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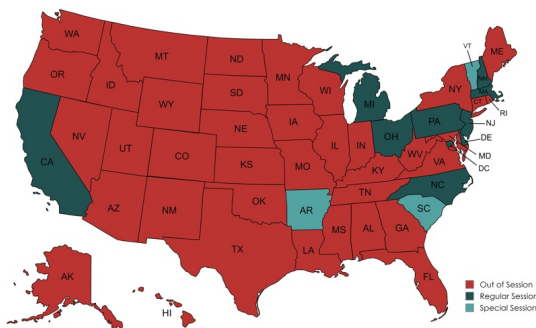
50 STATES 1 SOLUTION

State Government Weekly Update

June 18, 2024

State Legislative Session Map

- 9 States in Regular Session
- 38 States Out of Session
- 3 Special Session



State Government Round-Up

Arizona – Republican lawmakers in the House and Senate advanced a ballot measure on Wednesday that would eliminate term limits for judges across the state. If passed by the voters, the measure would protect two State Supreme Court Judges, Justices Clint Bolick and Kathryn King, who are up for re-election and targeted for removal from the bench over their support for a near-total abortion ban dating back to the Civil War. Superior Court judges generally serve for a period of four years before facing reelection, while state appellate judges and Arizona Supreme Court justices hold office for six years. Critics of the proposal have condemned it for disregarding the voters' wishes, particularly due to the provision that retroactively eliminates term limits.

Check Out Our New State Budget Tracker Below!

State Government Round-Up Continued

Also on Wednesday, Arizona Republicans advanced a ballot referral that would allow challenges to be filed against ballot measures while campaigns are still gathering signatures to qualify for the ballot. It would allow challenges to be filed as soon as an initiative or constitutional amendment is first filed with the Arizona Secretary of State's office, the first official step for any ballot measure. Opponents point out that there are already measures in place to allow for challenges and that the proposed change will make it much more difficult and expensive for citizens to wage campaigns. [Learn more here.](#)

New Hampshire – By a narrow margin of 178-173, the House rejected a proposal that would have legalized recreational marijuana for those 21 and older and established the framework for a franchise model of retail stores with the state having authority over store layout and advertising. Pro-legalization supporters in the House had opposed the retail approach endorsed by Gov. Chris Sununu and the Senate and had been frustrated when the Senate continued to pass that version of the legislation. The decision to terminate the legislation marked a significant

California – After stalling last year, a bill designed to force large online platforms such as Google and Meta to pay California news outlets for content they publish was amended on Monday, June 10 breathing new life into the controversial legislation. Changes were made to the “California Journalism Preservation Act,” known as Assembly Bill 886, to address concerns from small publishers and make the plan more similar to the way Canada charges platforms for distributing news content. The bill is scheduled for a hearing on June 25 in the Senate Judiciary Committee. [Learn more here.](#)

Florida – A law championed by Republican Governor Ron DeSantis strictly limited transgender health care for adults and banned it completely for children. On Tuesday, June 11, a federal judge said the law was unconstitutional and that Florida can't deny treatment to trans people. DeSantis's office vowed to appeal. [Learn more here.](#)

Maine – In May, Governor Janet Mills issued an executive order to create the Infrastructure Rebuilding and Resilience Commission, tasked with aiding the state's response to recent climate calamities and devising a sustainable strategy for enhancing infrastructure resilience. This directive underscored the recognition that the frequency and severity of storms in Maine – 8 major disasters over the last two years – is getting worse with climate change. [Learn more here.](#)

Michigan – A state House committee voted 8-3 in favor of advancing a series of bills aimed at allocating billions of dollars over 10 years towards Michigan's economic growth and transportation infrastructure. However, for the package to pass the House floor, Democratic leaders require the support of at least one Republican vote. The legislation would earmark \$250 million in corporate income tax revenue annually, over the next decade, to a fund focused on attracting businesses and \$200 million annually to a separate fund to support "transformational mobility projects." In addition, \$100 million each year would go to housing programs, and \$50 million would be set aside for revitalization efforts. The bills would represent a significant and long-term investment in transit and development by Michigan's leaders. Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has urged the Democrat-controlled Legislature to authorize incentive programs to help her administration attract businesses as population growth in the state has stalled. [Learn more here.](#)

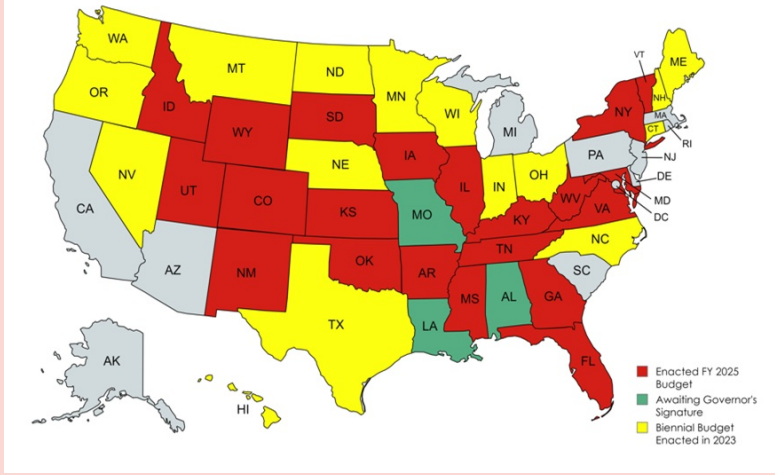
political shift for the House. Over the past ten years, the House has consistently supported cannabis legalization bills with bipartisan majorities, only to face rejection from bipartisan majorities in the Senate. [Learn more here.](#)

New York – In light of recent antisemitic attacks where violent protesters used masks to shield their faces making them unrecognizable, Governor Kathy Hochul is considering at least a partial ban on masks on New York City subways. New York City Mayor Eric Adams supports the Governor's measure. [Learn more here.](#)

North Carolina – On Tuesday, June 11, a state House committee advanced legislation that would empower the state's chief environmental regulator to order manufacturers of persistent “forever” chemicals to contribute to the costs of water systems cleanup upgrades whenever their discharge leads to drinking water contamination exceeding permissible levels. [Learn more here.](#)

South Carolina – The three GOP state senators who took a public stand against South Carolina's near-total abortion ban all lost or were forced into runoffs during Tuesday's primary. Sen. Penry Gustafson lost to her opponent, Allen Blackmon, by more than 60% of the vote. Blackmon won 82% while Gustafson won 18%. Matt Leber barely beat Sen. Sandy Senn by 31 votes, ensuring a recount will take place. And Sen. Katrina Shealy will be heading to a runoff with her Republican opponent, Carlisle Kennedy. In a surprising defeat, House Assistant Majority leader, Jay West, was beaten by a Freedom Caucus backed candidate, Lee Gilreath, who received 64% of the vote compared to West's 36%. [Learn more here.](#)

Washington - Governor Inslee issued a directive to the Washington State Department of Health that affirmed access to emergency abortion services for patients will remain unchanged while the country waits for further guidance from the U.S. Supreme Court. A ruling over how a federal law governing emergency medical treatment affects abortion in states with bans and other strict limits on the procedure is forthcoming. [Learn more here.](#)



State Budget Tracker

As of June 17, 37 states have enacted a budget for FY 2025. Sixteen of those states enacted a biennial budget during their 2023 legislative session. Budgets in three states are currently waiting for the Governor to act.

- Forty-six states will begin fiscal year 2025 on July 1.
- New York begins 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

- *One of the nation's most ambitious Governors is the new guy in Louisiana; Governing*
- *New Jersey's political machine is teetering. This Democrat wants to topple it.; POLITICO*
- *Six states where housing is hard to find: Here's what governors are doing about it; POLITICO*
- *Dark money news outlets outpacing local daily newspapers; Axios*

Cool Jobs

- **Manager, State and Local Government Affairs and Public Policy; You Tube (DC)**
- **Director, Government Relations, Columbus & Field Office; McDonalds (Atlanta, GA)**
- **Vice President, State Government Affairs; Global Business Alliance (DC/Hybrid)**
- **Director of State Government Relations; Croplife America (Arlington, VA/Hybrid)**

- Senior Director, State Government Relations; BSA | The Software Alliance; (Remote)

Industry Happenings and Important Events

June 20-23

US Conference of Mayors' Annual Meeting in Kansas City, KS

July 15-18

Republican National Convention in Milwaukee, WI

August 5-7

NCSL Legislative Summit in Louisville, KY

August 19-22

Democratic National Convention in Chicago, IL



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