

Economic Development and Revitalization Task Force



Governor Andy Beshear
Co-Chair
Kentucky



Governor Henry McMaster
Co-Chair
South Carolina

Members

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Alaska
Governor John Carney
Delaware
Governor Lou Leon Guerrero
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Governor Kevin Stitt
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Governor Pedro Pierluisi
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Governor Jay Inslee
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OUR JURISDICTION

The Economic Development and Revitalization Task Force has jurisdiction over a broad range of issue areas including Infrastructure, Broadband, State Stabilization, Energy, Environment, Land Management, and Taxes.

OUR PRIORITIES

Safeguarding federal funds for state stabilization, infrastructure, and water resources;

Economic Development Administration reauthorization and strengthening public financing;

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) implementation;

CHIPS and Science Act implementation; and

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) implementation (providing guidance on federal implementation, including the fair and appropriate use of drought relief funding).

OUR WORK

Infrastructure Advocacy and Implementation

The [Economic Development and Revitalization Task Force's](#) work is a continuation of Governors' efforts to highlight infrastructure needs across the country: In 2019, Governors adopted [NGA's Principles for National Infrastructure Investment](#), spelling out four main areas of focus, and the following year, [Governor Hogan's Chair's Initiative](#) built on that framework and worked on a bipartisan basis to provide further [policy recommendations](#). With the enactment of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, NGA continues to provide [technical assistance and resources](#) to Governors.

Governors' Actions to Accelerate Infrastructure Projects

At the Annual Meeting in July 2023, NGA [hosted a policy discussion](#) on how Governors can safely speed up the process to deliver energy and infrastructure benefits nationwide. The session was led by Task Force members North Carolina Governor Cooper and Oklahoma Governor Stitt and featured Calvin Butler, President and CEO of Exelon, Steve Woerner, New England President of National Grid, and Tony Lewis, Regional Vice President of Verizon. Governors had a robust discussion on solutions to streamline the permitting process, address legal challenges, increase community engagement, and tackle procurement issues to deliver infrastructure projects more quickly.

Permitting Reform Advocacy

In June 2023, NGA convened the first of two virtual infrastructure project [permitting workshops](#). This session provided participants an opportunity to share challenges and best practices to improve permitting and project delivery outcomes. This workshop built on the work of NGA's Energy and Infrastructure Working Group, which was comprised of nine bipartisan Governors and led by NGA Vice Chair Utah Governor Spencer Cox and Louisiana Governor John Bel Edwards. The working group engaged the Biden administration at a principal level and produced a [bipartisan permitting vision](#) to accelerate project delivery. Many of the Working Group's recommendations were incorporated into the [debt ceiling agreement](#). The working group has passed future work and advocacy on permitting reform to the Task Force.

CHIPS and Science Act Implementation

In July 2022, NGA successfully advocated for the passage and enactment of the [Creating Helpful Incentives to Produce Semiconductors \(CHIPS\) for America Act of 2022](#), which provides \$52 billion for semiconductor research and manufacturing and was a [federal priority](#) for Governors. Since passage, NGA has [hosted briefings and provided resources](#) to states and territories as they work to compete for and implement CHIPS funding.

ARPA State and Local Flexibility Advocacy

After more than a year of advocacy, NGA successfully secured the inclusion and passage of the bipartisan [State, Local Tribal, and Territorial Fiscal Recovery, Infrastructure, and Disaster Relief Flexibility Act](#), which was introduced by Senator John Cornyn and Senator Alex Padilla, in the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2023 and recently [implemented](#) by the U.S. Department of Treasury. This measure provides additional flexibility for transportation and disaster relief under the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds that were included in the American Rescue Plan Act. The Task Force played a leading role in supporting the negotiations and worked tirelessly for its year-end adoption in the spending agreement.