

NATIONAL LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION (NLGA)

2026 SPRING BUSINESS MEETING

April 8-10, 2026

Sarasota, Florida

Hotel: Art Ovation Hotel (1255 N Palm Ave, Sarasota, FL 34236) | (941) 316-0808

PRELIMINARY DRAFT (03/03/2026) TIMES/DESCRIPTIONS SUBJECT TO CHANGE BY NLGA

- Please check the [Sponsorship Opportunities page](#) for sponsored Speaking Opportunities.
- All speaker invitations are issued by NLGA Staff, from NLGA.

ATTIRE:

- Business Casual Attire.
- NLGA Member Group Photo will be taken on Wednesday, April 8, at TBD. The photo may take place earlier or later than this time based on how the agenda is running. There will be no roll call taken.

ADA & MEALS

- NLGA complies with ADA. Let NLGA know at least 15 work days before the meeting of needs.
- Meals are listed so attendees will plan for their own dietary needs. No special meals ordered.

ACCESS & SECURITY BADGES:

- Security governs access rules.
- NO INDIVIDUAL is allowed access to any room, meal, reception, event, or shared mode of transportation without a security badge – no exceptions.
- Registration is the only way to generate a security badge. All attendees must register online no later than March 30, 2026. There is no on-site registration or substitution.
- All attendees will show photo ID at the registration desk when picking up their security badge. Security badges may only be picked up by the person whose name is on the badge and only during registration hours.
- State Patrol officers should complete complimentary online registration. All officers are asked to wear the NGSAs or state pin.
- IGA: ONE registrant from each Cabinet office of the President may attend, as approved by NLGA. This registration is good for day events only - not evening events.

PRESS:

- Press must pre-register. At registration, press must show photo ID and press credentials, and will wear NLGA badges to work from designated areas.
- Daytime sessions are open to registered press, unless otherwise noted.
- Meals and evening events are NOT open to any press.
- NLGA reserves the right to close any portion of the meeting at any time.

MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, April 8, 2026

9:00am – 2:15pm | Outside Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Registration

Prepared and staffed by NLGA. All registered attendees should check-in at Registration to pick up name badge, meeting agenda, and other meeting materials.

9:45am – 10:15am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Coffee & Hospitality Time

All registered attendees with security badges are invited to enjoy pastries, light breakfast items, and coffee in the meeting room before the meeting begins.

10:15am – 10:35am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Opening Plenary

- Gavel In
- Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call of the States and Territories
- Welcome Remarks
 - **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair** (up to 5 min)
 - **Florida Lt. Governor Jay Collins** (*confirmed*) (10 min)

10:35am – 11:05am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Opening Keynote: State-Federal Collaboration on Agriculture & Rural Affairs

Join TBD from the U.S. Department of Agriculture to discuss the programs and resources available to states and territories through the USDA, including opportunities in rural development, food and nutrition, broadband, ag innovation, community resilience, and more. Hear directly from USDA leadership on how states/territories can work collaboratively to advance local priorities in workforce, community and economic development, food systems, rural infrastructure, and other priorities.

- **Secretary Brooke Rollins or Deputy Secretary Stephen Vaden, U.S. Department of Agriculture** (*invited*) (15 min)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

11:05am – 11:15am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

Welcome to New NLGA Members!

NLGA Members new to NLGA meetings will have 3 minutes each to introduce themselves to their peer lieutenant governors and meeting attendees at the U.

- **Northern Mariana Islands Lt. Governor Dennis Mendiola** (3 min)
- **TBD** (*invited*) (3 min)
- **TBD** (*invited*) (3 min)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

MEETING AGENDA

Wednesday, April 8, 2026

11:15am – 11:45am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Speaker: “The Center of the Aerospace Future”

Florida’s unique combination of infrastructure, workforce, and innovation-driven partnerships makes the state a premier destination for aerospace companies from around the world. Hear from TBD at Space Florida on how this unique public corporation and innovation connector helps increase investment, maximize capability, and create solutions to advance Florida’s aerospace ecosystem.

- **Robert Long, President & CEO, Space Florida (15 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

11:45am – 12:15pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Peer Panel: Member Priority Initiatives in 2026

TBD

To view NLGA’s comprehensive listing of Member Duties & Priorities in 2026, click [\[link\]](#).

- **Mississippi Lt. Governor Delbert Hosemann (invited) (10 min)**
- **Pennsylvania Lt. Governor Austin Davis (10 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

12:15pm – 12:20pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Group Photo

All interested Members (lieutenant governors, seconds-in-command) will be photographed in a group photo taken by NLGA staff. The photo may take place earlier or later than this time based on how the agenda is running. There will be no roll call taken.

12:20pm – 12:55pm | Crescendo 4-5-6, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Lunch

All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.

(Serving: New England clam chowder, mixed greens salad, diced fruit salad, chicken salad on croissant, Italian focaccia sandwich, assorted kettle chips, fresh baked cookies and brownies)

12:55pm – 1:00pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Announcements

- **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, April 8, 2026

1:00pm – 1:10pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Presentation of the NLGA Government Innovators Award

NLGA and Sourcewell present an award to honor a NLGA Member as a leader in innovation. This award recognizes key roles related to best use of taxpayer dollars, improved efficiencies, and bringing innovations to state and territorial government. Through the implementation of modernization, technology, transparency, and other creative solutions, a NLGA Member is recognized. The 2026 NLGA Government Innovators Award recipient will be announced and recognized during this session.

- **Bill Otto, Sourcewell** (3 min)
- **Winner – announced on site** (5 min)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

1:10pm – 1:40pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Keynote: Topic TBD

Sponsored by: TBD (invited)

- **TBD** (15 min)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

1:40pm – 2:10pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Partners Round Robin

Each NLGA Partner organization with a registered attendee will have up to 2 minutes each to overview their work and preview priority issues for 2026. NLGA Partners are nonprofits, associations, corporations, and other entities that join NLGA annually to contribute their expertise to the policy discussions impacting state/territorial government.

- **Each NLGA Partner attendee** (2 min each)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

2:10pm – 2:20pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Business Session: Finance & Operations Report

- **NLGA Finance Report** – South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair (6 min)
- **NLGA Operations Report** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Executive Director (4 min)

Presiding: **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

2:20pm* – 2:40pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Partners Meeting – Partners ONLY

*This meeting will start immediately upon the conclusion of the previous session and may begin earlier or later than 1:55pm.

Partner Chair: **John Clark, ACT**

MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, April 8, 2026

2:20pm – TBDpm

FREE TIME to Attend to Office Needs

NLGA Members ask outside groups NOT to schedule into this block.

Per the NLGA Executive Committee, this block of time is free time for meeting attendees to attend to individual and office needs.

5:15pm | Bus Loading Area at Hotel TBD

Bus to Evening Event Loads

The bus will leave on time at promptly 5:20pm. NLGA does NOT take roll call to see who may or may not be missing. ***All attendees must wear NLGA security badge for entry to the bussing and evening event!**

6:00pm – 8:00pm | Mote SEA Aquarium (225 University Town Center Dr, Sarasota, FL 34243)

NO MEDIA

NLGA Opening Event: Dine “Underwater” with Local Marine Life!

Sponsored by: National Association of Home Builders

Join NLGA for a memorable evening dining “underwater,” with Gulf Water exhibits above and vibrant sea life all around. Visit the first-floor Gulf Coast gallery to meet stingrays, sharks, and sea turtles up close!

Mote is one of the most unique and impactful independent nonprofit marine research and science education institutions in the world, founded in 1955 and growing into an international marine science enterprise firmly rooted in Sarasota. Mote SEA was opened just last year to expand Mote’s educational reach.

**All attendees must wear NLGA security badge for entry to transportation and evening event.*

Schedule of Activities:

- 6:00pm – 6:30pm: Explore the Gulf Coast Gallery
- 6:30pm: Welcome Remarks
 - **NLGA Chair South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette (3 min)**
 - **TBD, National Association of Home Builders (5 min)**
- 6:40pm: Buffet Dinner Opens
- 8:00pm: Depart Mote SEA and return to Art Ovation Hotel

(Menu: Black kale salad, Corvina Veracruz, Short Rib, papa brava, vegetable ratatouille, coconut bread pudding)

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 9, 2026

8:45am – 2:45pm | Outside Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Registration

Prepared and staffed by NLGA. All registered attendees should check-in at Registration to pick up name badge, meeting agenda, and other meeting materials.

8:45am – 9:15am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Executive Committee Meeting

Private: NLGA Members Only (lieutenant governors, seconds-in-command)

The Executive Committee Members direct the administration of NLGA, per the Bylaws. Votes are taken first by the Executive Committee, with approved items considered by the full body of NLGA Members present. **All attending Members are invited to attend this session.**

Presiding: **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

9:15am – 9:55am | Crescendo 4-5-6, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Breakfast

All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.

(Serving: Assorted pastries, seasonal fruit and berries, scrambled eggs, applewood smoked bacon, pork sausage links, crispy potatoes with peppers and onions, assorted breads with butter and preserves)

9:55am – 10:00am | Symphony Ballroom A

NO MEDIA

NLGA Daily Announcements

- **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

10:00am – 10:30am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Keynote: Workforce & Economic Drivers

Sponsored by: TBD

View the [Sponsorship Opportunities page](#).

- **TBD (15 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, April 9, 2026

10:30am – 11:00am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Peer Panel: Lt. Governors Leading in 2026

During this bipartisan panel discussion, hear from two lieutenant governors regarding their priority initiatives this year. First, Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay will discuss her leadership of the Behavioral Health Consortium and efforts to map out the perinatal mental healthcare system, as well as her management of the state’s new investments in the early childhood care and education system, and more. Then, South Dakota Lt. Governor Tony Venhuizen will overview his efforts to advance national security and infrastructure resilience, economic development, and other priority initiatives.

- **Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay (10 min)**
- **South Dakota Lt. Governor Tony Venhuizen (10 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

11:00am – 11:10am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Presentation of the NLGA Economic Engine Award

NLGA and the National Association of Home Builders present an award in recognition of a NLGA Member (lieutenant governor, second-in-command) and their contributions to driving growth and prosperity through economic and workforce opportunities in state and territorial government. The 2026 NLGA Economic Engine Award recipient will be announced and recognized during this session.

- **TBD, National Association of Home Builders (3 min)**
- **Winner – announced on site (5 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

11:10am – 11:40am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Partners Round Robin

Each NLGA Partner organization will have up to 2 minutes each to overview their work and preview priority issues for 2026. NLGA Partners are nonprofits, associations, corporations, and other entities that join NLGA annually to contribute their expertise to the policy discussions impacting state/territorial government.

- **Each NLGA Partner attendee (2 min each)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

11:40am – 12:10pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Speaker: Energy Policy

TBD

- **TBD (15 min)**

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, April 9, 2026

12:10pm – 12:30pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Future Meetings Reports & Votes

- **2026 Annual Meeting, July 22-24, 2026, Denver, CO** – Colorado Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (4 min)
- **2026 New Elect & Winter Meeting, December 2-4, 2026, Washington, D.C.** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (4 min)
- **2027 Spring Business Meeting, April 7-9, 2027, New Orleans, LA** – Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser (4 min)
- **2027 Annual Meeting, July TBD 2026, Location TBD** – TBD (4 min) *VOTE
- **2027 Winter Meeting, December 1-3, 2027, Washington, D.C.** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (4 min)

Presiding: **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

12:30pm – 1:15pm | Crescendo 4-5-6, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Lunch

All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.

(Serving: Caesar salad, chargrilled chicken breast with thyme chicken jus, penne pasta with vodka marinara, grilled vegetables, assorted cookies and brownies)

1:15pm – 1:20pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Announcements

- **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

1:20pm – 1:50pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Keynote: State-Federal Collaboration on Travel & Tourism

As Deputy Assistant Secretary for Travel and Tourism, DAS O’Leary is the highest-ranking U.S. official for tourism. DAS O’Leary and his team support policies and programs that enhance the global competitiveness of the U.S. travel and tourism sector, help steer the development of the National Travel and Tourism Strategy, and advance efforts to expand travel and tourism exports in support of jobs and economic growth nationwide.

- **Robert O’Leary, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Travel and Tourism, International Trade Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce** (15 min)

Moderator: **Lieutenant Governor / NLGA Member TBD**

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, April 9, 2026

1:50pm – 2:05pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Consensus Resolutions Hearing & Votes

NLGA Members in attendance will vote on the docket of Consensus Resolutions below. NLGA Members and Partners are invited to submit [Consensus Resolutions](#) that meet the NLGA [criteria](#) to NLGA staff by February 26, 2025, for consideration at the NLGA Spring Business Meeting. NLGA Members can file an objection to a resolution being consensus by emailing kritters@nlga.us at any time before the meeting or during the hearing. Upon the filing of at least three Member objections, a resolution will be immediately tabled.

FINAL CONSENSUS RESOLUTIONS DOCKET (in formation):

- 1) NLGA Consensus Resolution on State Innovation in Expanding Access to Child Care and Strengthening the Workforce
- 2) NLGA Consensus Resolution in Support of Gender Equality in Nordic Combined Competition in the Winter Olympics
- 3) NLGA Consensus Resolution Supporting United States Leadership in Space, Aeronautics, Aerospace Workforce Development, and National Security
- 4) NLGA Consensus Resolution on a Bipartisan National Commitment to Career Readiness

Presiding: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair-Elect**

2:05pm – 2:10pm | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA STEM Best Practice

TBD

Recipient: **TBD** (3 min)

Introduction: **TBD**

2:10pm – 2:40pm | Crescendo 4-5-6, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA STEM Service Project

Sponsored by: TBD

All registered NLGA meeting attendees are invited to wrap 100 STEM gifts to donate to local youth served by TBD. This NLGA STEM Service Project advances STEM, supports local youth, and is part of NLGA's STEM Pillar of Work.

2:40pm – TBDpm

FREE TIME to Attend to Office Needs

NLGA Members ask outside groups NOT to schedule into this block.

Per the NLGA Executive Committee, this block of time is free time for meeting attendees to attend to individual and office needs.

5:15pm | Bus Loading Area at Hotel TBD

Bus to Evening Event Loads

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, April 9, 2026

The bus will leave on time at promptly 5:20pm. NLGA does NOT take roll call to see who may or may not be missing. *All attendees must wear NLGA security badge for entry to the bussing and evening event!

6:00pm – 8:00pm | Big Cat Habitat (7101 Palmer Blvd., Sarasota, FL 34240)

NO MEDIA

NLGA Closing Event: “Party with a Purpose” at the Big Cat Habitat!

Join NLGA for the closing event at the Big Cat Habitat, a diverse zoological park and nonprofit with the mission to provide a safe, loving, and permanent home for exotic and domestic animals in need, and to educate guests on the importance of species preservation to ensure the survival of magnificent animals for future generations. Big Cat Habitat is home to more than 350 exotic and domestic animals spanning more than 60 different species.

Attendees will help feed the big cats and bears, meet and greet reptiles (alligators, snakes), and dine under the pavilion at the Big Cat Habitat.

Evening Event sponsorship is available. View the [Sponsorship Opportunities page](#).

**All attendees must wear NLGA security badge for entry to transportation and evening event.*

Schedule of Activities:

- 6:00pm – 6:40pm: Self-guided tours of Big Cat Habitat, feed big cats and bears
- 6:40pm: Welcome Remarks from South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair
- 6:45pm – 8:00pm: Buffet Dinner Opens
- 8:00pm: Depart Big Cat Habitat to return to Art Ovation Hotel

(Menu: TBD)

MEETING AGENDA
Thursday, April 9, 2026

MEETING AGENDA

Friday, April 10, 2026

8:00am - 9:30am | Outside Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Registration

Prepared and staffed by NLGA. All registered attendees should check-in at Registration to pick up name badge, meeting agenda, and other meeting materials.

8:00am - 8:45am | Crescendo 4-5-6, Art Ovation Hotel

NO MEDIA

NLGA Breakfast

All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.

(Serving: Assorted pastries, seasonal fruit and berries, scrambled eggs, applewood smoked bacon, pork sausage links, crispy potatoes with peppers and onions, assorted breads with butter and preserves)

8:45am - 8:50am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Announcements

- **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

8:50am - 9:10am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA Best Practices in STEM Education - 2026 Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program Winners Presented

The 2026 Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program will award 12 schools in 12 different states/territories with up to \$1,000 each for STEM-related curriculum, equipment, and projects. During this session, hear from STEM Scholarship Program sponsor ACT, followed by an overview of the STEM pillar of work at NLGA and this year's STEM Scholarship Program. Then, the lieutenant governors of states or territories with winning STEM Scholarship schools will briefly overview the winning projects in their states/territories.

- **John Clark, ACT** (2026 Sponsor of the NLGA Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program) (4 min)
- **Attending Lieutenant Governors / NLGA Members with Winning Schools** (2 min each)

Moderator: **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

9:10am - 9:30am | Crescendo 7, Art Ovation Hotel

NLGA General Business Session

- Remaining Business items
- New Business

Presiding: **South Carolina Lt. Governor Pamela Evette, NLGA Chair**

MEETING ADJOURNS.