

A PARTNERSHIP OF:

JULY 18 - 22, 2015 | SAVANNAH, GEORGIA



SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Georgia General Assembly



Welcome to

SAVANNAH

We're glad you have Georgia on your mind



Southern Legislative Conference
of The Council of State Governments
PO Box 98129 | Atlanta, GA 30359
(404) 633-1866
www.slcatlanta.org



69TH ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE



About the Annual Meeting

LOCATIONS

SLC committee meetings and workshops will be held at the Hyatt Regency Savannah and the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center, except where noted otherwise.

The SLC/Mark Norris Campaign Against Hunger Food Packaging Event will take place at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday in the West Room of the Harborside Center, at the River Street level of the Hyatt Regency Savannah.

The Joint Committee Technical Tour will begin at 11:30 a.m. on Tuesday in the West Room of the Harborside Center, at the River Street level of the Hyatt Regency Savannah. Meanwhile, the Agriculture & Rural Development Committee Technical Tour and International Paper Technical Tour will depart immediately at 11:30 a.m. from River Street.

ATTIRE

Attire for committee meetings is business casual. Attire for family and guest activities is casual unless otherwise indicated. Attire for the State Dinner is business formal.

ETHICS

The ethics laws in some states prohibit or limit the value of gifts to legislators and legislative staff. If it is a violation of your state's ethics laws to accept or use any of these gifts, you may return them or pass them along.

CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION (CLE)

Attending substantive committee sessions may qualify for Continuing Legal Education credits for state government officials in SLC member states. Substantive committee sessions are identified with a superscript ^{CLE} following the session title. Forms and instructions are available at the CLE table, located on the Lobby Level of the Hyatt Regency Savannah near Annual Meeting Registration. For additional details, contact Lauren Greer in the SLC Policy Staff Office (Verelst Room) or at lgreer@csg.org.



DIRECTORY

Main Phone Line..... (912) 421-5100

Hyatt Regency Savannah

2 West Bay Street..... (912) 238-1234

Andaz Savannah

14 Barnard Street..... (912) 233-2116

DoubleTree Savannah Historic District

411 West Bay Street..... (912) 790-7000

Hampton Inn Savannah Historic District

201 East Bay Street (912) 231-9700

Hilton Garden Inn Historic District

321 West Bay Street..... (912) 721-5000

Holiday Inn Express Historic District

199 East Bay Street (912) 231-9000

Staybridge Suites Savannah Historic District

301 East Bay Street (912) 721-9000

HYATT REGENCY SAVANNAH

Annual Meeting Registration	Lobby Level
Transportation	Scarborough Ballroom
Host State Staff Office	Scarborough Ballroom
SLC Staff Offices	Sloane Room Vernon Room
Guest Lounge	Savannah Room
Youth Activity Center	East Room, Harborside Center

OPEN MEETINGS

All publicized SLC committee sessions are open to all registrants regardless of formal committee appointments or affiliations.

ALCOHOL

The Council of State Governments advocates responsible consumption of alcohol and use of designated drivers by all participants at CSG functions.

Meeting at a Glance

DAY	SATURDAY JULY 18	SUNDAY JULY 19
REG.	7:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration Hyatt Regency Lobby	7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration Hyatt Regency Lobby
MORNING	9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Legislative Staff Workshop 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. CSG Policy Academy Innovative Delivery Models in Postsecondary Education	8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Committee Breakfasts AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS EDUCATION 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. SLC/MARK NORRIS CAMPAIGN AGAINST HUNGER
MIDDAY		noon - 1:30 p.m. LEGISLATIVE FISCAL PLENARY LUNCHEON
AFTERNOON	3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. Executive Committee Session	2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Nominating Committee for Conference Officers 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Committee Programs ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT HUMAN SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY
EVENING	7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. "TASTE OF SAVANNAH" OPENING RECEPTION	5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Center for the Advancement of Leadership Skills Alumni Reception 7:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. FAMILY NIGHT AT GEORGIA STATE RAILROAD MUSEUM ROUNDHOUSE

Meeting at a Glance

MONDAY JULY 20	TUESDAY JULY 21
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Registration Hyatt Regency Lobby	8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. Registration Hyatt Regency Lobby
8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. Committee Breakfasts FISCAL AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS HUMAN SERVICES & PUBLIC SAFETY	8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m. CLOSING PLENARY & BUSINESS BREAKFAST SESSION
10:00 a.m. - noon OPENING PLENARY SESSION	Executive Committee Session Meets upon adjournment of the Closing Plenary
noon - 1:30 p.m. Comparative Data Reports Presentations FISCAL AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS	11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Technical Tours
noon - 2:00 p.m. Committee Luncheons EDUCATION ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT	noon - 3:30 p.m. State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) Program Selection Panel
3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Committee Programs AGRICULTURE & RURAL DEVELOPMENT ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, TRANSPORTATION & CULTURAL AFFAIRS	
5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. Policy Positions Committee	6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. "GEORGIA ON MY MIND" CLOSING RECEPTION & STATE DINNER
9:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. KENTUCKY KICK-OFF RECEPTION	WEDNESDAY JULY 22 DEPARTURES (no meetings)

69TH ANNUAL MEETING *of the*
SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Sunday, July 19

5:30 p.m. -
6:30 p.m.

**CENTER FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF
LEADERSHIP SKILLS ALUMNI RECEPTION**

Plimsoll Room
Hyatt Regency Savannah



center for the advancement of leadership skills

Leadership Program of the Southern Legislative Conference held at
The University of Arkansas System Winthrop Rockefeller Institute

**Now accepting applications for the Class of 2015,
meeting October 7-11, 2015, in Little Rock, Arkansas**

For more information, contact Lori Moore, Director of Programs &
Operations, at (404) 633-1866 or lmoore@csg.org, or visit our website
at www.slcatlanta.org/CALS.

7:00 p.m. -
10:00 p.m.

**FAMILY NIGHT at
GEORGIA STATE
RAILROAD MUSEUM
ROUNDHOUSE**



*The Premier Public Policy
Forum for Southern
State Legislatures*

Monday, July 20

8:00 a.m. -
3:00 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Hyatt Regency Lobby

8:00 a.m. -
9:30 a.m.

**FISCAL AFFAIRS & GOVERNMENT
OPERATIONS COMMITTEE BREAKFAST ^{CLE}**

Presiding: Senator Roman Prezioso,
West Virginia; Committee Chair

Rooms 203-205

Savannah International Trade & Convention Center

Public Pension Environment:

Trends from the States

The challenges associated with public pensions continue, and states constantly are pursuing mechanisms to enhance the funding positions of their pension and retiree healthcare systems. This session features a review of measures enacted to address the low American savings rate, with details on the Illinois Secure Choice Savings Program, as well as a sweep of the latest trends associated with public pension plans, including state rankings for funding positions and strategies enacted by states to achieve their status.

*Senator Dan Biss, Illinois
Paula Sanford, Ph.D., Carl Vinson
Institute, University of Georgia*

**How and Why Do the Ratings Agencies
Arrive at Different Conclusions?**

In recent years, a number of analysts and researchers from the three major rating agencies have raised awareness of the wide discrepancies in the credit ratings provided by these agencies to municipal governments. This session features explanations of the factors driving these widely disparate ratings reports, insights on the restructured methodologies adopted by some of the rating agencies, how policymakers should interpret these different ratings reports and other related details.

*Alan Schankel, Janney Montgomery
Scott LLC, Pennsylvania*

69TH ANNUAL MEETING *of the* SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Tuesday, July 21

11:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. **TECHNICAL TOURS (continued)**
International Paper: Savannah Mill
 Departs from River Street, lower level of the Hyatt Regency Savannah; casual attire; lunch is provided; space limited to 14
 International Paper's Savannah mill plays a key role in the city's economy by providing nearly 700 well-paying manufacturing jobs and products essential to the region and the world. This Technical Tour ties together the economic scale of the industry, its relationship to the community and state, and provides a variety of policy perspectives.

noon - 3:30 p.m. **STAR PROGRAM JUDGES PANEL** ^{CLE}
Rooms 200-202
Savannah International Trade & Convention Center
 The SLC State Transformation in Action Recognition (STAR) Program identifies and promotes innovative ideas and programs from the Southern region's best problem solvers: the states themselves. The recognition is sought by a wide array of state agencies, departments, and institutions operating within the executive, legislative, and judicial government branches. Each year, two exceptional programs are selected by a panel of experienced policy professionals as models of efficiency and effectiveness in state government in the Southern region. The six semi-finalists presenting include:
VIRGINIA - *Vital Records*
FLORIDA - *School Nursing Beyond Boundaries*
GEORGIA - *Cyber Forensic Department*
GEORGIA - *Magistrate Courts Free Forms Generator*
OKLAHOMA - *Collector App for Wildfires*
ALABAMA - *Consolidation of Law Enforcement Agencies*

6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **"GEORGIA ON MY MIND" CLOSING RECEPTION & STATE DINNER**
Chatham Ballroom
Savannah International Trade & Convention Center



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SLC Staff / Host State Committee

STAFF OF THE SOUTHERN LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

Colleen Cousineau	SLC Director; Deputy Executive Director, The Council of State Governments
Sujit M. CanagaRetna	Fiscal Policy Manager
Mikko Lindberg	Policy Analyst
Lori Moore	Director of Operations and Programs
Lauren Greer	Policy Analyst
Anne Roberts	Policy Analyst
Stephanie Noble	Research and Publications Associate
Lily Schieber	Administrative Coordinator
Neil Johnson	Operations Coordinator

69TH ANNUAL MEETING ADJUNCT STAFF

Susan Lanter	The Council of State Governments
Joan Minton	Consultant

HOST STATE COMMITTEE

Senate	House
Senate President Pro Tem David Shafer Co-Chair	Speaker David Ralston Co-Chair
Senator Steve Gooch	Representative Bob Bryant
Senator Lester Jackson	Representative Jon Burns
Senator Jeff Mullis	Representative Terry L. England
Senator Ben Watson	Representative Craig Gordon
	Representative Bill Hitchens
	Representative Jesse Petrea
	Representative Mickey Stephens
	Representative Ron Stephens

DIRECTOR OF HOST STATE CONFERENCE PLANNING

Kristy Lindstrom	Georgia House of Representatives
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