



National Lieutenant Governors Association

NLGA Consensus Resolution On The Importance of Beautification and Anti-Littering Efforts in the States and Territories

WHEREAS, the National Lieutenant Governors Association has an opportunity to highlight the important issue of litter, and to examine the different state strategies that impact public policy and budgets, and

WHEREAS, states and territories promote tourism, economic development, natural beauty, beautiful architecture, and historic communities, but litter is a blight on cities, counties, parks, roadways, and waterways, and

WHEREAS, according to the most recent National Litter Study (2020) by Keep America Beautiful, there is an estimated 50 billion pieces of litter on the ground in America, with 152 items of litter per person in the U.S.,¹ and

WHEREAS, litter, misplaced trash, and debris are detrimental to a state/territory's image and negatively impact economic development, community investment, infrastructure, and tourism, and

WHEREAS, improperly placed materials along roadways and in waterways negatively affects an individual's place and connection to their neighborhoods and communities, and have adverse effects on the quality of life for humans and wildlife, and

WHEREAS, litter's indirect negative economic impacts include lost tourism revenues, expenses for repairing vehicles, boats and ships, restoration of ecosystems, wildlife injury, environmental contamination, and eventually the cost to human health, and

WHEREAS, state government leaders can positively impact the beautification of communities by supporting efforts to reduce litter such as: promote anti-littering campaigns, organize litter pickup events, educate youth and citizens on the impact of litter, work collaboratively with businesses to identify litter reduction opportunities, and support local organizations working to reduce litter and beautify communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) recognizes the importance of promoting awareness of litter as a community nuisance, and supports efforts in the states and territories to discourage and prevent littering and other harmful behaviors to local environments.

ADOPTED, this day, the 10th of April, 2025.

¹ 2020 National Litter Study, Keep America Beautiful, <https://kab.org/litter-study/>



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- 31 **Co-Sponsors:** Colorado Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (D), Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy
32 Nungesser (R), Vermont Lt. Governor John Rodgers (R)
33 ***Proposed for the docket by:*** Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser (R)