



About the Levin Center

The Carl Levin Center for Oversight and Democracy was established in 2015 to carry on the legislative oversight legacy and public vision of U.S. Senator Carl Levin, who represented Michigan in the U.S. Senate for 36 years, longer than any other Michigan senator. The Levin Center is headquartered at Wayne State University Law School in Detroit with an office in Washington, D.C.

Advancing Oversight. Strengthening Democracy.

The Levin Center works to build capacity in legislative bodies at all levels — federal, state, and abroad — to expose public and private sector abuses, ensure effective governance, and bring critical facts to light for the benefit of all. The Levin Center has developed a reputation as a leader in this area by helping to train congressional and state lawmakers and their staff from both parties on how to conduct bipartisan, fact-based oversight; conducting and supporting research on important issues; and educating future leaders about the value and practice of legislative oversight. The Center is working to inspire and train a new generation in the techniques of bipartisan, fact-based oversight to ensure public and private institutions operate with integrity, transparency, and accountability.

Our mission

To strengthen the integrity, transparency, and accountability of public and private institutions through the promotion and support of bipartisan, fact-based legislative oversight; to advance good governance, particularly with respect to the legislative process; and to promote civil discourse on current issues of public policy.





Home of the State Oversight Academy

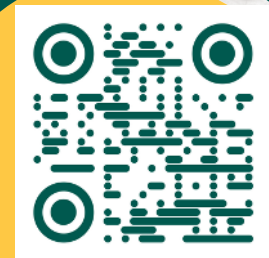
The State Oversight Academy is the first and only national institution dedicated to promoting effective bipartisan fact-finding and oversight by state legislatures as essential to good governance and democracy. SOA builds a national community of practitioners, scholars, good government advocates, and the public interested in advancing transparent and accountable government and mitigating disinformation that can foster extremism and stymy dialogue across the political divide.

Civic Education - “Learning by Hearings”

The Levin Center’s civic education program, Learning by Hearings, provides robust, experiential education opportunities where participants learn about history, government, and current events while developing their capacity for critical thinking and working with people from diverse backgrounds and viewpoints. Its centerpiece is a legislative oversight committee hearing where participants role play as state legislators, executive branch officials, members of the media, and others participating in an investigation into a contemporary issue. Our civic education classroom modules and after-school programs give participants the tools and support to prepare and conduct a mock investigative hearing, learn about the separation of powers, hone their critical thinking skills, and realize the value of factual consensus.

Other Programs and Resources

- Summer Legal Internships for Wayne Law Students
- Non-Residential Oversight Fellowships
- Award for Excellence in Oversight Research
- Carl Levin Award for Effective Oversight
- Congressional Oversight Records Database
- State Legislative Oversight Wiki
- Portraits in Oversight Series
- Oversight Case Law
- Events, Panel Discussions, and Symposia



*scan code or visit our
website at levin-center.org*