

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

September 14, 2007 Rep Nancy Todd from Aurora, Colorado was one of a select group of state legislators invited to attend the *Healthy States Forum for State Legislators: Innovation and Collaboration in Wellness*, August 23-25 in New Orleans, Louisiana. The three-day policy meeting focused on policy issues related to adolescent health and adult wellness. The meeting allowed Rep Nancy Todd to learn from and interact with nationally recognized public health experts, CDC officials and legislative colleagues from around the country.

Funded by the Healthy States Partnership consisting of the Council of State Governments (CSG), the National Black Caucus of State Legislators (NBCSL), and the National Hispanic Caucus of State Legislators (NHCSL), this three-day policy meeting attracted 40 state legislators who were identified by CSG for the legislative impact they have made in the areas of chronic disease prevention and public health promotion in the states they represent.

Topics addressed during the forum included such areas as adolescent and adult mental health, graduated driver licensing, oral health, youth risk behaviors, violence prevention and elder abuse, and promoting adult wellness in rural areas. Conference attendees also had an opportunity to hear about rebuilding efforts in New Orleans from the Louisiana National Guard and tour the areas of the city most heavily impacted by Hurricane Katrina.