



For Immediate Release  
Thursday, July 09, 2015  
Contact: Roslyn Smith, Interim Executive Director  
(202) 624-5457

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

**Sen. Catherine Pugh (MD)**  
*President*

**Rep. Gregory Porter (IN)**  
*President-Elect*

**Rep. Gilda Cobb-Hunter (SC)**  
*Vice President*

**Rep. Alan Williams (FL)**  
*Secretary*

**Rep. Laura V. Hall (AL)**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Rep. Howard Mosby (GA)**  
*Treasurer*

**Sen. Hillman Terome Frazier (MS)**  
*Parliamentarian*

**Rep. Dee Dawkins-Haigler (GA)**  
*Chaplain*

**Rep. Joe Armstrong (TN)**  
*Past President*

**REGIONAL CHAIRS**

**Rep. Ernest Hewett (CT)**  
*Chair, Region I*

**Rep. Nick Perry (NY)**  
*Chair, Region II*

**Del. Nathaniel T. Oaks (MD)**  
*Chair, Region III*

**Rep. Karen Camper (TN)**  
*Chair, Region IV*

**Rep. John R.C. King (SC)**  
*Chair, Region V*

**Rep. Mia Jones (FL)**  
*Chair, Region VI*

**Rep. Juandalynn Givan (AL)**  
*Chair, Region VII*

**Sen. Jeffrey Hayden (MN)**  
*Chair, Region VIII*

**Vacant**  
*Chair, Region IX*

**Rep. Regina Barrow (LA)**  
*Chair, Region X*

**Rep. Karla May (MO)**  
*Chair, Region XI*

**Rep. Jovan Melton (CO)**  
*Chair, Region XII*

**Rep. Barbara W. Ballard (KS)**  
*Ex-Officio Member*

**Rep. Calvin Smyre (GA)**  
*Ex-Officio Member*

**Rep. Mary Coleman (MS)**  
*Ex-Officio Member*

**Roslyn Smith**  
*Interim Executive Director*

**NBCSL APPLAUDS THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE'S REMOVAL OF THE CONFEDERATE FLAG FROM THE STATE CAPITOL**

July 9, 2015 - The South Carolina Legislature passed a bill to remove the Confederate flag from the Confederate Soldiers Memorial and Governor Nikki Haley signed the measure officially removing it from the State House grounds. NBCSL President Senator Catherine Pugh offered the following statement:

"The National Black Caucus of State Legislators applauds the South Carolina General Assembly for taking down the Confederate flag. We know that for some it is more than just a flag, it is a relic and a symbol of racism and oppression. We believe that it should not be flown in a place that represents one of our most sacred principles: democracy. The overwhelming passage of such legislation in South Carolina creates a pause in our history as we remember this symbol of hatred that has influenced violence and created a flurry of debates around racism and racist behaviors in America. NBCSL applauds the actions of the South Carolina legislature and urge all of America to follow suit."

###

**About NBCSL**

The National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL) primary mission is to develop, conduct and promote educational, research and training programs designed to enhance the effectiveness of its members, as they consider legislation and issues of public policy which impact, either directly or indirectly upon "the general welfare" of African American constituents within their respective jurisdictions.