



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Michigan Congressmen John Conyers, Vernon Ehlers to Address Nation's Chief State Election Officials at NASS 2008 Summer Conference

National Association of Secretaries of State Meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan

Washington, DC—The National Association of Secretaries of State today announced that Michigan Congressmen John Conyers, Jr. and Vernon Ehlers will address its members at 1:45 PM on Sunday, July 27 at the association's summer meeting at the Amway Grand Plaza in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Conyers, a Detroit Democrat who is chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and Ehlers, a Grand Rapids Republican who is ranking member of the House Administration Committee, will appear before the NASS Elections Committee to discuss congressional perspectives on election reform and issues related to the 2008 presidential election.

"We are looking forward to hearing from Congressmen Conyers and Ehlers, two of Michigan's senior statesmen," said NASS President Todd Rokita, Indiana Secretary of State. "While their views are very different, both men are actively engaged in the national debate over election administration in the states and the role of the federal government in such matters. My colleagues and I hope their attendance at this conference will allow us to share our priorities and make an impact on legislative decision-making at the highest levels of Congress."

This summer's NASS conference, hosted by Michigan Secretary of State Terri Lynn Land, will bring together more than thirty secretaries of state to discuss the 2008 election cycle, fraud and law enforcement issues related to the state company formation process, federal government support for cash-strapped state museums and archives, and other topics of interest to members. Sessions will feature leading academics, voter advocates, federal agency officials and congressional staff.

The conference will also include sessions aimed at the core mission of NASS: to promote better government through sharing best practices, lessons learned and case studies from states. Members will showcase their innovative state practices related to voter participation and election administration, international relations, Web sites and business services.

Additional highlights include:

University of Michigan Professor Michael Traugott will discuss "Polling & the 2008 Presidential Election" as part of the NASS Subcommittee on Presidential Primaries session on Saturday, July 26 from 10:45 AM to 12:00 PM.

WOOD-TV (Grand Rapids) Political Report Rick Albin will serve as keynote speaker at the NASS New Officers Luncheon on Monday, July 28 from 12:00 PM to 1:45 PM.

States will discuss innovative voter participation and election administration practices related to audits, photo ID requirements, military voters, voter registration, and more on Monday, July 28 from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

Full agenda online: www.nass.org.

WHAT: National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) 2008 Summer Conference

WHEN: July 25-28, 2008

WHERE: Amway Grand Plaza, 187 Monroe, NW, Grand Rapids, MI

TO CONFIRM ATTENDANCE: Contact Kay Stimson at 202.624.3528. Valid media credentials required for admittance.

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