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Barbara Clark and Richard Rhoda Boost ECS Officer Roster

Denver, CO --The Education Commission of the States (ECS) announces the induction of two officers for the 2008-2010 terms of vice-chair and treasurer. Barbara Clark, New York State Assemblywoman, will serve as the ECS vice-chair and Richard Rhoda, executive director of the Tennessee Higher Education Commission, will serve an additional term as ECS treasurer. ECS Chair and Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty and ECS President Roger Sampson complete the roster of ECS officers.

"I am pleased to serve with these talented, committed and experienced leaders," said Pawlenty. "We will work together to improve education across the 50 states and U.S. territories."

Barbara Clark has served the New York State Assembly since 1986. A sponsor of the annual "Legislators Back to School" resolution, Clark played an active role in changing New York's school finance system. At the national level, Clark served as Vice-Chair of the National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) Education, Labor and Job Training Committee, and is a former member of the Human Services committee. She also has been a commissioner of ECS and served a four-year term on the ECS steering committee.

Rhoda was re-elected as ECS treasurer at this year's National Forum on Education Policy, having served in this capacity since 2006. Formerly, as an ECS commissioner, he served on the organization's steering and national forum committees. His over 30 year-long career in higher education has involved various administrative positions at Tennessee State University and the Tennessee Board of Regents. He also served as interim president of Austin Peay State University and Nashville State Technical Community College and continues to teach at Vanderbilt University.

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The Education Commission of the States (ECS) is an interstate compact created by the states, territories and the U.S. Congress that helps governors, legislators, state education officials and others identify, develop and implement public policies to improve student learning at all levels. A nonpartisan organization, ECS was formed in 1965 and is located in Denver, Colorado. ECS is the only nationwide interstate compact devoted to education.

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