



National Association
of Attorneys General

*Sponsored By:
The Executive Committee of
The National Association of Attorneys General*

Adopted

**Summer Meeting
June 17 – 19, 2008
Providence, Rhode Island**

RESOLUTION

**IN SUPPORT OF FEDERAL FUNDING FOR TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO
MEXICO LAW ENFORCEMENT AND EXPANDED LAW ENFORCEMENT
COOPERATION UNDER THE MERIDA INITIATIVE**

WHEREAS The United States and Mexico share a common border nearly 2,000 miles long, a border region in which 11.8 million people reside; and,

WHEREAS This common border is the busiest in the world with 44 land ports of entry and 12 international railroad crossings with an excess of over one million people crossing every day; and,

WHEREAS Mexico is the second largest trading partner to the United States, and the United States is Mexico's largest trading partner; and,

WHEREAS Along with the federal and state governments of the United States and Mexico, a total of 44 counties and 80 municipalities have local government jurisdiction on the border region; and,

WHEREAS On September 30, 2006, the Council of State Governments and the United States Agency for International Development entered into a three-year cooperative, jointly funded agreement to implement the U.S. – Mexico State Alliance Partnership, the purpose of which is to build upon the success of the bi-national legislative exchanges established by the U.S. – Mexico Border Legislative Conference; and,

WHEREAS Although Mexico's law enforcement and judicial institutions continue to face challenges, much progress has been made at both the state and federal levels to enhance the rule of law; and,

WHEREAS The United States Congress is currently considering funding to support the Merida Initiative, an assistance package to support Mexican law enforcement in addressing the shared threat presented by organized crime involved in drug trafficking:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL:

Encourages the United States Congress to support funding for technical assistance to Mexico, including expanded law enforcement cooperation under the Merida Initiative.