

## State Government Weekly Update

October 18, 2024

#### State Legislative Session Map

- 4 States in Regular Session
- 46 States out of Session



#### State Government Round-Up

**Alaska** - An Anchorage Superior Court judge heard preliminary arguments Tuesday in a lawsuit seeking to block construction of a proposed trans-Alaska natural gas pipeline on environmental grounds. **Learn more here.** 

**California** - Gov. Gavin Newsom signed a law Monday aimed at preventing gas prices from spiking, marking the Democrat's latest move in a battle with the oil industry over energy prices and the impacts of climate change. **Learn more here.** 

### **Check Out Our State Budget Tracker Below!**

### State Government Round-Up Continued

Georgia - A Fulton County judge struck down several controversial Georgia State Election Board rules that were set to take effect for the Nov. 5 general election. The judge ruled that the board's seven new rules for ballot counting, poll watcher access and election certification were illegal and unconstitutional, in a blow to state and national Republican Party officials. Learn more here.

Illinois - Voters will get a chance to decide whether millionaires in the state should pay an additional 3% tax on income greater than \$1 million for the purpose of dedicating funds raised for property tax relief. Learn more here.

Maryland - Voters will have the chance to weigh in this fall on Question 1, a ballot measure that would

**South Carolina** - A nuclear advisory group, created by the Legislature, is pushing for a study into restarting construction on a pair of nuclear reactors mothballed seven years ago as part of a failed nuclear power plant expansion in South Carolina. **Learn more here.** 

Texas - Lawmakers Wednesday signaled plans to consider a new law requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote, though even one of the strongest supporters of such legislation acknowledged instances of noncitizens voting are rare. During a Senate State Affairs committee hearing, lawmakers expressed interest in reviving legislation modeled on a proof of citizenship requirement in Arizona, currently the only state with such a requirement in force. Learn more

amend the state constitution to enshrine "reproductive freedom," a change supporters say will protect access to abortion, among other procedures. But anti-abortion advocates say there's a problem: The word "abortion" does not show up in the proposed amendment language.

Learn more here.

Nebraska – The state's top election official had no authority to strip voting rights from people convicted of a felony, the state Supreme Court ruled Wednesday in a decision that could add hundreds of new voters to the rolls and potentially help tip the balance on Nov. 5. Learn more here.

here.

**Utah** - Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment, a nonprofit advocacy group, wants state officials to enforce stricter pesticide controls, hoping to achieve change either through the state legislature or with executive action from the governor to restrict pesticides containing PFAS. **Learn more here.** 



### **State Budget Tracker**

As of October 18th, 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



**Cool Jobs** 

- States Have Big Climate Plans, but November Could Change Them; Govering.com
- Indiana's Surprisingly Close Governor's Race; Governing.com
- Director of State Affairs, American Gas Association, Washington, DC
- Political Action Committee and Government Affairs Manager, Caterpillar, Washington DC
- Sr. Director, Government Partnerships, National Geographic Society, Washington DC
- Government Affairs Director, EV Sales, Ford Motor Company, Remote

# Industry Happenings and Important Events

#### November 10-13

National Foundation of Women Legislators 2024 Annual Conference



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