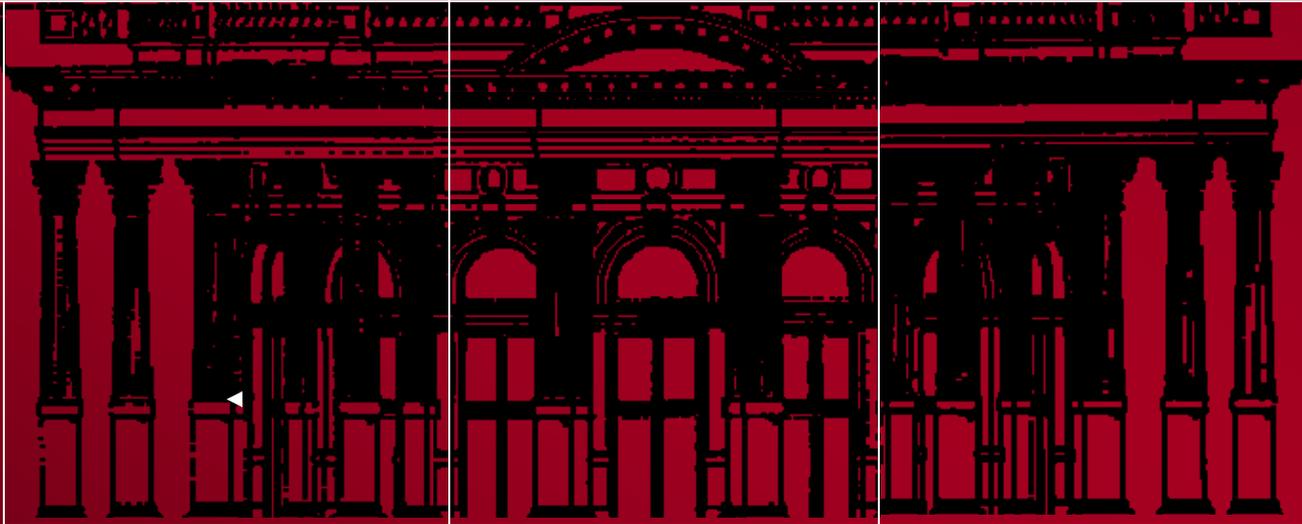




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The Forum for America's Ideas

**State-Tribal Institute
Project Activities**



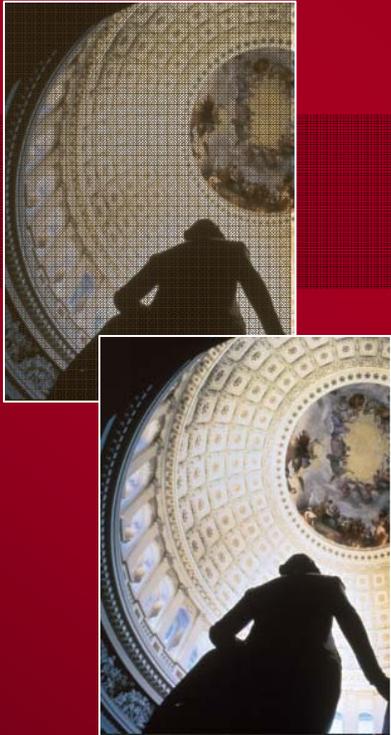
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Overview

The National Conference of State Legislatures is a bipartisan organization that serves the legislators and staffs of the nation's 50 states, its commonwealths and territories.

NCSL provides research, technical assistance and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on the most pressing state issues. NCSL is an effective and respected advocate for the interests of state governments before Congress and federal agencies.



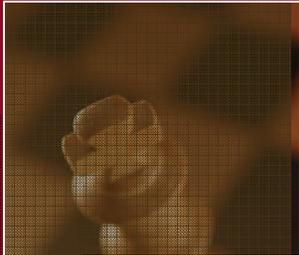
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Overview

NCSL is a bipartisan organization founded to:

- ~To improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures;
- ~To promote policy innovation and communication among state legislatures;
- ~To ensure state legislatures a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system.

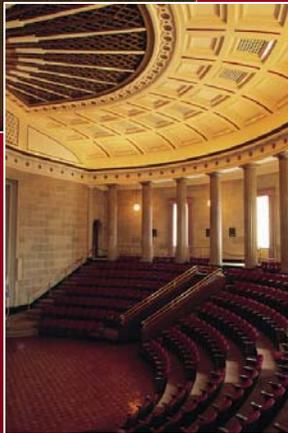
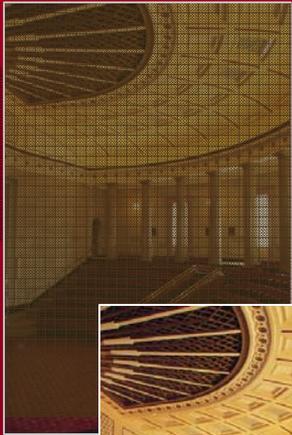


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NCSL State-Tribal Institute

- Promotes cooperative policy development and government-to-government interactions between the state legislatures and tribal governments.
- Provides technical assistance, research, publications and educational meetings to facilitate state-tribal cooperation.
- Provides policy and staff support to the National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL)



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National Caucus of Native American State Legislators (NCNASL)

The National Caucus of Native American State Legislators formerly the National Council of Native American Legislators was formed in 1992 and has met at NCSL meetings whenever possible. The Caucus currently consists of 80 members and their goals include:

- Providing a forum for discussion and increased communication;
- Increasing awareness of the diverse cultures in the United States;
- Supporting the establishment and maintenance of state-tribal communications to encourage open dialogue, understanding and cooperation; and
- Acting as an advisory body for NCSL on issues affecting Native Americans, Native Alaskans & Native Hawaiians.

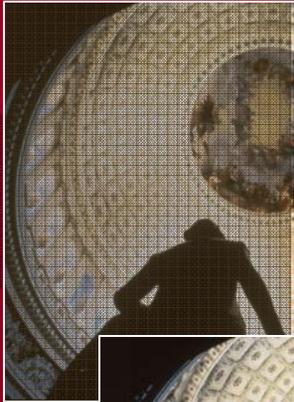


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The State Legislative Role

- State policy through informed legislation
- Establishment of mechanisms for state-tribal relations
 - State Legislative Committees - 15 states addressing Indian issues
 - Act as a liaison between the legislature and tribal governments
 - Committee that is a joint undertaking between the state and the tribes

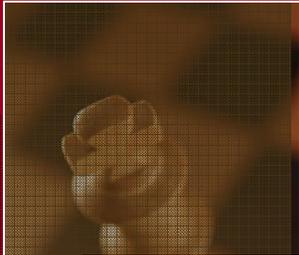


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State Commissions and Offices

- Approx. 34 states have an executive branch office or commission
 - Liaison between state and tribes
 - Varying roles and structure
 - Typically review and facilitate tribal comments on proposed legislation or policy
 - Assess needs of AI community
 - Serve as clearinghouse on issues



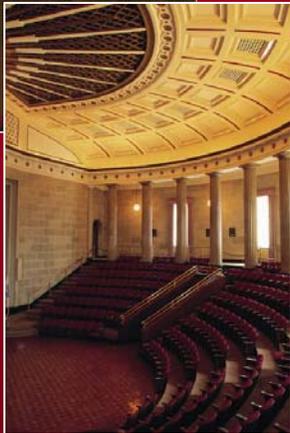
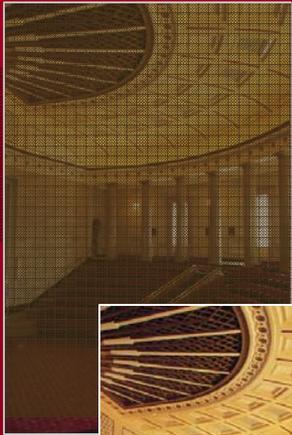
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Gov't-to-Gov't Agreements

- Recent years establishment of guiding principles for a government -to-government relationship between the state executive branches and tribes

- Examples - Centennial Accord (Washington); Alaska Millennium Agreement

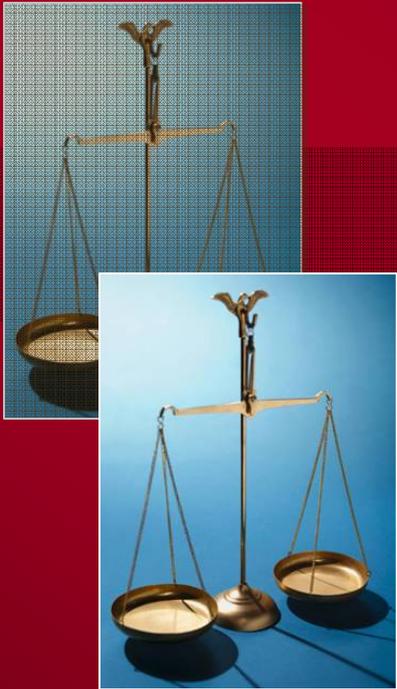


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Training for Legislators and Tribal Leaders

- **101 Trainings for leaders and staff**
- **Roundtables bringing together leaders**
- **State- and tribe-specific information**
- **New leader orientation**
- **Include social functions**
- **Issue specific training for leaders**



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