



For Immediate Release

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE SECRETARY PENNY PRITZKER
TO SPEAK AT 96TH AMS ANNUAL MEETING

December 21, 2015, BOSTON, MA – The American Meteorological Society (AMS) announces that U.S. Department of Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker will take part in an informal Town Hall discussion at the 96th AMS Annual Meeting in New Orleans on January 11, 2016. Secretary Pritzker will provide remarks, followed by an armchair conversation with NOAA Administrator Dr. Kathryn Sullivan. The discussion will address NOAA’s plan in forming new alliances to help bring its vast data resources to the public in an effort to better inform and prepare them during extreme and severe weather events.

Extreme weather events are a growing threat to the U.S. economy. The Department of Commerce, through the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), deploys data that empowers decision makers in government and the private sector to respond to the realities of a changing climate.

“The relationship between the weather and climate community and the business community is extremely vital, and we’re honored that Secretary Pritzker is leading this conversation at our annual meeting,” said AMS Executive Director Keith Seitter. “We’re certain many positives will come of it.”

The discussion with Secretary Pritzker in this informal Town Hall will take place Monday January 11, 2016 at 12:15 PM in the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center, La Nouvelle C. [Full details can be found here.](#)

As the 38th U.S. Secretary of Commerce, Penny Pritzker is a key member of President Obama’s economic team, with 27 years of private sector experience. Before joining the Obama Administration, Pritzker founded and ran five different businesses in the real estate, hospitality, senior living, and financial services industries. Since taking office in June 2013, she has worked closely with the business community and helped advance the President’s priorities of expanding growth and opportunity for all Americans.

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About AMS

Founded in 1919, AMS is a leading voice in promoting and advancing the atmospheric and related oceanic and hydrologic sciences. We are committed to supporting and strengthening the

weather, water, and climate community to ensure society fully benefits from scientific education, research, and understanding.

Headquartered in Boston, with an office in Washington DC, AMS has more than 13,000 members, including researchers, scientists, broadcasters, educators, and other professionals, as well as students and weather enthusiasts. AMS publishes books, textbooks, and monographs as well as more than 2,000 articles annually across eleven peer-reviewed scientific journals. AMS set the standard for broadcast meteorologist certification in 1957, and today more than 1,500 broadcasters and consultants are AMS certified. Each year, AMS holds 8 to 12 specialty meetings and an Annual Meeting that draws more than 3,500 attendees. AMS helps educate Congress through letters and Capitol Hill briefings and also promotes Earth Science literacy through initiatives