About NCSL

The National Conference of State Legislatures is the nation’s largest, most influential and prestigious organization of legislators and staff. NCSL’s mission is to:

- Improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures
- Promote policy innovation and communication among state legislatures
- Ensure state legislatures a strong, cohesive voice in the federal system.
Support

- Information and analysis from the country’s most knowledgeable researchers via our in-depth website.
- Skills training sessions, meetings, and professional staff organizations.
- Personal assistance from dedicated staff liaisons.
SUPPORT

PROTECTING LEGISLATIVE DATA WHEREVER IT IS

Transportation

National Conference of State Legislatures
Ideas

- State Legislatures magazine: the latest trends, the best ideas, and the newest innovations in public policy.
- LegisBriefs: summaries of important issues of the day, from the state and federal perspectives.
- Legislative Summit: exciting ideas, new connections and promising solutions from 100-plus sessions.
IDEAS
Connections

- We link our members to the best and brightest experts in the nation.
- We are the premier forum for legislator and staff networking.
- NCSL consults with states to provide expert testimony and special assistance.
CONNECTIONS

National Conference of State Legislatures
March 9 at 11:56am

Congrats to the WI Legislature for receiving the 2016 #NCSL Harrington Award for Excellence Wisconsin State Representative Robin Vos and State Senator Roger Roth http://ow.ly/tAt9309GUaB

National Conference of State Legislatures
NCSL is the voice of state legislatures in Washington, D.C.

We work to protect state sovereignty and flexibility, fight against unfunded mandates and oppose unwarranted federal pre-emption of state authority.
STRONG VOICE

January 30, 2017

Executive Orders Highlight President Donald Trump’s First Week
Since his inauguration on Jan. 20, President Donald Trump has issued executive orders in areas that include healthcare, immigration, and energy. Notably, on Friday afternoon, the president signed an executive order that temporarily halts the admission of new refugees from entering the country, imposes an indefinite ban on the entry of refugees from Syria, and suspends citizens from several countries from entry in the United States. The order also includes language intended to give state and local governments more discretion of whether to allow refugees to settle in their areas.
Average State General Fund Expenditures

Source: NCSL survey of legislative fiscal offices.
Projected Changes in State General Fund Revenues and Expenditures: FY 2017

Source: NCSL survey of legislative fiscal offices, summer 2016.
22 states have addressed, or will address a shortfall in the current fiscal year or biennium.

20 states anticipate a budget shortfall in the next fiscal year or biennium.

13 of the states expecting shortfalls in the next fiscal year/biennium also had a shortfall this year/biennium.
State Tax Revenue Since the Start of the Recession, Four Quarter Moving Average Adjusted for Inflation

18.1% 33.7% 32.1% 15.4% 7.9% -15% -10% -5% 0% 5% 10% 15% 20% 25% 30% 35% 40%

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

Cumulative % change since start of recession

Years since start of recession


Sources: Rockefeller Institute of Government
Notes: 4-quarter average of inflation-adjusted tax revenue. Data are shown only until the start of the next recession.
Challenges and Concerns

- Sluggish revenue growth.
- Unexpectedly slow and volatile growth in sales tax collections.
- Increased program spending, particularly for Medicaid.
- Mismatch between spending and revenue growth.
- Uncertainty about federal policy changes and the national economy.
Postsecondary Legislative Priorities

- Connections to workforce demands
- Affordability
  - Free college
- Return on public investment
  - Performance Funding
- Student debt
Performance Funding Status
FY17

Performance Funding Status
In place at 2-year and 4-year institutions
In place at 2-year institutions
In place at 4-year institutions
In transition
2017 Free College Legislation
2017 Student Debt Legislation (Bills Introduced)

Number of Bills Introduced
- 0-4
- 5-9
- 10-14
- 15 or More
2017 Free Speech Legislation

Legislation Enacted in Prior Years
Legislation Enacted
Legislation Introduced
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www.ncsl.org
NCCL Legislative Summit
Boston, Massachusetts
August 6-9, 2017