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**Midwestern governors support Chicago's proposal to host the summer  
Olympic Games in 2016**

Seven Midwestern governors have endorsed a policy resolution that supports the City of Chicago's bid to host the 2016 summer Olympics. In the resolution, the MGA stated that it "believes that the spirit, principles, and ideals underlying the Olympic Games are beneficial to athletic participants, their sponsoring countries, spectators, and observers."

The resolution continues stating that governors believe "efforts to support such activities are in line with the fundamental spirit, principles, and ideals underlying the organization and operation of the Association, which seeks to cross borders, share ideas, and to develop an improved sense of community." If Chicago is selected, Midwestern governors have pledged to work with the city to make the Olympics a regional success.

"The 2016 summer Olympics is an excellent opportunity to highlight for the world what Midwestern governors already know – that the Midwest is an excellent place to visit, or even better, to live, get an education, start a business, and to raise a family," said Jesse Heier, MGA Washington Office Director.

This resolution will be submitted to the United States Olympic Committee and was signed by Illinois Gov. Rod Blagojevich, Iowa Gov. Tom Vilsack, Nebraska Gov. Dave Heineman, Wisconsin Gov. Jim Doyle, Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm, and Ohio Gov. Bob Taft.

The MGA is a nonprofit, bipartisan organization that brings together top state leaders to work cooperatively on significant public policy issues in the Midwest. The purpose of the MGA is to foster regional development, facilitate interstate cooperation, improve intergovernmental relationships, and provide a medium for the exchange of views and experiences of subjects of general importance to the people of the Midwestern states.