



GREAT LAKES  
LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS

**Date:** April 26, 2012

**To:** Members and Friends of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus

**From:** Lisa Janairo, Senior Policy Analyst  
The Council of State Governments, Midwestern Office

**Re:** **Great Lakes Legislative Caucus Meeting on July 13-14 in Cleveland, Ohio**

On behalf of Caucus Chair Senator Ann Rest from Minnesota, I invite you to attend the **next meeting of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus**, which will be held at the **Renaissance Cleveland Hotel on Friday and Saturday, July 13-14, 2012**. Our preliminary agenda will feature guest presentations on some of the most important issues confronting state and provincial policymakers in the Great Lakes Basin, including the following topics:

- Implementing the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact and Sustainable Water Resources Agreement
- Federal Efforts to Protect and Restore the Great Lakes
- The Great Lakes Century — A 100-Year Vision for the Great Lakes and St. Lawrence Region
- Aquatic Invasive Species: Success Stories and Emerging Threats
- Educating the Region's Youth about the Great Lakes

In addition, the agenda includes an optional **site visit on the afternoon of Friday, July 13**, to give attendees an opportunity to learn about the Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District's plan for addressing the problem of combined sewer overflows (CSOs) and to observe projects in progress, with a special emphasis on how the District will use "green infrastructure" to reduce CSOs. A preliminary agenda and registration form for the meeting are enclosed.

The Caucus's meeting will take place in the same location as the **67th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Legislative Caucus (MLC)** on July 15-18. For more information on the upcoming four-day MLC event, visit the CSG Midwest website at [www.csgmidwest.org](http://www.csgmidwest.org).

**Registration and Travel Reimbursement**

Registration for the GLLC meeting is **free for state and provincial legislators**. In addition, **travel reimbursement** is available for the first 40 legislators who register before the **June 11 deadline**. **Please note the following conditions:**

- **Legislators will be reimbursed for their actual travel and lodging expenses related to attending the GLLC meeting (up to \$800) on a first-come, first-served basis, based on date of registration.**

*(over)*

- **Reimbursements are limited to the first 40 legislators who register before the June 11 deadline, including up to four from each state and province.**
- **Reimbursement of expenses is subject to approval of qualified expenses.**

If you plan to participate in both the Caucus meeting and the MLC meeting, you will need to register for both meetings by **Monday, June 11**. Please note that **there is a registration fee for attending the MLC annual meeting**. Visit the CSG Midwest website ([www.csghmidwest.org](http://www.csghmidwest.org)) to register for the MLC meeting.

### **Hotel Reservations**

To reserve a hotel room at the **Renaissance Cleveland Hotel**, please contact the hotel directly at **877.901.6632** before the **June 11 deadline**. You may also book your reservation online by visiting the GLLC website at [www.greatlakeslegislators.org](http://www.greatlakeslegislators.org). When you make your reservation, be sure to mention that you will be attending the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus/Midwestern Legislative Conference Annual Meeting to receive the group rate of **\$129 per night**.

### **About the Caucus**

As a reminder, the purpose of the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus is to strengthen the collective role of state and provincial legislators in the Great Lakes-related policymaking process and to promote the protection and restoration of our region's greatest natural resource. The July meeting will be the 10th meeting of our nonpartisan network of state and provincial legislators representing the eight U.S. states and two Canadian provinces that compose the Great Lakes Basin. Participation is open to any legislator in the region who shares an interest in the health and future of the Great Lakes. Staff support to the Great Lakes Legislative Caucus is provided by the Midwestern Office of The Council of State Governments with grant funding from the Joyce Foundation.

Whether you are a regular participant in Caucus events or are considering attending for the first time, I hope you will join us for what promises to be an informative and productive event. If you have any questions about the July 13-14 meeting, please feel free to call me at 920.458.5910 or e-mail me at [ljanairo@csg.org](mailto:ljanairo@csg.org).

I hope to see you in Cleveland this summer.

### **Enclosures**

