

CSG MIDWEST

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



MIDWEST

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WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1933, The Council of State Governments is the nation's largest nonpartisan organization serving all three branches of state elected and appointed officials. CSG's mission is to champion excellence in state government. It offers unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities for state officials to collaborate with and learn from one another, develop their leadership skills, and create problem-solving partnerships.

“

What I have appreciated most about CSG Midwest is the lasting relationships that are built to enhance our ability to serve others.”

– SEN. CAROLYN MCGINN
2022 *Midwestern Legislative Conference Chair*

CSG'S WORK IN THE MIDWEST

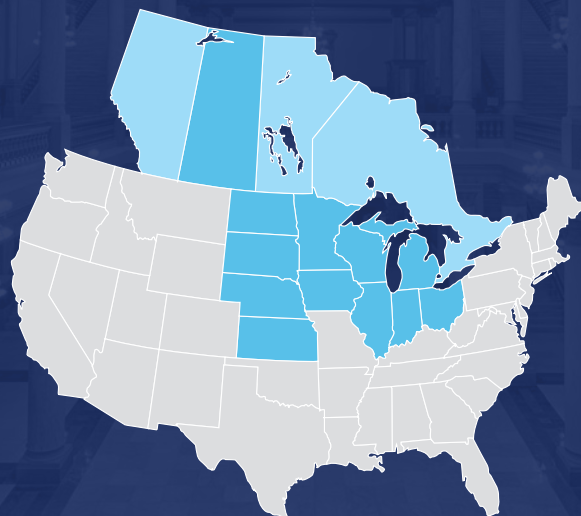
CSG is a region-based national organization. The CSG Midwest office focuses on meeting the needs of state policymakers and leaders from the nation's heartland. CSG Midwest supports several interstate groups of legislators and other state officials. Through its mix of publications, policy research and assistance, and in-person and virtual meetings, CSG Midwest provides a forum for policymakers to share resources, strategies and ideas with counterparts from across the region. In addition, leadership and professional development training is available to help newer state legislators develop the skills they need to be effective state government leaders.

CSG'S MIDWESTERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

A principal objective of CSG Midwest is to support the efforts of the Midwestern Legislative Conference (MLC). The MLC is a nonpartisan association of all legislators representing 11 states and four Canadian provinces (see map).

The purpose of the MLC is to support the work of state and provincial legislators as well as foster cooperation among these policymakers from the Midwestern region.

The MLC provides a forum for the regional exchange of information, innovations and ideas, as well as the pursuit of collaborative efforts among member states and provinces.



- 12** **Member Jurisdictions:** Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Saskatchewan, South Dakota and Wisconsin
- 3** **Affiliate Members:** Alberta, Manitoba and Ontario

MLC POLICY COMMITTEES

CSG Midwest supports six standing policy committees of the Midwestern Legislative Conference. Legislators serve on these regional committees to work together on common issues and to learn from one another as well as leading policy experts.

Agriculture and Rural Affairs

Criminal Justice and Public Safety

Education and Workforce Development

Energy and Environment

Health and Human Services

Midwest-Canada Relations

Each committee meets in conjunction with the Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting, and also keeps legislators informed on key policy trends and developments via virtual meetings, regional research and newsletters.



CSG MIDWEST INTERSTATE WORKING GROUPS

In addition to its work on behalf of the Midwestern Legislative Conference, CSG Midwest provides staff support to several other regional groups of legislators and state officials:

GREAT LAKES-ST. LAWRENCE LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

A nonpartisan, binational organization of state and provincial legislators, the caucus works to assure that the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence River continue to provide a plentiful source of clean, affordable water to the region's residents, businesses and industries. For information, visit greatlakeslegislators.org.

LEGISLATIVE SERVICE AGENCY GROUP

This network of nonpartisan legislative service agency directors and staff facilitates the interstate exchange of information and ideas among participating agencies.

MIDWEST INTERSTATE PASSENGER RAIL COMMISSION

Created by and for Midwestern states, this interstate compact agency promotes, coordinates and supports regional passenger rail improvements and formulates positions on federal rail policy. For information, visit miprc.org.

MIDWESTERN RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

This regional group of state legislators and state emergency, public health, environment and police officials brings stakeholders together with the U.S. Department of Energy to create policy and plan for shipments of radioactive materials through the region.

ANNUAL MEETINGS

The family-friendly Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting features a mix of highly acclaimed speakers, professional development workshops and policy sessions on issues of critical importance to this region. The MLC Annual Meeting will be held July 9-12, 2023, in Detroit and July 21-24, 2024, in Columbus.

“

An informative meeting that will provide you with an opportunity to learn from and engage with your colleagues from around the region.”

– SEN. ELGIE SIMS, JR.
Illinois

The CSG National Conference brings together policymakers from all three branches of state government for conversation, networking and collaboration.

See the calendar insert in the back for a full list of CSG meetings for state legislators and other officials from the Midwest.



LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT AND POLICY TRAINING

The Bowhay Institute for Legislative Leadership Development, or BILLD, is the premier leadership training program for the Midwest's state and provincial legislators.

Held every summer, the five-day institute helps newer legislators (those in their first four years of service) develop the skills necessary to become effective leaders, informed decision-makers and astute policy analysts.

Participants improve their leadership skills and explore the issues of the day with nationally renowned scholars, professional development experts, and legislative leaders and colleagues from across the region.

“

The BILLD program is a tremendous asset for legislators across the Midwest who want to better state government.”

– REP. SUSAN MANCHESTER
Ohio

- **CSG's Henry Toll Fellowship Program** is one of the nation's premier leadership development programs for government officials. The program brings together 48 officials from all three branches of state government for an intensive five-day leadership "boot camp."
- **CSG Midwest's Under the Dome** initiative delivers customized professional development training and policy workshops in the region's capitols.
- **CSG Policy Academies** provide state officials with professional development through policy analysis. These programs provide customized training and a deeper dig into critical policy topics facing the states.
- **CSG's 20 Under 40 Leadership Award** recognizes the outstanding work of 20 up-and-coming state officials from across the country who not only exemplify strong leadership skills, but have also demonstrated a true commitment to serving the citizens of their state.

CSG POLICY RESOURCES

REGIONAL AND NATIONAL PUBLICATIONS

Stateline Midwest explores key policies and trends in the Midwest, includes profiles of legislative leaders, and examines important institutional issues impacting the region's state governments and legislatures.

CSG Capitol Ideas serves as a resource for state leaders by providing in-depth analysis of topics and trends in public service, as well as profiling state leaders.

The Book of the States has been the reference tool of choice ever since first being published in 1935. It offers thorough reviews and insights of key issues to help state leaders navigate the world of public policy, while also including relevant, accurate and timely information for all 56 U.S. states, commonwealths and territories.



ONLINE RESOURCES

- **CSG Midwest News & Research**
coverage of key issues in state government and the Midwest
csgmidwest.org/news
- **CSG's Shared State Legislation**
an annual volume that is published online (for dissemination to state leaders and staff) and is the result of a member-driven process and review
ssl.csg.org
- **CSG Midwest and CSG Events Calendar**
a list of all events (virtual and in-person) that allow attendees to share ideas and learn from leading policy experts
csgmidwest.org/events and csg.org
- **State Talk**
the latest news, analysis and content from The Council of State Governments
csg.org/state-talk/

CSG POLICY CENTERS

- **The CSG Center of Innovation** empowers state government leaders by providing evidence-based, nonpartisan assessments of existing legislative and regulatory efforts and by identifying best practices and future opportunities to address policy challenges. Visit csg.org/work/ to learn more.
- **The CSG Justice Center** develops research-driven strategies to increase public safety and strengthen communities. The Justice Center has worked in every state to further bipartisan, data-driven efforts to increase public safety and strengthen communities. Visit csgjusticecenter.org to learn more.
- **CSG's National Center for Interstate Compacts** serves as an information clearinghouse, a provider of training and technical assistance, and a primary facilitator in assisting states with the revision and creation of new interstate compacts. It builds on CSG's long history of promoting multi-state problem solving. Visit csg.org/work/ to learn more.
- **CSG's Policy Research Team** conducts high-quality data collection and analysis on priority policy areas. CSG also conducts customized, ad-hoc research on a wide-range of policy topic areas in response to member requests. Visit csg.org to learn more. CSG Midwest provides individualized research assistance as well. Requests for information can be made by emailing csgm@csg.org.



HOW CAN I MAKE THE MOST OF CSG AND CSG MIDWEST?

COLLABORATE: Join fellow policymakers at the Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting, the CSG National Conference, and other CSG-led events to learn from and network with colleagues.

ENGAGE: Participate in the Midwestern Legislative Conference policy committees or other CSG Midwest interstate groups for legislators and state officials.

CONNECT: Take part in CSG's regularly held virtual sessions that cover a wide array of topics on public policy, leadership and professional development.

LEARN: We regularly write about key issues and trends impacting the region and state government. Read CSG publications such as *Stateline Midwest*, *Capitol Ideas* and *The Book of the States*.

RELY ON US: As a trusted source for information and individualized research assistance, CSG policy staff is always available to help.

STAY IN TOUCH: Get the latest news and events.



Visit csgmidwest.org



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The national CSG office is located in Lexington, KY. CSG has regional offices in Atlanta, Chicago (Lombard, IL), New York and Sacramento. It also has an office in Washington, D.C.





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