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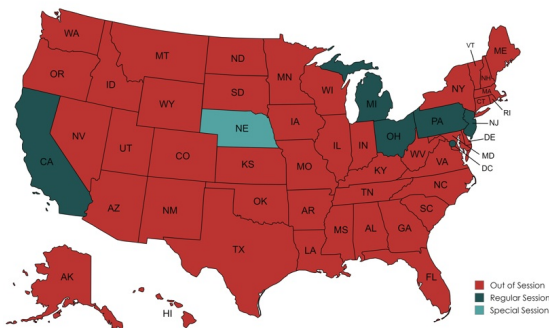
50 STATES 1 SOLUTION

State Government Weekly Update

August 8, 2024

State Legislative Session Map

- 5 States in Regular Session
- 44 States Out of Session
- 1 States in Special Session



State Government Round-Up

Georgia - The Republican-controlled State Election Board approved a rule letting local officials conduct “reasonable inquiry” into election results before certifying them. The new process could delay the certification of a Georgia election in a large county if a single board member called for an investigation into equipment or administration of the vote. [Learn more here.](#)

Illinois - Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker, a Democrat, signed legislation eliminating the state’s 1% sales tax on groceries starting in 2026. The measure also allows local governments to impose a grocery tax and increase other sales taxes, not through voter referendum, but through ordinance. That takes effect immediately. [Learn more here.](#)

Check Out Our State Budget Tracker Below!

State Government Round-Up Continued

Kansas/Missouri - Five years ago, liberals and conservatives hailed an agreement between Kansas and Missouri to end their economic bidding wars, in what some had hoped would set a new model for states across the country to curb corporate tax incentives. But more powerful than the bipartisan cross-border cease-fire, apparently, is the allure of a new professional sports venue. [Learn more here.](#)

Tennessee - In many ways, Tennessee’s fiercest GOP legislative primary races amounted to a referendum on Gov. Bill Lee’s school voucher proposal to provide public funding to any K-12 student toward a private education. On Thursday, Republican voters delivered the governor a mix of wins and losses on the issue. Sen. Jon Lundberg, Chair of the Senate Education Committee and sponsor of the Senate’s version of a statewide

Louisiana - Parents have brought a lawsuit against a new Louisiana law requiring the Ten Commandments to be taught in public school classrooms. The attorney general is asking a federal judge to dismiss the case. [Learn more here.](#)

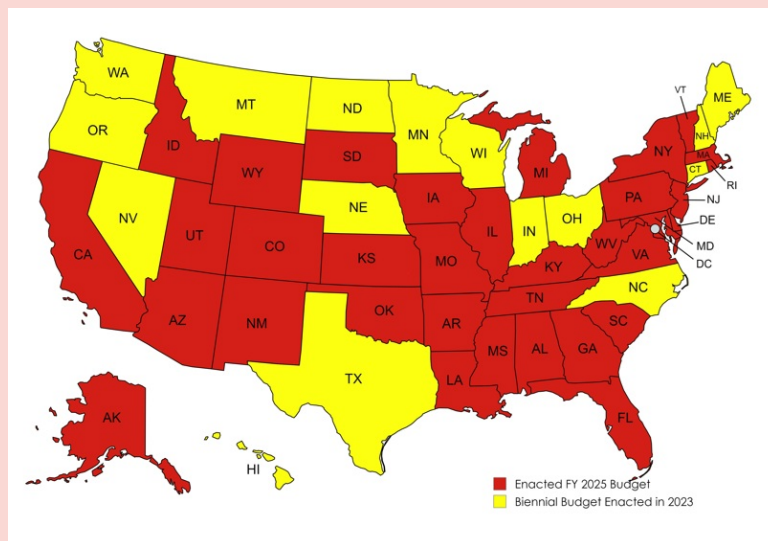
Maryland - A federal appeals court upheld a 2013 Maryland law banning assault weapons, ruling that such military-style firearms fall outside Second Amendment protections. Second Amendment advocates vowed to appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. [Learn more here.](#)

Michigan - State Sens. Mary Cavanagh (D-Redford Twp.) and Jeff Irwin (D-Ann Arbor) have introduced a two-bill package intended to reduce financial barriers for over-the-counter hormonal contraceptives and emergency contraception. If signed into law, Senate Bills **973** and **974** would require Medicaid and private health insurance providers to offer coverage for contraception and emergency contraception, including over the counter options and regardless of whether it was prescribed. [Learn more here.](#)

voucher bill this year, was defeated by Bobby Harshbarger, a pharmacist who is the son of U.S. Rep. Diana Harshbarger of Tennessee. And John Ragan, an Oak Ridge Republican and voucher supporter, lost his primary contest to former Clinton Police Chief Rick Scarbrough. [Learn more here.](#)

Virginia - The Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Control Authority will implement a more randomized system to distribute rare liquor products and will stop notifying customers when and where those products will be available. The changes come two years after a state employee and an associate were caught selling bourbon collectors inside info on where the state was sending hard-to-find bottles. [Learn more here.](#)

Washington - As expected, Democrat Bob Ferguson and Republican Dave Reichert will battle to be Washington's next governor in November after storming to the front of the 28-person field in Tuesday's primary. [Learn more here.](#)



State Budget Tracker

As of August 8th, 50 states have enacted a budget for FY 2025. Sixteen of those states enacted a biennial budget during their 2023 legislative session.

- Forty-six states began fiscal year 2025 on July 1.
- New York began its fiscal year on April 1.
- Texas begins its fiscal year on September 1.
- Alabama and Michigan begin their fiscal year on October 1.

A full list of states and budget information can be accessed [here.](#)



What We Are Reading

- *Artificial Intelligence and Health Care: A Primer; NCSL*
- *What Tim Walz Is Known for in Minnesota; Governing*
- *States Could Struggle to Cut Workforce Costs in Next Downturn; Pew*
- *Despite Clouds in Forecast, US Economy Still on 'Strong Footing'; NCSL*
- *Why North Kansas City pays its residents' internet bills, and your city doesn't pay yours; The Beacon*
- *One idea to curb the invasive Asian carp: Eat them; Louisiana Illuminator*

Cool Jobs

- **Manager, State and Local Government Affairs; Capital One (Richmond, Chicago, New York, McLean)**
- **State Government Relations & Public Affairs Lead; UCB (Raleigh)**
- **Senior Manager, State Government Relations, MLB (New York)**

Industry Happenings and Important Events

August 19-22

Democratic National Convention in Chicago, IL

September 25-27

PAC Government Relations and Policy Conference in Washington, DC



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