

Legislative Weekly Update

May 8, 2024

State Legislative Session Map

- 24 States in Regular Session
- 26 States Out of Session



State Government Round-Up

Alabama – The legislature passed a \$3.4 billion General Fund Budget for the upcoming fiscal year, sending it to Governor Kay Ivey for signing. Separate from the General Fund is the education budget which remains in Conference Committee. Learn more here.

Arkansas – Lawmakers finished business for the year after adopting a \$6.3 billion state budget and plan to adjourn sine die on Thursday, May 9. **Learn more here.**

Colorado – Lawmakers are rushing to finish business for the year by tonight's scheduled adjournment. As of early Wednesday, work was still being done to complete legislation dealing with property taxes, climate measures and increasing caps for lawsuit damages. A \$40 billion state budget was previously passed and sent to Governor Jared Polis. Learn more here.

Connecticut – After passing a \$360 million spending package, the General Assembly will adjourn sine die on Wednesday night, May 8. The package uses leftover COVID relief funds to fill budget holes allowing Democrats to forgo reopening last year's budget. **Learn more here.**

Georgia – Utilizing the state's billions in surplus funds, Governor Brian Kemp signed a \$36.1 billion state budget that increased spending on education, health care and mental health, while also reducing the state income tax rate. **Learn more here.**

Hawaii – Governor Josh Green signed SB 2919 allowing the state's counties to regulate whether short term vacation rentals are permitted within their communities. **Learn more here.** North Carolina – Legislation that provides an additional \$463 million to the state's Opportunity Scholarship Program, which offers state funded vouchers to pay for private schooling, passed the State Senate and is headed to the House. Governor Roy Cooper supports opposing legislation that would place a moratorium on private school vouchers until public schools in the state are "fully funded." Republicans hold a veto proof majority in both Chambers if Governor Cooper vetoes the legislation. Learn more here.

Pennsylvania – The Senate Education Committee voted to pass legislation creating the PASS Scholarship program and is sending it to the Senate floor. It would allow families of children attending a public school to be eligible to receive a Louisiana – Lawmakers are delaying the creation of an education savings account program until a survey is taken of how K12 schools use the current funding available to them. The survey was deemed necessary once lawmakers received higher than expected estimates of the cost of the ESA program. Learn more here.

Mississippi – The legislature adjourned its 2024 session over the weekend passing a \$7 billion state budget. Legislation to expand Medicaid, legalize online sports betting, and allow for early inperson voting all failed to pass. Learn more here.

scholarship of up to \$10,000 for standard education and \$15,000 for special education to attend a private school. Despite his support for the Pass program, amidst significant pressure from House Democrats, the program was vetoed by Governor Josh Shapiro during last year's budget debate. Learn more here.

Vermont – A significant debate is taking place between conservationists and wildlife enthusiasts in Vermont regarding Senate Bill 258 and the makeup of the state's Fish and Wildlife Board. The Board is made up of 14 citizen members, typically hunters and outdoorsman, and is responsible for approving all of the hunting, fishing and trapping regulations in the State. Senate Bill 258 would restructure the Board by adding two additional members from outside the hunting community and strip away its authority to that of an advisory role. **Learn more here.**



What We Are Reading

- Extremely dangerous': Governors criticize 'federalization' of National Guard; Utah News Dispatch
- Montana could be a model as more GOP states weigh Medicaid work requirements; Stateline
- Tax Cheaters, Beware: Al May Be Coming for You; Governing.com



Cool Jobs

- Government Relations Manager, Carfax
- Director, State Policy, Johnson & Johnson
- Government Affairs Manager, National Taxpayers Union
- VP, Government Affairs, Synchrony
- Government Affairs, Senior Manager, Chevron Phillips Chemical

Political Industry Events

May 15

Congressional Hispanic Leadership Institute – Annual Awards Gala in Washington, DC

May 17-18

Democratic Governors Association – Spring Policy Conference in Baltimore, MD

June 10

Public Affairs Council's Digital Media and Advocacy Summit in Washington, DC



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