

# Business Leaders United Employer Fly-in

## Meeting Biographies

October 1-2, 2012

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### **Senator Lamar Alexander** (R-TN)

Senator Lamar Alexander serves on committees overseeing education, clean air, highways, science, appropriations and the Tennessee Valley Authority. He was elected three times by his peers to serve as Chairman of the Senate Republican Conference—the third-ranking Republican position in the United States Senate and a position he held from 2007 until Jan 2012. He is the only Tennessean ever popularly elected both governor and U.S. Senator.

Sen. Alexander has been U.S. Education Secretary, University of Tennessee president, and professor at Harvard's School of Government. He chaired the National Governors' Association and President Reagan's Commission on Americans Outdoors. In private life, he helped found the nation's largest provider of worksite day care.



### **Representative John Boehner** **Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives** (R-OH)

John Boehner serves as Speaker of the United States House of Representatives. He was elected to represent the Eighth Congressional District of Ohio for an 11th term in November 2010. Representative Boehner was elected to Congress in 1990.

After Republicans won their first Congressional majority in several decades, his colleagues elected him to serve as House GOP Conference Chairman in the 104th and 105th Congress. In 1999, as Vice-Chairman of the House Administration Committee,



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John joined House leaders to announce the first-ever "clean" independent audit of the House, a reform he first called for as a member of the Gang of Seven in 1992. In addition, he served as chairman of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce from 2001 to 2006.



**Senator Dick Durbin**  
**Assistant Majority Leader, U.S. Senate**  
(D-IL)

Senator Dick Durbin, a Democrat from Springfield, is the 47th U.S. Senator from the State of Illinois, the state's senior senator, and the convener of Illinois' bipartisan congressional delegation. He was elected to the Senate in 1996. Senator Durbin also serves as the Assistant Majority Leader, the second highest ranking position in the Senate. Also known as the Majority Whip, Senator Durbin has been elected to this leadership post by his Democratic colleagues every two years since 2006. In 2004, he was elected as Minority Whip and is only the fifth Illinois Senator in history to serve as a Senate leader.

Senator Durbin sits on the Senate Judiciary, Appropriations, Foreign Relations and Rules Committees. He is the Chairman of the Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights and the Appropriations Committee's Financial Services and General Government subcommittee.



**Representative Virginia Foxx**  
(R-NC)

Congresswoman Virginia Foxx was reelected to her fourth term to represent North Carolina's Fifth District in the United States House of Representatives in November 2010. Congresswoman Foxx currently chairs the House subcommittee on Higher Education. She also serves on the powerful House Committees on Rules. The Rules Committee determines what legislation comes to the floor of the House and what amendments will be allowed during floor debate.

Prior to serving on Capitol Hill, Foxx spent ten years in the North Carolina Senate. Representative Foxx has been active in civic and business affairs, serving on many state and national committees. She served on the Executive Committee of North Carolina Citizens for Business and Industry and was elected to three four-year terms on the



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Watauga County Board of Education. She was confirmed by the United States Senate for a Presidential appointment to the National Advisory Council for Women's Educational Programs. She also served on the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation Advisory Panel.



**Representative Steny Hoyer**  
**Minority Whip, U.S. House of Representatives**  
(D-MD)

As House Democratic Whip for the 112th Congress, Congressman Hoyer is the second-ranking member of the House Democratic Leadership. He is charged with mobilizing the party vote on important legislation, acting as a liaison between Members and the Democratic Leadership, and coordinating strategy within the Caucus. He also plays a key role in shaping House Democrats' legislative priorities and in delivering the Democratic message.

He previously served as House Majority Leader from 2007 to 2011 – which made him the highest-ranking Member of Congress from Maryland in history – and House Democratic Whip from 2003 to 2007. Prior to serving as the Whip in the 108th and 109th Congresses, he served as Chair of the Democratic Caucus – the fourth-ranking position among House Democrats – from 1989 to 1995. He is the former Co-Chair (and a current member) of the Democratic Steering Committee, and served as the chief candidate recruiter for House Democrats from 1995 to 2000. He also served as Deputy Majority Whip from 1987 to 1989. Now serving his 16th term in Congress, he also became the longest-serving Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Maryland in history on June 4, 2007.



**Alan B. Krueger**  
**Chair, Council of Economic Advisers**

Alan B. Krueger is the Chairman of President Barack Obama's Council of Economic Advisers and a member of the Cabinet. Mr. Krueger was confirmed by the U.S. Senate on November 3, 2011. Previously, Mr. Krueger served in the Obama Administration as Assistant Secretary for Economic Policy and Chief Economist at the U.S. Department of the Treasury.



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He is currently on leave from Princeton University, where he is the Bendheim Professor of Economics and Public Affairs. He has held a joint appointment in the Economics Department and the Woodrow Wilson School at Princeton since 1987. In 1994-95, Mr. Krueger served as Chief Economist at the U.S. Department of Labor.



**Emily Stover DeRocco**  
Workforce Training Co-Chair  
Romney For President Campaign

Emily Stover DeRocco is currently a member of the Romney campaign's Education Policy Advisory Group, where she serves as the Workforce Training Co-Chair. She is the former president of the Manufacturing Institute, where she implemented strategies for education reform and workforce development, innovation support and services, and research on behalf of U.S. manufacturers.

Ms. DeRocco also served as U.S. assistant secretary of labor for employment and training, creating economic development initiatives in 39 regions. In that role, she also led presidential initiatives to align education, economic development and workforce development investments, and to increase the capacity of the nation's community college systems. Previously, Ms. DeRocco managed two nonprofits and worked at the Departments of Energy and Interior, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and the Interstate Commerce Commission.



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