



National Lieutenant Governors Association

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What Matters Most Now is What Unites Us – Not What Divides Us **We Are Leaders In and From the States Moving Forward Together**

By: Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (DE - D) & Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser (LA - R)

States have emerged as critical to national leadership. We have seen that collaborative communication among states is an absolute necessity. As leaders in and from the states, we know that what matters most now is what unites us, not what divides us.

What unites us is a health pandemic, a down economy, and a lack of travel. What unites us is a need to take the challenges of this year and make them opportunities. What unites us is a need to expand high speed broadband, to ensure internet access for students and for tele-health to patients, young to old. What unites us is a greater appreciation than ever of front line and essential workers, of farmers who provide our food, and truck drivers who distribute it.

Whether we are in the city or a rural area, we are unified in a need for available and affordable housing. Whether we are in the city or the rural area, we are unified in a need for mobility. Whether we are in the city or a rural area, we are unified in a need to address social disparities.

In our cities, towns, parishes, counties, states, and U.S. territories, we share common challenges. As Americans, we are at our best when we employ innovation, strength and resolve to find - and share with each other - ways to address shared challenges.

“Democracy is not a tearing down; it is a building up,” said U.S. President Calvin Coolidge, the president who also served as a state lieutenant governor. It is simple. It is direct.

As the seconds-in-command in the states and U.S. territories, we will work together on what unites us. As leaders in the states, we are leaders of the nation, and lieutenant governors will work, united and strong, on solutions to common challenges.

Delaware Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D) is Chair of the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) and Louisiana Lt. Governor Billy Nungesser (R) is Immediate Past Chair of NLGA (www.nlga.us). Follow us on Twitter @NLGA.