ranking foreign affairs and commerce officials, a close look at high speed mass transit, and the exchange of ideas on economic development practices.

Lieutenant governors are the second highest-ranking officials in every state and are first in line of gubernatorial succession.

“China is the world’s fastest growing major economy and one of the United States’ largest trading partners,” said NLGA Director Julia Hurst. “State leaders play a critical role in seizing opportunities associated with this growth, while helping to develop and expand their own states’ economies.”

The agenda included three days in Beijing and two days in Shanghai. The lieutenant governors met with Lu Kang, Deputy Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; officials of the Tianjin Economic-Technological Development Zone; a representative of the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China; and other officials. The U.S. Embassy in Beijing provided a briefing on trade issues and commercial practices.

As part of the mission, NLGA members engaged interactively on the topic of high speed rail. Members were briefed on the progress of China Maglev (magnetic levitation) transportation and rode a Maglev train. Other high speed rail transport was also briefed and toured, allowing a comparative examination of these methods of transportation.

The trip is hosted by the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) through work with the Chinese People’s Friendship Association with Foreign Countries and the China-US Exchange Foundation. The mission is the third such NLGA mission.

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