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**James C. Condos, Secretary of State
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Press Release

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For immediate release

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Montpelier, VT- Secretary of State Jim Condos is attending the 2011 National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) Summer Conference in Daniels, West Virginia where the major topics of discussion include 2012 Election Issues and Business Identity Theft. The four day event will conclude with the induction of the association's national officers for the 2011-2012 cycle. The 2011-2012 NASS President will be Alabama Secretary of State Beth Chapman.

As a member of the NASS Business Identity Theft Task Force, Secretary Condos attended a seminar with federal law enforcement representatives and others discussing ways to prevent this relatively new and rapidly spreading type of fraud. Ron Layton, US Secret Service Agent; and Neal O'Farrell, Executive Director of the Identity Theft Council explained the seriousness of the issue and the need for Federal and State officials to collaborate their focus on the issue.

"I have learned that all businesses – large and small – are targets; and of the serious emotional and financial strains placed upon those businesses affected," Secretary Condos said. "The most effective strategy is prevention – and that includes a business continually checking their business registration and credit account information to keep it updated."

The elections focus is on preparing for the 2012 Presidential primaries and general election, increasing voter participation while maintaining the integrity of our democratic process.

In addition to elections and business services, state officials from across the country will exchange information and programming ideas on state heritage and museums, securities, international relations, social media and other issues of common interest.

"The opportunity to interact with my colleagues is invaluable in creating an atmosphere of new ideas and improving strategies that will enable Vermont to have a Secretary of State's office that is efficient, productive and responsive," stated Secretary Condos.

Secretary of State Jim Condos has over 20 years of elected public service, including 18 years of local government, and 8 years as a Vermont State Senator, in addition to more than 30 years of private sector business experience.

Founded in 1904, the National Association of Secretaries of State (NASS) is the oldest, nonpartisan professional organization of public officials in the United States. Members include the 50 states, the District of Columbia, American Samoa, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. On the Web:
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