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Subject: Digital Divide; States Go Green; Higher Ed R&D; Motor Voter Registration

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Bridging the Digital Divide

Recently, lawmakers in some states have become interested in crafting policies to help bridge the digital divide--the gap between regions and populations that have access to computers and the Internet and those that don't--but installation of fiber-optic cables to bridge this divide can be costly. One policy being considered is "Dig Once," which seeks to save money by minimizing the amount of excavation required to install infrastructure and facilitate access to rights-of-way.

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Going Green, Saving Green

For state governments, going green can be a win-win. As responsible stewards of public funds, states have acted as energy efficiency leaders for many years, recognizing that increased efficiency of state buildings cuts energy costs and stretches taxpayer dollars. When implemented well, energy efficiency measures can be a cost-effective and job-creating strategy with simple measures yielding payback in as little as two years.

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States' Role in Refugee Resettlement

The world took a collective gasp at a deadly and coordinated terrorist strike in Paris, France, Nov. 13. With more than a hundred dead in Paris, state leaders have had mixed reactions on what the proper response should be toward refugee resettlement in America. Here is an overview of the refugee resettlement process and states' role in it.

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Tune In to Upcoming CSG Webcasts

CSG is pleased to be THE online source for information and training on the most critical issues facing state leaders, the latest trends in state policymaking and cutting edge state solutions. Mark your calendar for two upcoming webcast sessions: School Accountability Measures, presented by CSG West on Dec. 1, and State Pensions, presented by CSG South/SLC on Dec. 3. Register today and tune in to CSG!

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Sex Offender Residency Restriction Zones

After the passage of Megan's Law in 1994, state governments began imposing residency restrictions on registered sex offenders. Most of these statutes prohibit sex offenders from living within a set distance from schools or day care centers. Some states impose additional restrictions, such as prohibiting sex offenders from living near

Higher Education Spending on Research and Development

Higher education research and development, or R&D, spending is funded by a variety of sources. The largest source of which is the federal government--which funded 59 percent of spending in 2013, followed by funding from the institutions themselves--which equaled 22 percent. State and local government spending made up 5.5 percent

public parks, youth centers, churches or other places youth may congregate.

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of total R&D spending.

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California's New Automatic Motor Voter Registration Law

On Oct. 10, California Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill into law that will automatically register to vote all eligible voters when they obtain or renew their driver's licenses at any California Department of Motor Vehicles branch, instead of requiring them to fill out a form. Oregon became the first state to pioneer the registration opt-out in legislation, which raised the registered voting population by 300,000 voters. Similar legislation is pending in 16 other states.

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Important Information for 2015 CSG National Conference Attendees

Joining us in Nashville, Tenn.? Before you leave, here's a final checklist to make sure you're ready for the meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

- ✓ Download the app
- ✓ Opt in to receive conference text message updates
- ✓ Join our Campaign Against Hunger Service Project, Dec. 13
- ✓ Enjoy the guest activities
- ✓ Check out the conference agenda

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School Accountability Measures for States and Communities

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 2 p.m. EST

Presented by CSG West

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SLC State Pensions: Latest Developments

Thursday, Dec. 3, 2 p.m. EST

Presented by CSG South/Southern

Legislative Conference

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2015 CSG National Conference

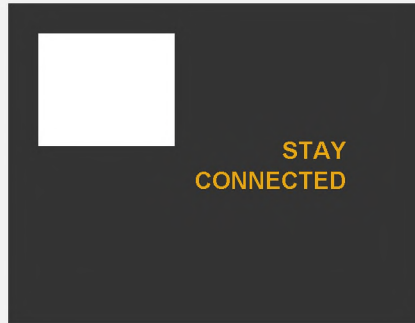
Dec. 10-13, Nashville, Tenn.

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See Full Calendar

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