Statement of Elizabeth B. Kautz
Mayor of Burnsville, MN
President, The U.S. Conference of Mayors

Mayors Commend Assistance for States and Teachers,
Call for Action on Local Jobs for America Act and COPS Assistance

Washington, D.C. – On behalf of the nation’s mayors, U.S. Conference of Mayors President Burnsville, MN Mayor Elizabeth Kautz released the following statement:

“The nation’s mayors commend Speaker Nancy Pelosi for calling the House back in session to approve important legislation to provide funding to the states in the form of Medicaid assistance and to help prevent the layoff of teachers. This money will save jobs, and is an important first step in strengthening our nation’s economy. We support passage of this bill.

“When Congress returns from its August recess, we urge the House and Senate to immediately approve the Local Jobs for America Act (H.R. 4812/S. 3500) which would provide funding directly to cities and counties to help create jobs and prevent the almost 500,000 layoffs predicted at the local level. In addition, we urge that immediate funding be provided for the COPS program to ensure that local police jobs are preserved and that public safety is maintained. As called for in our 2010 Metro Agenda for America, immediate action on our priorities will strengthen the metro economies that drive our nation and help prevent our country from entering a second recession.”

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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 city is represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the mayor. More information about the Conference is available at usmayors.org.