



Midwestern Governors Association

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Gov. Rounds Announces Agenda: Says Improving Transportation is Critical to Midwestern States

Washington, DC - South Dakota Governor, and chair of the Midwest Governors Association (MGA), Mike Rounds has announced his chair's agenda: Transportation for Energy, People and Products. The agenda will focus on the role of transportation in the Midwest, and the Midwest's role in the upcoming national transportation debate.

Governor Rounds has asked his fellow governors to appoint their top transportation advisors to a working group that is tasked with determining the region's policy goals for the reauthorization of the transportation bill. These goals will allow the MGA to provide Congress specific transportation needs important to the region.

"Transportation is critical in the movement of raw materials and distribution of finished products. That's why transportation is a key factor in the price of every product sold. Transportation is also critical in the production, distribution and price of energy, such as fuels and electricity," Rounds said. "By improving our transportation systems, we can improve the quality of life for our citizens, and hopefully help stabilize energy prices and supplies."

In addition to Rounds, the current members of the Midwest Governors Association include: Gov. Jennifer Granholm (MI) *Vice Chair*, Gov. Jim Doyle (WI) *Immediate Past Chair*, Gov. Rod Blagojevich (IL), Gov. Mitch Daniels (IN), Gov. Chet Culver (IA), Gov. Kathleen Sebelius (KS), Gov. Tim Pawlenty (MN), Gov. Matt Blunt (MO), Gov. Dave Heineman (NE), Gov. John Hoeven (ND), and Gov. Ted Strickland (OH).