## Current and Previous State Governors Who Have Served as ECS Chair Since 1965 (including biographies)

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### 2011-13 – John Hickenlooper

A geologist-turned brewpub pioneer who had never run for political office before running for Denver Mayor in 2003, Hickenlooper was elected Governor of Colorado on Nov. 2, 2010. One of the first commitments Hickenlooper made as Mayor was to visit all 151 schools in the Denver Public Schools system. He made good on that promise and helped forge a strong relationship between the City and the school district. In 2005, after serving only two years as mayor, Time Magazine placed him among the top five "big-city" mayors in the country. In 2008, Hickenlooper brought a new level of attention to the Mile High City, successfully marketing Denver as an ideal place to host the 2008 Democratic National Convention. And his most ambitious campaign, his mission to reduce
homelessness in Denver, saw great success. Denver’s Road Home provides employment assistance and housing for the homeless. The success of this program became a model for other cities, illustrating how they can combat homelessness within the inner city.

Overall, his tireless efforts to improve the city of Denver paid off. Despite shrinking budgets and managing the city through two national recessions, a recent citizen survey found that Denver’s overall community quality rating improved to 86% in 2010 from 78% in 2002. Hickenlooper ran for Governor of Colorado on a jobs creation and economic development platform. In using his experience as a jobs creator and consensus builder in government, he wants to increase opportunity for the people of Colorado. And perhaps most importantly, he has a track record of bringing people together to solve problems instead of stoking the same old partisan squabbles.

2008-10 – Tim Pawlenty

Tim Pawlenty was first elected governor of Minnesota in 2002, with the state facing a $4.5 billion budget deficit — the largest in state history. Just months after Pawlenty took office, the legislature adopted his plan to eliminate the deficit without raising taxes. In 2005 and 2007, Governor Pawlenty balanced the state budget again without raising taxes.

Besides bringing Minnesota from historic budget crisis to financial security, Pawlenty fought for and oversaw passage of a dramatic overhaul and improvement of the state's education standards; a significant increase in K-12 education spending along with a nation-leading teacher performance pay program; health care reforms that led to a zero percent premium increase in the state insurance program; significant welfare reform; a range of new government efficiency initiatives; and a doubling of the state's ethanol standard to increase use of renewable fuels and reduce dependence on foreign oil.

Pawlenty grew up in South St. Paul, Minnesota. The only child in his family to graduate from college, he attended the University of Minnesota and practiced law in the private sector. His public service career includes serving as a city councilmember and ten-year member of the Minnesota House of Representatives, including four years as House Majority Leader. He serves as Chair of the National Governors Association and on the National Infrastructure Advisory Council, the Achieve Inc. Board of Directors and the James B. Hunt Jr. Institute Board of Directors. He is a former chair of the Midwestern Governors Association and the Governors Ethanol Coalition.

Governor Pawlenty and his wife, Mary have two daughters.

2006-08 – Kathleen Sebelius

Governor Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas is ECS' 2006-08 chair. Through her initiative, Great Teachers for Tomorrow, ECS will create a series of resources policymakers and education leaders can use in their states to create and maintain the types of positive working conditions that will contribute to teachers retention and student success.

Kathleen Sebelius was sworn in as the 44th Governor of Kansas in January 2003, and just under three years later, Time magazine named her one of the nation’s top five governors, citing her work to cut waste in government and bridge the partisan divide. Governor Sebelius was reelected to a second term in 2006.

A hallmark of Sebelius’ first term was the historic commitment made to Kansas schoolchildren, as well as audits to ensure those resources were being spent effectively. She also led efforts to create jobs and improve the safety and security of Kansans. These initiatives continue in her second term, with helping more families afford health insurance and taking advantage of Kansas’ opportunities in renewable energy being key priorities as well.
Along with chairing ECS, in 2006, Governor Sebelius was elected chair of the Democratic Governors’ Association. She also chairs the Governor’s Ethanol Coalition and serves on the National Governors’ Association’s Executive Committee.

Sebelius served four terms in the Kansas House of Representatives, two terms as the state’s insurance commissioner, and is the first daughter of a U. S. governor to serve in that same position.

**2004-06 – Mike Huckabee**

Governor Mike Huckabee of Arkansas is ECS' 2004-06 chairman. In that role, he will lead "The Arts -- A Lifetime of Learning," an initiative designed to ensure every child has the opportunity to participate in, learn about and enjoy the arts.

The 40th governor to chair ECS, he is the first to focus his initiative on arts in education.

First elected lieutenant governor in a 1993 special election, Huckabee was then elected to a full four-year term in 1994 and became only the fourth Republican to be elected to statewide office since Reconstruction.

In July 1996 Huckabee became one of the youngest governors in the country when his predecessor resigned. Two years later he was elected to a full four-year term as governor, attracting the largest percentage of the vote ever received by a Republican gubernatorial nominee in Arkansas. He was re-elected to another four-year term in November 2002.

Huckabee has taken on numerous national leadership roles. In addition to being ECS' chairman-elect, he is the immediate past president of the Council of State Governments and serves on the nine-member executive committee of the National Governors Association. He is also the former chairman of the Southern Governors' Association, the Southern Growth Policies Board, the Southern Technology Council, the Southern International Trade Council and the Interstate Oil & Gas Compact Commission.

**2002-04 – Mark R. Warner**

Virginia governor Mark R. Warner’s primary education effort to date is the nationally recognized Partnership for Achieving Successful Schools (PASS) program, which provides schools in danger of academic failure with additional services and community support. The initiative was recognized as a model for improving student achievement and the quality of the workforce by the National Alliance of Business, which gave Virginia and Governor Warner a Distinguished Program Award for leadership in advancing the quality of education and training. PASS has targeted more than 100 schools that received academic warnings because of their struggles with the Standards of Learning exams. These schools are to receive enhanced services from visiting academic review teams. Thirty-four of these also have been designated PASS Priority Schools; they will receive additional intervention and follow-up to track the progress made by students, teachers and administrators.

**2002-03 – Roy Barnes**

Roy Barnes was elected as Georgia’s governor in 1999 on a platform of health care reform and education. The education reform act, which he signed into law on April 25, 2000, requires smaller class sizes and more accountability, provides merit pay for teachers, abolishes teacher tenure, and gives parents, teachers and principals more control over their schools. In early 2001, Barnes called for more education reform, including expanding the state’s early intervention program to grades 4 and 5, including remedial programs in the required five hours of academics in middle schools, and ending social promotion in five years. He also called for greater funding for school facilities and a supplemental program to pay part of the application fees for teachers who desire to get a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards certification.
2001-02 – Kenny Guinn

Nevada Governor Kenny Guinn served as superintendent of the Clark County School District in Las Vegas; one of the fastest-growing school districts in the nation as it coped with issues such as overcrowding and desegregation. Prior to becoming governor of Nevada in 1998, Guinn spent 15 years in the education and business arenas. He spent one year as interim president of the University of Nevada-Las Vegas (UNLV), for which he received one dollar in compensation. During that year, he instituted administrative and policy initiatives to enable the school to continue its growing success as an ever-expanding urban university. As governor, Guinn created the Millennium Scholarship, which uses a portion of Nevada's share of tobacco settlement funds to provide a full scholarship to any of the state's universities or community colleges for every high school student who graduates with a "B" average.

2000-01 – Jeanne Shaheen

As ECS chairman, Shaheen focused on early care and education. Elected New Hampshire’s first woman governor in 1996, she has devoted much of her attention as governor on improving public education, including establishing statewide incentives for public kindergarten, getting businesses involved in providing computers for schools, signing into law a tax-deferred college tuition savings plan, and supporting the implementation of teacher testing and school report cards. Prior to being elected governor, Shaheen served as a state senator for six years, taught in public schools, and owned and managed a small business.

1999-2000 – Jim Geringer

In his years of service to the State of Wyoming as a legislator and now as governor, Geringer has focused on empowering communities to develop grassroots solutions for problems such as education, health care, public safety and quality of life. He advocates economic growth and believes economic improvement will be created through a blend of Western frontier ingenuity and futuristic technology. He was chairman of ECS and of the 18-state Western Governors’ Association for 1999-2000 and currently co-chairs the National Governors Association Technology Task Force.

1998-99 – Paul E. Patton

As governor, Patton has earned national recognition for his commitment to improving the quality and performance of Kentucky's postsecondary education system. In 1991, Paul Patton won his first statewide race for the office of Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky and became the first person elected to that office to also head a state cabinet. In his capacity as Secretary of the Cabinet for Economic Development, Patton continued his work to bring jobs to Kentucky. Economic development legislation Governor Patton wrote and helped pass in 1992 was modeled on his 1987 proposal to provide incentive programs to counties with consistently high unemployment rates. These programs have been credited with creating thousands of jobs across Kentucky. Patton has been chairman of the Southern Regional Education Board and the Southern Growth Policies Board. He also has served as chairman of the Economic Development and Commerce Committee of the National Governors Association, as well as the National Education Goals Panel.

1997-98 – Terry E. Branstad
Branstad was elected the youngest governor in Iowa’s history in 1982. During his 16-year tenure, he made education his top priority; and Iowa schools continued to receive a growing share of the state budget. Iowa also became the first state to build a statewide, state-owned fiberoptic network connecting every school district in the state. Recently, the state undertook a $150 million School Improvement and Technology Program. Branstad chaired the National Governors Association during its first Education Summit in 1989. He started his own company in January 1999, Branstad and Associates, L. C. He became a visiting professor at the University of Iowa Henry Tippie College of Business in 1999. In March 2000, he became a partner in Kaufman, Pattee, Branstad & Miller, a public policy firm based in Washington, D.C., with offices in Des Moines, Iowa, and Las Vegas, Nevada. In August 2000, Governor Branstad became licensed as a Financial Planner and is associated with the firm of Robert W. Baird, Inc.

1996-97 – Zell Miller

Miller is former governor of. Prior to becoming a governor, he served as lieutenant governor, Georgia state senator and mayor of Young Harris, Georgia. He also was a professor at Young Harris College, the University of Georgia, DeKalb Community College and Emory University. His experience includes serving as a member of the State Board of Children and Youth, director of the State Board of Probation and assistant director of the Department of Corrections. In addition to his career in education and government, Miller has been active in business for most of life. He also has written several books about the culture and history of Georgia and is a member of the Georgia Music Hall of Fame. Miller is currently Georgia’s junior senator, appointed in September 2000 to replace a deceased senator.

1995-96 – Tommy G. Thompson

In 1994, Thompson became the first governor in Wisconsin’s history to be elected to a third four-year term. Education was a top priority for his administration. He initiated the first parental school choice program in the country, allowing low-income Milwaukee families to send their children to the private or public school of their choice. Thompson also led a statewide effort designed to prepare high school students for the workforce, a program credited by Milwaukee Public Schools for three straight years of decline in its dropout rate. In March 1996, he co-chaired the 1996 National Education Summit. In 2001, Thompson was appointed as U.S. Secretary of Health and Human Services.

1994-95 – Roy Romer

Colorado’s governor for 12 years, Romer worked to ensure that concern about the welfare of children is reflected in many of his initiatives. In 1990-91, he was the first chairman of the National Education Goals Panel and responsible for developing the first national education report card. He also served as co-chairman of the National Council of Education Standards and Testing and has been a chief proponent of the need for standards to improve student and school achievement. Romer is currently superintendent of the Los Angeles Unified School District.

1993-94 – Jim Edgar

Edgar was Illinois governor for eight years. During that time, he increased education funding and championed education reform. To ensure Illinois youth are both mentally and physically ready to learn, Edgar fought for legislation to allow for charter schools, alternative teacher certification and Project Success, a program that delivers social services at the school-building level. He retired in 1998. Currently, Edgar is a Distinguished Fellow at the University of Illinois’ Institute of Government and Public Affairs, and lectures at other colleges and universities throughout the state. He also serves on a variety of corporate and civic boards.
1992-93 – Evan Bayh

After taking office as Indiana’s governor in 1989, Bayh made improving education one of his top priorities. Some of his education reform initiatives included “4Rs,” a program that teaches basic skills using technology; “Indiana Performance Assessment for Student Success”; and “Step Ahead,” a school-readiness program. Bayh chaired the National Education Goals Panel. Bayh is now a U.S. senator. He serves as chairman of the Democratic Leadership Council and helped establish the New Democrat Coalition, a new and growing group of senators who are committed to sensible bipartisan progress. Bayh also serves on the board of directors of the National Endowment for Democracy, a nonpartisan group that works to promote and strengthen democratic institutions worldwide.

1991-92 – John McKernan

McKernan, served his native state of Maine for two terms in the U.S. Congress and then as governor for two four-year terms from 1987-95. He won national recognition for leadership and innovation in education and human resources. After leaving office, McKernan served as chairman and chief executive officer of McKernan Enterprises, Inc. and Nottingham Equity, Inc. in Portland, Maine. Continuing his interest in education reform since leaving office, McKernan serves as chairman of the National School-to-Work Advisory Council in Washington, D.C., and of the International Advisory Board of the Center for Career Development in South Portland, Maine. He now serves as chairman of Hathaway Holdings Corporation, the oldest shirt company in America.

1990-91 – Booth Gardner

As governor of Washington from 1985 to 1993, Gardner allocated several million dollars for children’s programs and education reforms, and his “Schools for the 21st Century” initiative received national recognition. Gardner also directed the School of Business and Economics at the University of Puget Sound. He now serves as U.S. ambassador and representative to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (now called the World Trade Organization).

1989-90 – Garrey Carruthers

Carruthers taught at New Mexico State University in the department of agricultural economics and agricultural business from 1968 to 1985 and served as New Mexico’s governor from 1987 to 1990. As governor, he focused his education restructuring agenda on minority achievement, business partnerships and shared responsibility. Carruthers is president and CEO of Cimarron Health Plan and serves on the Board of Health Care Horizons.

1988-89 – Rudy Perpich

Perpich was governor of Minnesota from 1976 to 1979 and was re-elected in 1982 and 1986. His education initiatives included public school choice, business partnerships and learning through community service. After leaving office, Perpich worked in international trade, living in Europe. He died in 1995.

1987-88 – John Ashcroft

Ashcroft, sworn in as Missouri’s U.S. senator in January 1995, served as that state’s governor from 1985 to 1992. During his tenure, Ashcroft worked to implement meaningful education reforms, including the “Excellence in
Education Act” of 1985, hailed as the most important school law improvement in the state’s history. Fortune magazine rated Ashcroft one of the nation’s top 10 education governors during that time. Currently, Ashcroft is U.S. attorney general.

1986-87 – Bill Clinton

As governor of Arkansas from 1978 until he was elected U.S. president in 1992, Clinton led the movement to change the direction of education. While ECS chairman, he simultaneously chaired the National Governors Association and its Task Force on School Leadership and Management. Clinton’s strong belief that “…strong school leadership [is] key to effective schools and more learning” contributed to fellow governors naming him as “one of the five most effective governors in the nation” in a 1986 Newsweek poll. Clinton served as president of the United States from 1992-2000.

1985-86 – Thomas H. Kean

Kean has been president of Drew University since 1990. From 1982 to 1990, while governor of New Jersey, he, like Clinton, was rated among America’s five most effective governors and noted for initiating more than 30 education reforms. He served on the President’s Education Policy Advisory Committee and the National Governors Association Task Force on Teaching. Because of his concern about the rising costs of higher education, Kean co-chaired The National Commission on Investment in Higher Education. He serves on several advisory boards. Kean is Chairman of the Carnegie Corporation of New York and Educate America, and former chairman of the National Environmental Education and Training Foundation.

1984-85 – Charles Robb

Virginia’s governor from 1982 to 1986, Robb increased that state’s commitment to education by over a billion dollars without a tax increase. He also helped shape the message of change that went out to Virginia’s public schools. He served as U.S. senator from 1989-2001. In the fall of 2001, Robb joined the faculty of George Mason University as a distinguished professor of law and public policy.

1983-84 – Pierre (Pete) du Pont

du Pont was elected Delaware’s governor in 1976 and re-elected in 1980. As such, he focused many of his energies on education and preventing youth unemployment. He also served as a U.S. Congressman. In 1979, du Pont founded the nonprofit “Jobs for Delaware Graduates,” an employment counseling and job-placement program for high school seniors not college-bound. In 1988, he was Republican candidate for president of the United States. du Pont is director of Richards, Layton & Finger, a Wilmington, Delaware, law firm, and is a regular columnist on www.opinionjournal.com, the editorial page Web site of The Wall Street Journal. He also is policy chairman of the National Center for Policy Analysis, a public policy analysis organization.


Having served four terms as North Carolina’s governor, Hunt has focused on improving the lives of children and families and has played state and national leadership roles in education reform. He is founding chairman of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and is vice chairman of the National Center on Education and the Economy. Currently, he is an attorney in the firm of Womble, Carlyle, Sandridge & Rice.
1981-82 – Robert D. Ray

Ray served as Iowa’s governor from 1969 to 1983, with increased access to higher education, especially for women, a focal point of his governorship. He also was instrumental in passing job-training acts that formalized community colleges’ involvement in business outreach and economic recovery; those programs have served as national models for community college reform. Ray has been president and chief executive officer of IASD Health Services Corporation, the umbrella company of Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Iowa and Blue Cross of South Dakota. In 1998 he became president of Drake University.

1980-81 – Robert Graham

Governor of Florida from 1978 to 1986, Graham worked to decrease public-school class size and increase teacher salaries. As a state legislator from 1966 through 1974, he strongly supported improved education, and wrote and steered passage of a bill requiring competency and progress testing in public schools. Graham has served as a U.S. senator since 1986.

1979-80 – William G. Milliken

Milliken was governor of Michigan from 1969 to 1983, the longest-serving governor in the state’s history. In 1977-78, he was chairman of the National Governors’ Association, and in 1978 was selected by fellow governors as the most influential person in their ranks. During his governorship, Milliken supported numerous education initiatives. In 2001 he was named chairman of the National Committee on Innovations in American Government.

1978-79 – Dixy Lee Ray

Ray was the last chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, and Washington’s governor from 1977 to 1981. She helped the state take over full funding of K-12 education after a court order. She was a University of Washington zoology professor from 1945 to 1976 and directed Seattle’s Pacific Science Center for nine years. She died in 1994 and is remembered as an outspoken, controversial individual, but also as a highly regarded teacher and scientist.

1977-78 – Otis P. Bowen

From 1973 to 1981, Bowen was Indiana’s governor; he served as U.S. secretary of health and human services from 1985 to 1989. A former practitioner and professor of family medicine and director of undergraduate family practice education at the Indiana University School of Medicine, Bowen has written and spoken extensively about health, welfare and education. He was chairman, Advisory Commission on Social Security, 1982-84, Secretary of Health and Human Services (appointed by President Reagan), 1985-89; Citizen Fellow, Institute of Advanced Studies, Indiana University, 1989-91 and 1994-95. He served on numerous other federal commissions. During 1978-79, Bowen was chairman of the National Governors Conference, Republican Governors Conference and the Midwestern Governors Conference. In 1999, he was presented with the College of Arts and Sciences Distinguished Alumni Award. Bowen is presently retired in Bremen, Indiana.

1976-77 – Jerry Apodaca

Apodaca was governor of New Mexico, the job he held from 1975-78 when he became the first Hispanic governor in the nation since 1918. He also served eight years in the New Mexico State Senate. In 1984 he co-founded "Vista Magazine," and in 1988 published Hispanic Magazine. From 1985 to 1992, Apodaca served as president of the
Hispanic Association on Corporate Responsibility. He created the Japan Hispanic Institute and served as its president until 1994, when he established the National Institute of Former Governors and was its president until 1995. Apodaca is on the Board of Trustees for Nosotros (the Spanish word for "we"). He is chairman and chief operating officer of Apodaca Johnston Capital Management Inc., Washington, DC.

1975-76 – Arch A. Moore Jr.

Moore was elected governor of West Virginia in 1968 and 1972. In 1988, he was defeated in his reelection bid against Democrat Gaston Caperton. After leaving office, Moore established private law practices in Charleston, Moundsville and Washington, D.C. He was defeated for the U.S. Senate in 1978 and for governor in 1980. In 1984, he defeated Democrat Clyde See to become the first governor elected to three four-year terms. In 1990, Moore was found guilty of mail fraud. He served over two years in federal prison and paid a settlement to the state.

1974-75 – John C. West

West was governor of South Carolina from 1971-75. He also was U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia from 1977 to 1981.

1973-74 – Reubin Askew

Askew served as governor of Florida during 1971-79. He served in the State House and Senate before being elected governor in 1970. Askew was reelected in 1974, becoming the first governor in state history to be elected for a second successive full term. In 1988, Askew was selected as Florida State University’s (FSU) Most Outstanding Alumnus of the Century by the National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges. In 1992, he was named a fellow of the congressionally chartered National Academy of Public Administration. Since 1990, Askew has taught on the faculty of Florida Atlantic University in Broward County. During the 1995-96 academic year, Askew joined the faculty of the FSU school which bears his name. He now divides his time between teaching at FSU and other universities, and his ongoing work with the Florida Institute of Government in Tallahassee.

1972-73 – Winfield Dunn

From 1971-75, Dunn served as Governor of Tennessee. In April 1972, he signed into law HB No. 582, passed by the Eighty-Seventh General Assembly, creating a full-time board with set terms established by statute, to be known as the Tennessee Board of Pardons and Paroles. A Tennessee parkway is named after Winfield Dunn.

1971-72 – Robert C. Scott

Scott was governor of North Carolina from 1969–73.

1970-71 – Russell W. Peterson

Russell W. Peterson is president emeritus of the National Audubon Society. He served as vice president and regional councillor of the World Conservation Fund until to 1990 and is now president emeritus of the International Council for Bird Preservation. He also has served as vice chairman and president of the Better World Society. He was governor of the State of Delaware from 1969-73, and chairman, from 1973-76, of the President's
Council on Environmental Quality, which led to the creation of the Environmental Industry Council. From 1977 to 1979, he was director of the United States Congress of Technology Assessment. He is a former vice chairman of U.S. delegations to the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements and to the United Nations World Population Conference. More recently, Russ served as co-chairman of the governor’s task force on the Future of the Christina and Brandywine Rivers, which developed a vision that includes a 250-acre urban wildlife refuge.

1969-70 – Thomas Lawson McCall

As governor of Oregon, from 1967-75, McCall named himself chairman of the State Sanitary Authority and initiated efforts to clean the polluted Willamette River (by 1969 the river was cleared of pollutants and the salmon had returned). Throughout his administration, McCall was a firm supporter of ecological measures and led the fight to keep polluting industries out of Oregon. In 1971, he created the State Office of Energy Research and Planning, to find new sources of energy and methods to save existing energy in Oregon. In 1970, he was reelected for a second term. In 1974 he did not seek reelection, leaving office on January 13, 1975. Returning to private life, McCall became professor of journalism at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

1968-69 – Robert E. McNair

McNair was governor of South Carolina from 1965-71.

1967-68 – Calvin L. Rampton

Rampton was Utah’s only three-term governor, holding office from 1965 to 1977. As governor, he worked closely with business leaders and pushed industrial development, tourism, development of energy resources and expansion of the defense industry in Utah. He also established the Little Hoover Commission to recommend ways of restructuring and reorganizing state government, established the Utah Police Training Academy and created the Governors Conference on the Arts. While in office, he was chairman of the National Governors Conference, 1974-75; president of the Council of State Governments, 1974-75; chairman of the Western Governors Conference, 1969-70; and co-chairman of the Four Corners Regional Commission, 1971. Since leaving office, he has practiced law in Salt Lake City.


Charles L. Terry was governor of Delaware from 1965-69. He spent most of his career in state government as a judge. He resigned as chief justice of the Supreme Court of Delaware to accept the Democratic nomination for governor. Terry was chief of state during one of the most turbulent times in American history. The administration reached its dramatic summit following the assassination of Martin Luther King and the subsequent riots in Wilmington. Governor Terry died in 1970 at the age of 70.

1965-66 – John H. Chafee

Chafee was governor of Rhode Island from 1963-69 and a U.S. senator from 1976-99. He died in office in 1999. The John H. Chafee Coastal Stewardship Award in 1999 recognized the late senator for his lifetime commitment to restore and protect the coastal environment.
Sanford, ECS co-founder, became president emeritus of Duke University in 1985 and spent much of his professional life working to improve the quality of America's education system. Sanford served as U.S. senator, governor and state legislator in North Carolina, Children's Television Workshop director, university president and attorney. He died in 1998.