PRESIDENT
Representative Helene Keeley
District 3 - 411 Legislative Ave
Dover, DE 19901
T: 302-744-4351 F: 302-577-6701

NATIONAL OFFICE 385 Jordan Road Troy, NY 12180 (518) 687-0615 PHONE (518) 687-0401 FAX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Susan Nolan NCLGS National Office 518-687-0615

NCLGS RE-ASSERTS NEED FOR STATE OVERSIGHT IN JURISDICTIONS WITH GAMING, OPPOSES THE RESTORATION OF AMERICA'S WIRE ACT

<u>Troy, New York, March 26, 2015</u>—Reiterating its long-standing belief that states are the most appropriate regulators of Internet and other forms of gaming, NCLGS yesterday wrote U.S. House and Senate Judiciary Committee leadership to urge against any legislation that includes *The Restoration of America's Wire Act*.

NCLGS President Rep. Helene Keeley (DE) asserted in the letter that:

Any legislation proposing to amend the *Wire Act* to prohibit transmission of wagering information for all types of gambling activities, including Internet gambling, would effectively preempt the states' historical ability to properly regulate gaming. It is NCLGS' strong conviction as legislators who chair and are members of the legislative committees that work diligently to develop sound public gaming policy, that states are the most appropriate entity to decide upon, and oversee, what kind of gaming should exist and what should not within their borders.

Rep. Keeley noted that Congress is already on record as favoring of state authority. The *Interstate Horse Racing Act*, Rep. Keeley asserted, says that "the States should have the primary responsibility for determining what forms of gambling may legally take place within their borders," not only terrestrially, but via "electronic media."

Rep. Keeley said in the letter that technological advances in gaming—Internet or otherwise—present "multiple social and economic policy issues to be considered." She said that NCLGS recently finalized its *Policy Framework for Regulation of Internet Gambling* to safeguard states that want Internet gaming—and those that do not. Nine (9) states, she said, have passed bills to expand, legalize, or prohibit Internet gaming, and others are considering measures.

NCLGS addressed its March 24 letter to Senators Chuck Grassley (IA) and Patrick Leahy (VT), Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, of the Senate Committee on the Judiciary; and to Representatives Bob Goodlatte (VA) and John Conyers (MI), Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, of the House Committee on the Judiciary. NCLGS also sent the letter to all House and Senate Judiciary Committee members and to House and Senate leadership.

NCLGS has opposed *Restoration of America's Wire Act* provisions in the past. In April 2014, the organization urged Judiciary Committee leadership to defeat H.R. 4301/S. 2159.

NCLGS is the only non-partisan organization of state lawmakers that meets on a regular basis to discuss issues in regard to gaming. NCLGS does not support or oppose gaming, but supports effective regulation and believes that decisions related to gaming should be made by the citizens of the individual states and their elected officials. More information is available at www.nclgs.org.