
NEWS RELEASE

**Louisiana
Department of State**



**Tom Schedler
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SCHEDLER IN LINE TO LEAD NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

BATON ROUGE, La.—Louisiana Secretary of State Tom Schedler is quickly ascending in the ranks of the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS). During its annual Winter Conference, NASS President Tre Hargett of Tennessee appointed Schedler to serve as Treasurer, placing him in line to assume the presidency of the organization in 2015-16. Schedler has been serving as the Secretary of NASS since 2013.

“Tom has established great working relationships with members from across the country and is viewed as a mentor and valued resource for guidance and information,” said NASS President Tre Hargett. “Many of the innovative initiatives being implemented in Louisiana including the award-winning GeauxVote Mobile app, online voter registration and emergency preparedness as it relates to elections are of great interest to other Secretaries of State and their staffs. One of Tom’s best assets is his willingness to share those ideas and information for the betterment of all.”

“I am certainly humbled to be recognized by my colleagues with this leadership role,” said Secretary Schedler. “It is a testament to Louisiana’s robust election laws as well as our focus on serving the business community through our Commercial Division. I look forward to this experience as a way to enhance our state’s efforts through sharing best practices and building relationships across the country.”

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The national officers serving on the NASS Executive Board through July, 2014 include:

President: Hon. Tre Hargett, Tennessee

President-elect: Hon. Kate Brown, Oregon

Immediate Past President: Hon. Ross Miller, Nevada

Treasurer: Hon. Tom Schedler, Louisiana

Secretary: Hon. Jason Gant, South Dakota

Eastern Region Vice-President: Hon. Jim Condos, Vermont

Southern Region Vice-President: Hon. Natalie Tennant, West Virginia

Midwestern Region Vice-President: Hon. Connie Lawson, Indiana

Western Region Vice-President: Hon. Kim Wyman, Washington

Member-at-Large (ACR Section): Hon. Matt Dunlap, Maine

Member-at-Large (NPA Section): Hon. Mark Martin, Arkansas

Also highlighted during the winter conference was a report on State Laws & Practices for the Emergency Management of Elections presented by a task force of secretaries of state and elections officials from 24 states including Louisiana. Secretary Schedler co-chaired the task force sharing our state's expertise in dealing with elections post-Katrina. Schedler was quoted in a *Politico* article focusing on the report saying in most cases, states can adapt many of their existing elections systems in case of emergency.

“One of the most surprising findings of the task force may be the degree to which states told us they can use their existing absentee, mail and early voting processes to facilitate voting when unforeseen emergencies arise,” Schedler said in the article. “We hope that election officials can learn from each other and use the report to help with their proactive emergency and contingency planning efforts.”

NASS is the oldest, nonpartisan professional organization of public officials in the U.S. Members include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa and Puerto Rico. NASS serves as a medium for the exchange of information between states and fosters cooperation in the development of public policy. The association has key initiatives in the areas of elections and voting, state business services and digital archiving, international relations and state securities regulation, as well as several well-established awards programs.

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