

GAC 2026 Wrap-up:

That's a wrap on GAC 2026! From the pageantry of the Parade of Flags to impactful meetings with members of Congress – Nebraska credit unions joined over 6,000 advocates in the nation's capital last week to highlight the credit union difference.



Parade of Flags

The conference kicked off with the inspiring Parade of Flags ceremony. This powerful tradition brings together representatives from all 50 states and the District of Columbia, celebrating the uniqueness of each state while showcasing the unity and shared mission of the credit union system. Nebraska Credit Union League (NCUL) Board Chair, Robin Larsen, from Cobalt FCU and NCUL President, Brandon Luetkenhaus, carried the Nebraska flag.



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Nebraska Credit Unions Take the Stage

From breakout sessions to the main stage, Nebraska was well represented.

NCUL President, Brandon Luetkenhaus stood with league presidents from across the country on the main stage at GAC to highlight how credit union leagues safeguard and strengthen the credit union system. Through collective

advocacy, leagues have helped credit unions deliver nearly \$36 billion in financial benefits to members. They have also reviewed and monitored over 135,000 bills across all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Their efforts have been instrumental in defeating interchange legislation and preserving the credit union tax status.



In breakout sessions, Nebraska credit unions, such as Family Focus FCU and Omaha FCU, demonstrated leadership and added their voice to the national dialogue on policy priorities and issues impacting credit unions of all sizes such as regulatory relief, financial fraud, and support in adopting innovative technologies.



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Nebraska's U.S. Senator, Pete Ricketts, was featured on the GAC 2026 main stage. He highlighted his efforts on the Senate Banking Committee to reduce regulatory burdens on credit unions. He noted his co-sponsorship of the Expanding Access to Lending Options Act and the Credit Union Board Modernization Act and emphasized the benefits of the GENIUS Act. Ricketts also voiced support for the ROAD to Housing Act, stressing bipartisan commitment to improving housing affordability and recognizing the vital role credit unions play. He closed by thanking credit unions for helping Americans achieve their dreams.



U.S. Senator Pete Ricketts (NE) at GAC 2026

Visit to Capitol Hill:

Credit union leaders and supporters joined the NCUL advocacy team for meetings on Capitol Hill with Nebraska's Congressional delegation. Their first stop was the Nebraska Breakfast, where credit union advocates made up nearly half the room; a level of participation that was recognized and appreciated by the members of Congress.



Rep. Mike Flood at Nebraska Breakfast

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Credit Union champions shared impactful stories about how credit unions are a key partner in addressing affordability with a proven record of providing access to safe, affordable financial services to the consumers, businesses, and communities they serve.



U.S. Senator Deb Fischer (NE) with Nebraska Credit Union League

Nebraska’s Congressional Representatives and Senators were thanked for their steadfast support of the credit union tax status. Advocates also urged them to keep championing policies that modernize the industry, expand access so more people can join credit unions, reduce compliance burdens, open up lending opportunities, and strengthen efforts to fight financial fraud.



Rep. Adrian Smith chats w/ NCUL members

We are grateful to all the credit union champions who were able to make the trip and our event sponsors for their partnership. Save the date for next year:

February 28 - March 4, 2027

