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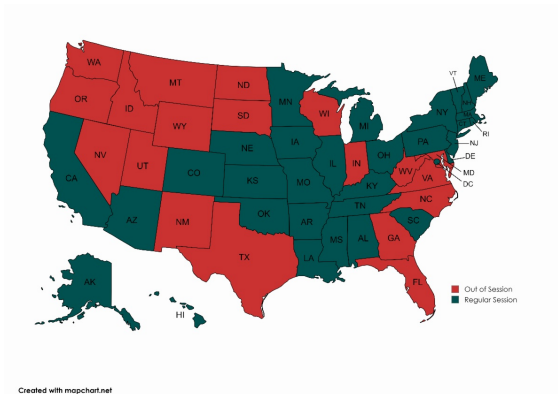
50 STATES 1 SOLUTION

Legislative Weekly Update

April 11, 2024

State Legislative Session Map

- 31 States in Regular Session
- 19 States Out of Session



A \$1.8 Billion Mystery

Occasionally, perhaps while doing laundry, one might find an extra \$1, or if the stars align, a \$20 bill in our jeans pocket. It doesn't happen often but when it does it is a nice surprise for the lucky person. Typically in those moments I often wonder what I was doing to lose track of it in the first place? But what if that \$20 was actually an extra \$1.8 billion in your bank account? Is it possible a state government could have it laying around without anyone's knowledge? A fascinating mystery is playing out in the Palmetto State regarding the recent discovery of \$1.8 billion in state coffers. Is it real? Where did it come from? Who knew about it? Who gets to spend it (if it's real)? [Learn more here.](#)

State Legislative Round-Up

Arkansas – April 10 marks the start of the 2024 legislative session in Little Rock. Lawmakers are focused on Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders' \$6.3 billion proposed budget for the coming year. Education and the new school voucher program take up much of the proposed \$109 million increase in spending. The session may include efforts to repeal or modify a law dealing with cryptocurrency mining operations. [Learn more here.](#)

Hawaii – Thinking of traveling to the Aloha State? Two bills that could phase out short-term rentals in Hawaii are moving thru the legislature. The bills would give the state's county governments the power to ban short term rentals. The measures are meant to limit short-term vacation rentals in housing units that are otherwise constructed for long-term, permanent housing, like single-family

New York – The 2024 state budget is over a week late and lawmakers passed and the Governor signed a budget extender to keep things running thru Thursday, April 10. A second budget extender is likely as negotiations continue on education, housing and health care. [Learn more here.](#)

South Carolina – Despite opposition from the freedom caucus, legislation is advancing that would allow candidates for elected office to use campaign funds for childcare. Thirty-one states already allow it with the intent being it will help recruit more people to run for public office. [Learn more here.](#)

Tennessee – The state Senate passed a bill this week allowing some teachers to go armed at schools. There is fierce opposition from Democrats and parents of the survivors of the mass shooting

homes and condo units outside of resort areas.

Illinois – Friday, April 12 is the deadline for bills in the Senate to pass thru the Upper Chamber. One week later the House deadline takes effect on Friday, April 19. One outstanding issue is what will happen to Gov. J.B. Pritzker’s proposed elimination of the state’s grocery tax which creates significant revenue for local municipalities. [Learn more here.](#)

Louisiana – Educators and parents may soon have the power of legislation to prevent kids from using cell phones in school. School officials already have the power to enact such a ban but enforcement is lacking. The bill’s author, Sen. Beth Mizell, R-Franklinton, says the bill will allow school officials to blame the ban on lawmakers hopefully leading to more consistent enforcement of the policy. [Learn more here.](#)

Minnesota – State lawmakers are considering legislation that would allow legislators – rather than the Governor alone - to convene a special session without an end date until the next legislature convenes. If passed, voters would ultimately decide the issue in November at the ballot box. Republican legislators are concerned the change would create a full-time legislature. [Learn more here.](#)

that took place almost a year ago at Covenant School, a private Christian facility in Nashville. The bill is currently on hold via a procedural motion called “held on the desk” – but that may not last long. [Learn more here.](#)

Virginia – On Monday, Governor Glenn Youngkin proposed a rewrite of the state budget adopted last month by the General Assembly. The Governor issued 233 amendments which included some funding increases requested by Democrat lawmakers but without his desired tax cuts. Lawmakers return to Richmond on April 17 to consider the governor’s amendments and vetoes. [Learn more here.](#)



What We Are Reading

- [The Campaign to Shield the Personal Information of Judges, Governing.com](#)
- [What to know about the Arizona Supreme Court’s reinstatement of an 1864 near-total abortion ban, AP News](#)
- [America the slot machine; Axios.](#)



Cool Jobs

- [Head of State Government Affairs; Pacific Life](#)
- [Director, State Government Affairs; Entertainment Software Association](#)
- [Public Relations Manager; Walt Disney Company](#)
- [Director, U.S. Government Affairs and Public Policy – State Affairs; BlackRock](#)
- [Director, State and Local Government Relations, Honeywell](#)

Political Industry Events

April 15-17

State Government Affairs Council's (SGAC)
National Summit. April 15-17 in Dallas, TX

April 16-18

AAPC Pollie Awards Conference in
Washington, DC

April 18-19

Republican Attorneys General Association's
(RAGA) Energy Summit in Houston, TX



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