



# NEWS The United States Conference of Mayors

1620 Eye Street, N.W. • Washington, D.C. 20006  
Phone (202) 293-7330 • Fax (202) 293-2352  
E-mail: [info@usmayors.org](mailto:info@usmayors.org) URL: [usmayors.org](http://usmayors.org)

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Contact: Rhonda Spears 617-351-6801 (Boston Sheraton)  
[rspears@usmayors.org](mailto:rspears@usmayors.org)  
Elena Temple 617-351-6801 (Boston Sheraton)  
[etemple@usmayors.org](mailto:etemple@usmayors.org)

## **Hundreds of Mayors Gather in Boston for the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors June 25-29, 2004**

**Highlights Include New Homeland Security Report and New Jobs/Economy Report Released**

*Key Resolutions to be Considered Include Homeland Security, National Priorities and  
the Iraq War, Canadian Drug Importation and Gay Marriages*

**Boston, MA** -- Just a few weeks before the national political conventions, more than 200 of the nation's mayors, led by Conference President and Hempstead, New York Mayor James A. Garner, will gather in **Boston June 25-29 for the 72nd Annual Meeting of The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM)**, hosted by USCM Past President and Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino. The mayors will discuss a variety of issues affecting America's cities.

Topping the agenda on Friday includes the release of a **new Homeland Security Survey**, the *Third Mayors' Report to the Nation: Tracking Homeland Security Funds Sent to the 50 State Governments*, which assesses the flow of federal homeland security funds through the states to the nation's cities.

"Homeland Security remains a top priority for the nation's mayors. We continue to closely monitor the flow of federal funds from the states to the cities. As I always say, the money went to the states by Federal Express, but went to cities by Pony Express. As leaders of cities, we must be prepared to fully protect the home land," said Conference President and Hempstead Mayor James A. Garner.

Also on Friday mayors will hear from **Massachusetts Senator Edward Kennedy** during the Health Luncheon. During the plenary session on Friday, mayors will discuss Faith-Based approaches to prisoner re-entry and the proposed elimination of the sale-leaseback financing.

On Saturday during the Mayors Business Council Plenary Breakfast, **Louisville Metro Mayor Jerry Abramson** leads a discussion on **E-Governance** and how cities use information technology to streamline city operations, deliver services to citizens and attract new business. Also on Saturday, during the opening plenary session, mayors will engage in a discussion on **Healthcare in America**, led by **Boston Mayor Thomas M. Menino**.

Mayors will also hear from **Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson** during the 72<sup>nd</sup> Annual Luncheon which will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual City Livability Awards.

On Sunday mayors will hear from **Ambassador Randall Tobias**, the Global AIDS Coordinator for the U.S. Department of State, and **Cape Town, South Africa Mayor Nomaindia Mfeketo**.

The mayors will release a **new Interoperability Survey** on Monday during the Homeland Security Task Force meeting. This report analyzes the ability of cities to communicate across city departments and with regional, state and federal agencies.

During the Business Plenary Session on Monday, **Mayor Kwame Kilpatrick** will release the **new Metro Economies/Jobs** report that analyzes the employment wage gap in addition to evaluating the impact of job gains and losses on health benefits.

Also, the mayors will hear from **Presidential Candidate Senator John Kerry** during the same session.

**Dr. Julie Louise Gerberding**, the Director of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will address mayors during the luncheon on Monday.

All press **MUST** register to gain access to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Winter Meeting events. Advance registration is recommended. **Press can pre-register on-line at [www.usmayors.org](http://www.usmayors.org)**, as well as access the full agenda, press releases and media advisories. **On-site registration is available at the Boston Sheraton Hotel in the Republic Ballroom “B”.**

**For more information, contact the press office in the Republic Ballroom “B” at the Boston Sheraton Hotel at 617-351-6801.**

*The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,139 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.*

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