



National Lieutenant Governors Association

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Lieutenant Governors Promote Economic Development thru Mexico Mission

Two lieutenant governors visited Mexico City in July to promote economic development between the United States and Mexico. Wisconsin Lt. Governor Barbara Lawton and Nevada Lt. Governor Brian Krolicki were representatives of the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) July 5 – 9, 2010, partnering with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) through an agreement with The Council of State Governments (CSG).

The lieutenant governors opened dialogue at the federal, state, and local levels on economic development and energy. “The purpose of this initiative is to promote exchanges between the U.S. states and lieutenant governors and Mexican officials on best practices in energy efficiency, opportunities for expanding renewable energy use, and economic development, in general,” said NLGA Director Julia Hurst.

Lt. Governors Lawton and Krolicki met with U.S. Ambassador to Mexico Carlos Pascual and with Mexico City Mayor Marcelo Ebrard. “The Ambassador shared with the lieutenant governors work of a bi-lateral, presidential-level regulatory task force seeking to harmonize certain standards across the two countries to encourage economic development,” said Hurst. Mayor Ebrard shared stories of the city’s success in implementing Metrobus, a dedicated lane, rapid transport, public bus system recognized internationally for its contributions to sustainability.

All discussions during the exchange centered on the close links between economic growth, competitiveness, sustainable development, and energy and on the roles states may play in these efforts. The lieutenant governors engaged in two days of conversation with high level representatives of Mexico’s Energy Ministry (SENER), the Federal Electricity Commission (CFE), the National Energy Regulatory Commission (CRE), the National Commission for Energy Efficiencies (CONUEE), and Mexico’s Foreign Relations Ministry (SRE).

The delegates also advanced the value of including private sector perspectives in such conversations. At Bayer Mexico, the lieutenant governors were joined by Bayer Mexico executives and a delegation from the Border Legislative Conference (*another CSG partner*) for a roundtable with representatives from Mexico’s Senate Committees for Northern Border Affairs, Environment, and Energy.

NLGA anticipates discussions on this topic will continue through engaged conversation and member participation in upcoming meetings with a state-level best practices exchange to occur possibly in the first quarter of 2011.