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Subject: Governors' Salaries; State Pathways to Prosperity; Needle-Exchange Programs; Women in State Government

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Pennsylvania's Governor Earns the Most; Maine's Governor Earns the Least

The average annual salary for U.S. governors in 2015 is \$135,385--up just 0.5 percent from the average in 2014, a new survey by CSG reveals. As in 2014, Maine Gov. Paul LePage earns the lowest gubernatorial salary in 2015 at an annual rate of \$70,000, followed by Arkansas Gov. Asa Hutchinson, who earns \$87,759 per year.

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CSG to Release State Pathways to Prosperity Report

CSG's National Task Force on Workforce Development and Education will release its final report, *A Framework for State Policymakers: Developing Pathways to Ensure a Skilled Workforce for State Prosperity* on Wednesday. Developed through its two-year State Pathways to Prosperity initiative, led by CSG's 2014 national chair, Senate Majority Leader Mark Norris of Tennessee, and 2015 national chair, Sen. Carl Marcellino of New York, the report provides a policy framework for states to better address workforce needs and strategies to equip citizens with skills, knowledge and qualifications needed for the 21st century global economy. The report will be available for download at www.csg.org

Cuba, Iran and the Pacific Rim: What it Means to States

In December 2014, President Obama announced he would re-establish diplomatic ties with Raul Castro's Cuba. Six months later, Obama announced that the U.S. had reached an unprecedented multilateral agreement that would prevent Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons. In the next few months, the Obama administration is expected to finalize one of the largest free-trade agreements ever concluded. Here is a roundup of some of the administration's recent foreign policy activities and what it means for states.

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HIV Outbreak Triggers Substance Abuse Policy Changes

On the front page of the March 25 edition of Indiana's *Floyd County News and Tribune*, a syringe lying in dirt and grass is pictured underneath two, bold words: **An Outbreak**. Austin, Ind., a city of about 4,200 people, has been the epicenter of an HIV outbreak, said Maureen Hayden, statehouse bureau chief for CNHI Indiana Newspapers. Hayden was one of three presenters who discussed Indiana's situation and substance abuse treatment options during a recent CSG eCademy webcast, "Harm Reduction: Needle-Borne Disease and Substance Abuse."

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U.S. Military Bases

According to the U.S. Department of Defense 2013 Demographics Report, California, Virginia, Texas, North Carolina and Georgia have the largest U.S. military base populations among the states. Here's a state-by-state look at the populations of military installations across the country.

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Women in State Government, 2015

Women currently hold 79 statewide elected executive offices, representing 25.3 percent of the 312 available positions--a significant increase from 1971 when women held only 7 percent of such positions. It also represents a slight increase from 2013 and 2014 when women represented 23 percent of state elected offices.

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White House Launches New Strategy to Fight Heroin

The White House heroin response strategy announced last week, with a price tag of \$13.4 million, will emphasize treatment as well as public safety. According to Reuters, Michael Botticelli, director of National Drug Control Policy, said the new plan will address the heroin and painkiller epidemics as both "a public health and a public safety issue."

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CSG Welcomes New Director of Energy & Environment Policy

CSG is pleased to announce the addition of Liz Edmondson to the national policy staff as the director of energy and environment policy. Most recently, Edmondson served as a staff attorney for the Kentucky Resources Council, where she conducted extensive research and policy analysis on issues ranging from energy efficiency and net metering to nuclear waste disposal and wind energy.

Policy Recommendations to Improve Military and Overseas Voting

Tuesday, Sept. 15

2 p.m. EDT

FREE CSG eCademy Webcast

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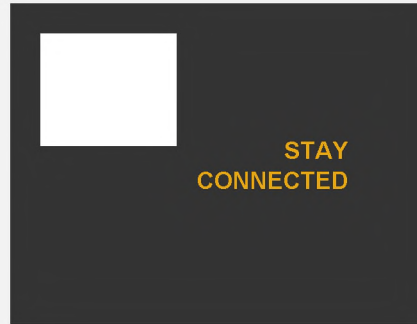
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[See Full Calendar](#)

Founded in 1933, The Council of State Governments is our nation's only organization serving all three branches of state government. CSG is a region-based forum that fosters the exchange of insights and ideas to help state officials shape public policy. This offers unparalleled regional, national and international opportunities to network, develop leaders, collaborate and

create problem-solving partnerships.



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