



NATIONAL CONFERENCE *of* STATE LEGISLATURES

NCSL LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT 2009

Convention Center – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – July 20-24, 2009

Don't Miss the Issue Forum on Children and Disasters

Children and Disasters: How Can States Meet Their Unique Needs?

Co-hosted by the National Commission on Children and Disasters

Thursday, July 23rd, 3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Room 108-A/B

Philadelphia Convention Center

Join members of the National Commission on Children and Disasters for an in-depth discussion on the role state lawmakers can play in developing disaster preparedness, response and recovery policies for children. The Commission is independent and bi-partisan, tasked with identifying gaps and providing recommendations to President Obama and Congress.

Moderator: NCSL Vice President Senator Richard Moore, Massachusetts
Chairman, Executive Committee Task Force on Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness

Co-Hosts: Mark K. Shriver, Chairperson
National Commission on Children and Disasters
Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie, Nevada
Member, National Commission on Children and Disasters

The Commission is developing recommendations on a wide range of issues and is seeking substantive input from state legislators on the following:

- Establishing child care licensure requirements that ensure robust emergency preparedness and response plans for shelter-in-place, evacuation, communication, family reunification and considerations for children with special needs;
- Implementing continuity of operations plans within foster care, group residential homes and juvenile detention facilities that provide adequate shelter and services to children during and after a disaster;
- Improving school disaster preparedness and building the resilience of teachers, parents and children;
- Ensuring state and local emergency stockpiles include sufficient amounts of pediatric supplies and medications, including antivirals to treat influenza in the event of a pandemic; and
- Requiring development of comprehensive long-term disaster recovery plans that prioritize the re-establishment of schools and child care facilities, supervised after-school programs, and access to medical care and mental health services for all children.