2026 New Elect & Winter Meeting
December 2-4, 2026
Le Meridien (1177 15th St NW, Washington, DC 20005)
Phone: (202) 862-1600

PRELIMINARY DRAFT (11/20/2026) 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 Attire.
- NLGA Member Group Photo will be taken on Wednesday, December 2, at approximately 12:30pm local time.
- *Please note: Professional photography will take place during meeting sessions on December 2.*

ADA & MEALS

- NLGA complies with ADA. Let NLGA know of needs at least 15 work days before the meeting.
- 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 by November 19, 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 NGSA 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.

Wednesday, December 2, 2026
AGENDA

9:00am – 3:00pm | Le Meridien, Outside Montpelier Room
NLGA Registration
Prepared and Staffed by NLGA

9:45am – 10:15am | Le Meridien, Dolley Madison Room
NLGA Coffee, Pastries & Hospitality Time
All attendees are invited for coffee and light breakfast items before the meeting gavels in.

10:15am – 10:25am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Opening Plenary
• Gavel In • Pledge of Allegiance • Roll Call of the States and Territories • Welcome Remarks   ○ **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair** (3 min)

10:25am – 10:55am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Opening Keynote: Supporting Veterans & Military Families
Blue Star Families is the nation's largest military and veteran family support organization, delivering more than $336 million in benefits and reaching more than 1.5 million people annually since its founding in 2009. In 2024, Blue Star Families partnered with the National Governors Association to launch the "Do Your Part" initiative, creating a toolkit to help states and territories identify, prioritize, and implement policies and programs that strengthen support for military families and the communities in which they live. Join Lindsay Knight, Chief Impact Officer at Blue Star Families, for a discussion on how lieutenant governors can champion policies, partnerships, and programs that improve outcomes for military- and veteran-connected families. Attendees will also gain practical insights and actionable policy considerations for states and territories seeking to better support those who serve and their families.
• **Lindsay Knight, Chief Impact Officer, Blue Star Families** (15 min)
Moderator: Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair

10:55am – 11:35am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Rapid Fire Round-Robin: NLGA Member & New Elect Introductions
Each NLGA Member (lieutenant governor, second-in-command), including those newly elected in November, will introduce themselves to their peers and meeting attend ees at the U for a timed, 90 seconds each.
• **All NLGA Members in attendance** (90 seconds each)
Moderator: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

11:35am – 12:00pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Workshop: Legislative Relations to Achieve Policy Wins

Lieutenant governors and NLGA members play a unique role in advancing policy priorities by fostering strong relationships across both the executive and legislative branches. Whether serving as president of the senate or working alongside legislative leaders in another capacity, effective engagement with legislators and a deep understanding of the legislative process are essential to achieving policy goals, building coalitions, and delivering results for constituents.

Hear from Virginia Lt. Governor Ghazala Hashmi, who presides over the state senate, casts the tie-breaking vote, and brings firsthand legislative experience to this discussion, serving in the Virginia senate from 2020 to 2026.

- **Virginia Lt. Governor Ghazala Hashmi** (10 min)

Moderator: **Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser**

12:00pm – 12:30pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NLGA Keynote: Supporting American Businesses, Jobs, and Communities Through International Travel

Travel and tourism is an economic engine for America, fueling local economies, sustaining quality jobs, and funding public services nationwide. As the nation's destination marketing organization, Brand USA attracts high-impact international travelers and inspires them to explore beyond gateway cities. Over the last 13 years, Brand USA has generated $82.9 billion in total economic impact and 11.3 million additional visitors. Chief Public Affairs Officer Aaron Wodin-Schwartz will share how states can partner with Brand USA to compete for international travelers and turn global visibility into economic growth at home.

- **Aaron Wodin-Schwartz, Chief Public Affairs Officer, Brand USA** (15 min)

Moderator: **Missouri Lt. Governor David Wasinger** *(to be invited)*

12:30pm – 12:40pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

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.

1) Class of 2026 – Newly Elected NLGA Members
2) All NLGA Members who will be in office in January 2027
3) All attending NLGA Members

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

12:40pm – 1:20pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NO MEDIA
NLGA Lunch
All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges. *(Serving: menu TBD)*

1:20pm – 1:25pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Announcements
• **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

1:25pm – 1:55pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Keynote: U.S.-Canada Relations
Canada and the United States will celebrate 100 years of formal diplomatic relations in 2027. Our two countries are bound not only by geography and history, but also by extensive trade and investment flows, cross-border supply chains, energy infrastructure, and enduring people-to-people ties. Our economic partnership is among the most integrated in the world, with businesses on both sides of the border benefiting from a stable and predictable framework that supports investment, competitiveness, and job creation. American companies export more goods and services to Canada than to any other foreign market, and nearly 8 million American jobs depend on trade with Canada. Energy is also a cornerstone of this relationship. Canada is the single largest foreign supplier of energy to the United States, underscoring the depth of our interconnected energy markets and infrastructure.
• **Nadia Theodore, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Canada to the United States** (15 min)
Moderator: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

1:55pm – 3:15pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NO MEDIA, PARTNERS, OR STAFF – Closed to NLGA Members / Lieutenant Governors ONLY
NLGA Workshop: Peer-to-Peer Sharing of Best Practices & New Elect Exchange
All attending lieutenant governors and NLGA Members (new elects and sitting Members) are invited to attend this private, guided, peer-to-peer discussion on important topics related to the office of lieutenant governor and gubernatorial successor, including methods of election, duties of the office, staffing and office operations, media and communications, scheduling and calendar management, initiatives, relationships with the governor and legislature, and more.
Presiding: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

3:15pm – 5:10pm
FREE TIME to Attend to Office Needs
NLGA Members as 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.

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

5:10pm | Lobby, Le Meridien
Load Bus to Evening Event
All registered NLGA meeting attendees should load bus by 5:10pm in the lobby of Le Meridien to depart for the evening event. Bus will depart at 5:15pm. No roll call is taken. ***All attendees MUST wear NLGA security badge to load bus and enter the evening event.**

5:30pm – 7:00pm | Embassy of Canada to the U.S. (501 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, D.C. 20001)
NO MEDIA **NLGA Opening Reception: The Embassy of Canada Welcomes NLGA!**
All registered meeting attendees are invited to an Opening Reception at the Embassy of Canada to the U.S., hosted by Deputy Ambassador Nadia Theodore and senior Embassy leadership. Light appetizers will be served. ***All attendees must wear NLGA security badge for entry to transportation and evening event.** *(Serving: Light appetizers TBD – attendees should make alternate arrangements for dinner "on your own")*

Thursday, December 3, 2026
AGENDA

8:00am – 3:00pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Registration
Prepared and Staffed by NLGA

8:15am – 9:00am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NO MEDIA, PARTNERS, OR STAFF   **NLGA Executive Committee Session**   ***Private: NLGA Members Only (lieutenant governors, seconds-in-command)***
• **All attending Members and Members-elect are encouraged to attend this session.**   • The Executive Committee Members direct the administration of NLGA, per the Bylaws. Any votes are taken first by the Executive Committee, with approved items considered by the full body of NLGA Members present later in the day.   • Topics for discussion: Gubernatorial succession, Executive Protection / security, *additional forthcoming*
Presiding: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

9:00am – 9:40am | Le Meridien, Dolley Madison Room
NO MEDIA   **NLGA Breakfast**
All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.   *(Serving: menu TBD)*

9:40am – 9:45am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NO MEDIA   **NLGA Daily Announcements**
• **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

9:45am – 10:25am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Speakers: Workforce and Education Solutions for States & Territories
Early childhood education lays the foundational building blocks for a child's brain development, lifelong learning, and social-emotional wellbeing, and these educators are sometimes referred to as "the workforce behind the workforce," because reliable child care and education enables parents to work, attend school, or other job training opportunities. This workforce faces systemic challenges that impacts the availability of early childhood education for families and children. The Council for Professional Recognition advances career pathways for early childhood educators through high-quality, competency-based credentialing, including the Child Development Associate credential, the most widely recognized credential in early childhood education. Hear from Elisa Shepherd at the Council on ways that states/territories can advance solutions for supporting and expanding early childhood education opportunities for families. ***Sponsored by: Council for Professional Recognition***
• **Elisa Shepherd, Vice President, Strategic Alliances, Council for Professional Recognition** (10 min) • **Q&A with attending lieutenant governors only** (10 min)
Newly elected state leaders are taking the helm at a critical inflection point, as the American Dream is increasingly out of reach for many Americans. This session explores practical actions states can take to ensure every learner and worker—no matter their starting point, detours, or life stage—can advance in career pathways and work in quality jobs. We'll examine strategies to improve career navigation, ensure credentials have value, recognize people for the skills they have, enable people to earn while they learn, and break down barriers to economic mobility.
• **David Altstadt, Director, Policy, Jobs for the Future** (10 min) • **Q&A with attending lieutenant governors only** (10 min)
Moderator: **Delaware Lt. Governor Kyle Evans Gay** *(to be invited)*

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

10:25am – 11:00am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Workshop: State-County-City Relations: How to Elevate Local Partnerships

Strong partnerships among state, local, city, and county leaders help ensure that state policies and programs reflect the needs and priorities of communities. For lieutenant governors, cultivating relationships with local elected officials and stakeholders can strengthen collaboration, improve policy implementation, and build awareness of the office's work across the state.

Hear from Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll, who served for 17 years as Mayor of Salem and now chairs the Local Government Advisory Council, while playing a leading role in community and economic development initiatives. She will share insights on fostering productive partnerships between state and local governments and leveraging those relationships to advance shared priorities. This session will also feature Missouri Lt. Governor David Wasinger, who took office in 2025. As Missouri's official advocate for seniors, leader of the state's BuyMO initiative, and a key partner in tourism and economic development efforts, Lt. Governor Wasinger will discuss engaging local communities and stakeholders to promote growth and deliver results across the state.

- **Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll** (10 min)
- **Missouri Lt. Governor David Wasinger** (10 min)

Moderator: **Rhode Island Lt. Governor Sabina Matos** *(to be invited)*

11:00am – 11:30am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Workshop: Your Emergency Response Plan, Day 1

Effective emergency management depends on strong partnerships across all levels of government, and lieutenant governors play a critical role in ensuring communities are prepared for, protected from, and able to recover from disasters and other emergencies. Whether responding to severe weather, public health incidents, infrastructure disruptions, or security threats, seconds-in-command and their staff should be ready to act quickly and coordinate effectively.

Hear from Dawn Brantley, Director of the Massachusetts EMA and an Officer of the National Emergency Management Association, who will share important action steps for seconds-in-command to prepare for and lead disaster response and recovery.

- **Dawn Brantley, JD, CEM, ADAC, Director, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency; Officer, National Emergency Management Association** (15 min)

Moderator: **Massachusetts Lt. Governor Kim Driscoll** *(to be invited)*

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

11:30am – 12:00pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NLGA: The Association to Promote YOU! Upcoming Meetings & Opportunities with NLGA

Upcoming Meetings:

- **2027 Spring Business Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 7-9, 2027** – Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser (4 min)
- **2027 Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, July 14-16, 2027** – Maryland Lt. Governor Aruna Miller (4 min)
- **2027 Winter Meeting, Washington, D.C., December 1-3, 2027** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (2 min)

NLGA Aerospace Committee:

- **Overview and Call for Appointees** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (4 min)
- ***VOTE – 2027 Aerospace Committee Convening, Location TBD, September/October 2027** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (4 min)

NLGA Lt. Governors' STEM Scholarship Program

- **2027 Program Overview** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (8 min)

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

12:00pm – 12:35pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Workshop: Building Your Portfolio of Work as Lieutenant Governor

Lieutenant governors are uniquely positioned to build a portfolio of work that reflects their state's priorities, the needs of constituents and communities, and the responsibilities of the office. Beyond constitutional and statutory duties, lieutenant governors often have opportunities to collaborate with governors, legislatures, state agencies, and community leaders to champion initiatives that align with their policy goals, expertise, and interests.

Hear from Washington Lt. Governor Denny Heck and Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser for their insights on shaping a meaningful and impactful portfolio in office. Lt. Governor Heck presides over the state senate and has official duties in economic development, international relations, housing supply and affordability, and more. Lt. Governor Nungesser oversees the state's Department of Culture, Recreation, and Tourism, advancing the state's tourism industry, supporting emergency preparedness and response efforts, and pursuing other key initiatives.

- **Washington Lt. Governor Denny Heck** (10 min)
- **Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser** (10 min)

Moderator: **Connecticut Lt. Governor Susan Bysiewicz** *(to be invited)*

12:35pm – 1:15pm | Le Meridien, Dolley Madison Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Lunch

All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges.
(Serving: menu TBD)

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

1:15pm – 1:20pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Announcements
• **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

1:20pm – 1:50pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Keynote: Future Energy Needs
Sponsored by: Google
The rapid growth of artificial intelligence, advanced computing, and digital infrastructure is reshaping energy demand across the U.S. As data centers expand and emerging technologies accelerate, governments, utilities, and private industry are exploring innovative approaches to ensure reliable, affordable, and sustainable energy supplies for the future. Hear from Brad Simmons, the US Policy Lead on Energy and Policy at Google, who will discuss how Google is planning for evolving energy needs, and how states can help facilitate development, strengthen energy resilience, and support economic growth.
• **Brad Simmons, US Policy Lead on Energy and Policy, Google** (15 min)
Moderator: **Indiana Lt. Governor Micah Beckwith**

1:50pm – 2:05pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Business Session
• **Membership & Elections Update; Management & Operations Report** – Kellie Rittershausen, NLGA Director (6 min) • **Finance Report**, Maryland Lt. Governor Aruna Miller, NLGA Treasurer (6 min) • ***VOTE: NLGA Executive Committee – Vacancy**, Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman (2 min)
Any NLGA Business Action Items approved in this morning's Executive Committee session will be taken up in this session.
Presiding: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

2:05pm – 2:35pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA Keynote: AI in Action
Artificial intelligence is rapidly transforming the way governments deliver services, manage operations, and engage with constituents. As federal and state leaders continue to explore the opportunities and challenges associated with AI, policymakers are navigating a complex and evolving landscape of innovation, regulation, workforce considerations, privacy protections, and public trust. During this session, Amy Glasscock from the National Association of State Chief Information Officers will discuss AI trends in state government and what's next in AI in 2027.
• **Amy Glasscock, Director, Innovation & Emerging Issues, National Association of State Chief Information Officers** (15 min)
Moderator: **Maryland Lt. Governor Aruna Miller**

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

2:35pm – 2:45pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NO MEDIA

NLGA Consensus Resolutions Final Docket Reading & Votes

NLGA Members and Partners submitted the following Consensus Resolutions for consideration by Members at this Winter Meeting. The deadline to submit Consensus Resolutions for consideration to NLGA Staff was October 23, 2026.

All NLGA Members should review the proposed Resolutions ahead of this hearing. Per the NLGA Bylaws, the Consensus Resolutions docket has been posted for at least 30 days at www.NLGA.us. The full Consensus Resolutions Process and Criteria can be viewed online at any time.

FINAL Consensus Resolutions Docket:

1) NLGA Consensus Resolution Regarding Internships and Mentorships
2) NLGA Consensus Resolution On Hydrogen in Energy Supply
3) NLGA Consensus Resolution in Support of Early Assessments to Prepare Students for Postsecondary Success
4) NLGA Consensus Resolution on Strategic Infrastructure Investment to Lower Housing Construction Costs
5) NLGA Consensus Resolution Recognizing the Economic Contributions of Arts and Culture
6) NLGA Consensus Resolution in Support of the Arts and Creative Arts Therapies to Advance Health and Well-Being

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

2:45pm* – 3:15pm | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room

NLGA Partners Meeting – PARTNERS ONLY

*This meeting will start immediately upon the conclusion of the previous session and may begin earlier or later than 2:45pm.

Presiding: **Pete Bryant, Steller – NLGA Partners Program Chair**

2:45pm – 5:40pm

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.

5:30pm | Lobby, Le Meridien

Load Bus to Evening Event

All registered NLGA meeting attendees should load bus by 5:30pm in the lobby of Le Meridien to depart for the evening event. Bus will depart at 5:35pm. No roll call is taken.
***All attendees MUST wear NLGA security badge to load bus and enter the evening event.**

Thursday, December 3, 2026, *continued*
AGENDA

6:00pm – 7:30pm | President Lincoln's Cottage (140 Rock Creek Church Rd NW, Washington, DC 20011)

NO MEDIA

NLGA Closing Event: Celebrating Courage, Respect, and Thoughtful Compromise at President Lincoln's "Home for Brave Ideas"

All meeting attendees are invited to attend the NLGA Closing Reception at President Lincoln's Cottage, a historic site and museum where President Lincoln made some of his most nation-changing decisions and developed the Emancipation Proclamation.

For over a quarter of his Presidency, Abraham Lincoln lived in his cottage at the Soldiers' Home, where he visited with allies and adversaries, veterans, wounded soldiers, spent time with self-emancipated men, women and children, and developed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Enjoy the exhibits in the Visitors Center, which include a history of the nation's first home for retired and disabled soldiers, Lincoln as the Commander-in-Chief, Wartime Washington, and reflections on grief and loss.

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

Schedule of Activities:

- 5:35pm: Bus departs Le Meridien
- 6:00pm – 6:30pm: Reception; Self-guided exploration of Visitors Center and first floor of Cottage
- 6:30pm: Welcome Remarks from NLGA Chair Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman; A brief reading from the Gettysburg Address from President Lincoln
- 6:40pm – 7:30pm: Buffet Dinner is served on second floor of Cottage
  (Serving: Cauliflower walnut "meat" stuffed peppers, honey roasted chicken breast, roasted salmon with cranberry thyme crust, gremolata potatoes, fall veggie trio, crunchy kale salad, mini desserts)
- 7:30pm: Bus departs Cottage to return to hotel

Friday, December 4, 2026
AGENDA

8:00am – 10:15am | Le Meridien, Outside Montpelier Room
NLGA Registration
Prepared and Staffed by NLGA

8:00am – 9:00am | Le Meridien, Dolley Madison Room
NO MEDIA
NLGA Breakfast
All NLGA Members and registered meeting attendees. Must wear security badges. *(Serving: menu TBD)*

8:00am – 12:00pm| Le Meridien, Outside Montpelier Room
NLGA Media Availability: Share Your Story On Camera! ***Opportunity for NLGA Members (lieutenant governors, seconds-in-command only)***
Provided by our partners in public media, America's Public Television Stations and Maryland Public Television, all attending lieutenant governors/NLGA Members will have an opportunity to be interviewed on-camera to discuss your engagement with NLGA, your priority work as lieutenant governor, and your plans in office in 2027. The interviews will be recorded, packaged, and returned to you for use on your digital and social media channels within about a week, following the meeting. **To participate: Book a 15min block on Friday morning to participate, sessions are first come, first served.** **Click HERE to book your interview session!**

9:00am – 9:30am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NO MEDIA
NLGA Professional Development Workshop: "From Campaigner to Collaborator"
Open to all meeting attendees. NLGA Members and their staff are encouraged to attend!
• **Dr. Kari J. Moe, Senior Fellow, Center for Excellence in Public Leadership, The George Washington University** (30 min)
Moderator: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

9:30am – 9:45am | Le Meridien, Montpelier Room
NLGA General Business Session
• **Remaining Business Items** • **New Business** • **Meeting Adjournment**
Presiding: **Kentucky Lt. Governor Jacqueline Coleman, NLGA Chair**

MEETING ADJOURNS.