Marriott Savannah Riverfront | Savannah, GA | January 12-14

NCSL’s Health Innovations Task Force explores the issues and opportunities faced by state policymakers as they reform their own health systems.

Thursday, January 12

6 p.m.  Welcome Reception
Moon River Brewing Company, 21 W Bay St.

Friday, January 13

8-8:30 a.m.  Breakfast
Plaza Room

8:30-9 a.m.  Welcome and Introductions
Senator Bo Watson, Tennessee, Task Force Co-chair

9-10:30 a.m.  Strengthening the Health Care Workforce and Ensuring Access to Care
The group will discuss the telehealth policy landscape and how it can extend the reach of health care workers. The Task Force will also hear about programs led by Mercer University School of Medicine, focusing on rural health clinics and school-based mental health.

Lloyd Sirmons, Global Partnership for Telehealth
Jean Sumner, M.D., Dean of the School of Medicine, Mercer University

11 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  Site Visit to Gateway Behavioral Health,
2121 E. Derenne Ave.
The Task Force will visit Gateway Behavioral Health, a community-based organization providing mental health services and addictive disease services to adults, adolescents, and children. The group will discuss initiatives to support the behavioral health workforce.

Mark Johnson, MD, Chief Executive Officer, Gateway
Site Visit to Memorial Health

The Task Force will visit Memorial Health, serving 35+ counties across southeast Georgia and southern South Carolina. The group will tour the children’s hospital and discuss programs related to graduate medical education and nurse training programs.

Hugh Tappan, South Atlantic Division President, HCA Healthcare
Nina Evans, South Atlantic Division CNO, HCA Healthcare
Shelly Harrell, VP of Development Memorial Health, HCA Healthcare
Nicole Hagerty, Director of Government Relations, HCA Healthcare

6:30 p.m.  Task Force Group Dinner

Vic’s on the River, 26 E Bay St.

Saturday, January 14

8-10 a.m.  Breakfast, Roundtable Discussion, and Closing

Task Force members and sponsors will provide closing remarks and discuss next steps.

NCSL gratefully acknowledges our Task Force sponsors:
American Association of Nurse Practitioners, American Hospital Association, Amerihealth Caritas, Biotechnology Innovation Organization, Change Healthcare, CSL Behring, HIMSS, Humana, McKesson, Philips, Walmart