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Rich Hobbie has been with the National Association of State Workforce Agencies (NASWA), formerly known as the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies (ICESA), since July 1998. He is NASWA's Executive Director. NASWA is an association that provides advocacy, liaison, and information exchange with the U.S. Department of Labor and Congress on workforce investment programs, unemployment insurance, and labor market information. Previously, Rich has been a consultant, an Associate Assistant Secretary at the U.S. Department of Labor, staff director of a subcommittee of the House Committee on Ways and Means, and an analyst at the Congressional Research Service and the Congressional Budget Office.

Mr. Hobbie earned a Ph.D. degree from the School of Public Policy and Management at The Ohio State University (OSU) in 1975 and also has earned Master of Arts and Bachelor of Arts degrees in economics at OSU.