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**Issue: 17**

**May 18, 2015**

#### **Cyberattack: Not If, But When**

For Nebraska's Chief Information Officer Brenda Decker, the question isn't whether a cyber breach will occur, but when it will occur. The key for states, said experts at a CSG policy academy on cybersecurity, is understanding the increasing sophistication of these threats and being ready to respond.

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#### **Redefining the State Workforce**

As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, unemployment rates have fallen, job creation has increased and employees are starting to see modest increases in pay. But what does this mean for the state workforce?

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#### **Feds Aim for National Cyber Breach Notification Standard**

Hardly a day goes by without news of a cyberattack on an American business or government agency. This advancing threat underscores the need to respond with the

#### **Using Research to Build States' Economies**

Most state leaders have had to make decisions about how to invest scarce resources to create a better economy with little data to back them up. That's just

tools and authorities necessary to protect the nation's security and financial resources.

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changed with a new report produced by Elsevier and The Council of State Governments.

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### **Gubernatorial Elections, 2015-18**

According to CSG's *The Book of the States*, three states will hold gubernatorial elections in 2015, followed by twelve states in 2016, two states in 2017 and 36 states in 2018. Here's a look at state gubernatorial elections 2015-18, with a breakdown of the party seats that will be up for grabs.

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### **Federal Food Assistance Participation Tracks Recession and Recovery**

The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, also known as SNAP and food stamps, is the nation's largest anti-hunger program. About 46.5 million Americans received monthly SNAP benefits in the 2014 fiscal year, dramatically up from 28 million in 2008.

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### **Supreme Court to Hear Case Affecting Peak-demand Energy Prices**

The Supreme Court has agreed to decide whether the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission may regulate "demand response" payments offered to electric utility customers to reduce their electricity use during periods of high demand. State and local governments may save money through participating in demand response programs, but some argue that FERC's Order 745 encroaches on states' regulatory authority.

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### **CSG Co-hosts Congressional Briefing on Transportation Funding**

With the expiration of authorized federal transportation funding fast approaching, CSG and other national organizations representing state and local officials urged Congress to ensure continued solvency of the Highway Trust Fund and passage of a long-term federal transportation law during a Congressional briefing hosted by the Big 7 organizations May 12. South Dakota state Sen. Mike Vehle, co-chair of CSG's Transportation and Infrastructure Public Policy Committee spoke at the briefing during a panel discussion moderated by CSG Executive Director David Adkins.

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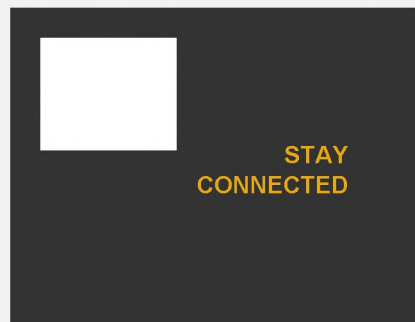
**InfraAmericas U.S. P3 Infrastructure  
Forum 2015**  
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**CSG Washington, D.C. Meeting**  
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