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Subject: The Current State: Transportation Ballot Measure; Political Civility; Antitrust Immunity

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Michigan Ballot Measure Addresses Transportation, Education Funding

Michigan voters in May will consider a complicated ballot measure that would raise an extra \$1.2 billion annually for state roads. While both supporters and detractors of Proposal 1 say something needs to be done about roads in the state, they're divided about whether new taxes are the way to go.

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More than Manners

Ohio Sen. Frank LaRose believes that being civil and minding your manners is an important part of governing effectively. A switch to a brand of campaigning that emphasizes party lines and party loyalty, combined with a "win at any cost" mentality, has led to so much division in politics that little gets done. Civility, simply put, can help legislators be more effective.

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State Board Members and Antitrust Immunity

A new Supreme Court case says state boards don't automatically get immunity from antitrust laws unless they are actively supervised by the state. This ruling could reduce the authority of governors and state legislatures to compose state agencies, boards and commissions, or create massive headaches for state leaders trying to decide what active supervision means.

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The Latest on Federal Medicaid Waivers

States that were reluctant to expand Medicaid eligibility as allowed under the Affordable Care Act are now considering waivers for expansion designed with their state politics and health care system in mind. Several governors met with President Obama in January to advocate for their proposals. Tune in to this FREE eCademy session at 2 p.m. EDT March 10 to learn how much flexibility states have under Section 1115 waivers and to get an overview of state waiver proposals.

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Tuition Up, State Spending Down

A December 2014 report from the Government Accountability Office found that while tuition at public colleges is rising, students--rather than states--are shouldering more of the burden than ever.

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Supreme Court Takes up Affordable Care Act ... Again

March 4 is an important date for anyone who cares about health policy. The Supreme Court justices will hear oral arguments in the case *King v. Burwell*, challenging tax subsidies for health insurance purchase in states that are not running their own health insurance exchanges.

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BLC Report Delves Into Major Border Issues

The Border Legislative Conference, a program of CSG West, released *The U.S.-Mexico Border Economy in Transition* report Feb. 3 at the Wilson Center in Washington, D.C. The report is the result of four Regional Economic Competitiveness Forums held along the U.S.-Mexico border in 2014. It lays out the major issues involved in the border region and gives policy recommendations that draw on the experiences of those who understand the border best: the individuals who live in border communities.

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Call For Applications: Justice & Mental Health Collaboration Program Specialized Law Enforcement Priority

Wednesday, March 4, 2 p.m. EST
Webinar presented by the CSG Justice
Center

Supreme Court Mid-Term Review Webinar

Thursday, March 5, 1 p.m. EST
Webinar presented by the State and Local
Legal Center

See Full Calendar

Deadline Approaching to Submit Suggested State Legislation

The deadline is fast approaching for state policymakers and their staffs to submit legislation to be considered by CSG's Suggested State Legislation Committee. The committee will meet as part of the CSG Washington, D.C., meeting in June. The deadline for submissions is April 24. Directions for submissions and criteria can be found **here**.

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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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