BIOGRAPHIES

Jackson Brainerd, program principal, Fiscal Affairs Program, NCSL

Jackson Brainerd is a program principal with NCSL’s Fiscal Affairs Program, which provides state legislators and staff with outreach and policy analysis on a wide range of state fiscal issues. In this capacity, he oversees state tax and economic development policy and has authored many articles and publications on these subjects. He also staffs NCSL’s Task Force on State and Local Taxation and its Budgets and Revenue Standing Committee. Jackson graduated from Colorado College with a bachelor’s degree in political science.

Joyce Chang, chair of global research, JP Morgan

Joyce Chang is chair of global research for J.P. Morgan’s Corporate and Investment Bank, a global leader in banking, markets and investor services. J.P. Morgan’s Global Research professionals study all sectors in which the firm does business, including equities, fixed income, currency and commodities, emerging markets, derivatives and structured finance. The Global Research team has been named the top global research firm for 2021 by Institutional Investor magazine.

She was most recently global head of research, a role she held for more than five years (2014-2019). She was previously global head of fixed income research and began her career as an emerging markets strategist. From 1997 through 2012, she held top rankings in Institutional Investor surveys for Emerging Markets research, earning 25 No. 1 individual rankings. In 2014, she was inducted into the Fixed Income Analyst Society Hall of Fame.

She was a managing director at Merrill Lynch and Salomon Brothers prior to joining J.P. Morgan Chase in 1999. She serves on the board of directors of the German Marshall Fund, Trickle Up and Girls Inc. and on the external advisory board for the Center of Financial Stability. She is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and the Inter-American Dialogue. She is the senior sponsor for J.P. Morgan’s Corporate and Investment Bank Women on the Move Network, the network for employees of Asian heritage (AsPIRE) and Nonprofit Board Service. She has been named as one of the Top 25 Most Powerful Women in Finance by American Banker since 2012 and was included in Barron’s 2020 and 2021 lists of the 100 Most Influential Women in Finance.
She holds a master of public administration from Princeton and serves on its External Advisory Council for the Center for Public Policy and has a bachelor of arts from Columbia. She was awarded the John Jay award for professional achievement from Columbia and serves on its Board of Visitors.

**Jeff Chapman, director, State Fiscal Health, The Pew Charitable Trusts**

Jeff Chapman directs Pew’s state fiscal health initiative. Through cutting-edge research and customized technical assistance, he and his team help states maintain a balanced budget, prepare for downturns, invest in long-term economic growth, and strengthen local governments. Chapman provides strategic direction, including leading the development of additional innovative solutions for improving fiscal management.

Before coming to Pew, Chapman was research director for the Washington State Budget & Policy Center and was a member of the Governor’s Council of Economic Advisors in Washington. Previously, he was an economist with the Economic Policy Institute. Chapman has over 15 years of experience working to improve state and local fiscal and economic policy.

Chapman holds a bachelor’s degree in American studies from Oregon State University and a master’s degree in public policy from Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.

**David Draine, senior officer, Public Sector Retirement Systems, The Pew Charitable Trusts**

David Draine serves as a principal investigator and methodologist for Pew’s research on public sector retirement systems. The project’s work has showcased the funding challenges that face many state and local pension systems and retiree health care plans, as well as possible solutions. Draine’s research has looked at pension plan design, risk and uncertainty, and disclosure and transparency.

Based on this work, Draine has advised state and local task forces considering public sector retirement system reforms. He also has conducted research and analysis on critical state policy issues involving state revenue systems, investments in transportation infrastructure, economic development, and mortgage lending.

Draine holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Princeton University and a master’s in public policy from Johns Hopkins University.
Ben Husch, federal affairs advisor, State-Federal Relations, NCSL

Ben Husch serves as the federal affairs advisor for Natural Resources and Infrastructure for NCSL. In this role, he leads NCSL’s lobbying and advocacy work on transportation, environment, energy and agriculture issues before both Congress and the administration. He joined NCSL in March 2012 after nearly four years with the National Association of State Budget Officers. He has a master’s in public policy from Rutgers University and a bachelor’s in economics from Wake Forest University.

Emily Maher, senior policy specialist, Fiscal Affairs Program, NCSL

Emily Maher is a senior policy specialist with the Fiscal Affairs Program at NCSL, where she specializes in states budgets, federal stimulus funds, state and local relations and economic development topics. She is a staff liaison to NCSL’s Labor and Economic Development Standing Committee and to the Pennsylvania General Assembly. Maher previously served as a nonpartisan policy analyst for the city of Philadelphia. She received her bachelor’s degree in political science and international service from American University’s School of Public Affairs, where she is also currently pursuing a master’s degree in public administration and policy.

Austin Reid, senior legislative director, State-Federal Relations, NCSL

As senior legislative director for education policy, Austin Reid oversees NCSL’s federal education policy work, which includes staffing the NCSL Standing Committee on Education and representing NCSL’s education interests before Congress and the administration. Prior to joining NCSL, Reid worked in the U.S. Senate and at the National Institute for Excellence in Teaching. He began his career as a high school teacher and has a master’s in education policy from the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

Charles Sallee, deputy director, Legislative Finance Committee, New Mexico

Charles Sallee has worked for the Legislative Finance Committee since 2005, first conducting and overseeing program evaluations of state agencies, higher education, and public schools. He now oversees the LFCs budget development responsibilities. Some of his work has led to major policy changes or cost savings in the areas of Medicaid, higher education, adult and juvenile corrections, public schools, and workers’ compensation. He also has experience providing direct human services, including to people with developmental disabilities and abused children. He Sallee grew up in New Mexico and earned a bachelor
of social work from New Mexico State University and master of social work-administration from Texas State University-San Marcos.

**Curt Stedron**, director, Leaders and International Program, NCSL

Curt Stedron is the director of NCSL’s Legislative Training Institute. He is a West Point graduate who spent 20 years as an award-winning educator and state champion speech and debate coach. Stedron is also a successful entrepreneur, and his company, New Century Modern, has built over 50 custom homes in the Denver area.