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**{INSERT YOUR NAME} Joins Colleagues from Across the U.S. for the CSG Sustainability in the COVID Era Policy Academy**

{INSERT YOUR NAME} joined fellow state legislators and executive branch officials from across the U.S. for the intensive half-day Sustainability in the COVID Era Policy Academy from The Council of State Governments (CSG). Held on Dec. 11, 2020, as part of the virtual 2020 CSG National Conference Reimagined, the policy academy explored sustainability principles being implemented across multiple industries and sectors, the challenges presented by COVID-19 and how sustainability principles may help guide the way to post-pandemic economic recovery.

Sustainability — the idea of meeting our own needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs — is not a new concept. Various industries and sectors have long touted adherence to its principles in corporate initiatives. But sustainability seemed to take on new meaning this year.

**INSERT YOUR PARTICIPANT QUOTE HERE**

During the policy academy, sustainability officers from GlaxoSmithKline and International Paper shared their perspectives on what the concept of sustainability has meant to their companies historically and what it has meant during this year of the pandemic, when many companies had to reinvent their business models, shutter operations for a time, reconfigure work environments and supply chains, allow more telework and think long and hard about how they could make their work sustainable going forward. State policymakers from New York, North Carolina and Virginia discussed how the push for clean energy around the country might help create jobs and lead to a future that is more sustainable both environmentally and economically. Representatives from Virginia-based Dominion Energy and Minnesota-based Xcel Energy discussed what the clean energy push will mean for their companies. Attendees also heard a presentation on how the nation’s cities may emerge from the pandemic, whether they can be counted on to help lead the economic recovery and what the long-lasting pandemic impacts may be for them, fiscally and otherwise.

The CSG Policy Academy series is focused on evaluating relevant issues in specific policy areas. CSG invites select state officials who are focused on the respective policy issue for an intensive educational and networking experience among peers. The CSG Sustainability in the COVID Era Policy Academy was just the first of what the organization hopes will be an extend conversation on sustainability in the years to come.

For more information about CSG, please visit *csg.org*.

**About The Council of State Governments**

The Council of State Governments (CSG) is the nation’s only organization serving all three branches of state government. CSG is a region-based forum that fosters the exchange of insights and ideas to help state officials shape public policy. This offers unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities to network, develop leaders, collaborate and create problem-solving partnerships.

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