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Five Questions with the CSG Director of Fiscal and Economic Development Policy

In this occasional series featuring a CSG staff expert, Jennifer Burnett, The Council of State Governments' director of fiscal and economic development policy, discusses federal funding in the states, evidence-based policymaking, the Great Recession and women in government.

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CSG Leaders Offer 'Collective Wisdom,' Tips for New Legislators

Idaho Senate Majority Leader Bart Davis and Connecticut Deputy Speaker Bob Godfrey have collected a few tips for legislating effectively over their combined 46 years of state legislative service. CSG's *Capitol Ideas* magazine sat down with them during the CSG 2016 National Conference in Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia, to get their thoughts on what freshman legislators need to know as they start their terms.

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The Second Blocked Travel Ban and States

On March 16, 2017, President Donald Trump's second travel ban executive order was scheduled to go into effect. Within hours of each other, federal judges from Hawaii and Maryland issued decisions temporarily preventing portions of it from going into effect nationwide. The Hawaii court concluded the state has standing to challenge the travel ban due to the possible harm to its main economic driver--travel and tourism.

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Attracting Investment into States

State leaders play a key role in attracting businesses, including foreign, to invest and grow in their respective states. The United States remained the top destination for foreign investment, attracting more than \$3.1 trillion in 2015, which helped support more than 6 million jobs. This FREE CSG eCademy webinar at 2 p.m. EDT on Tuesday, April 11 will highlight innovative programs, resources and tools for states to attract investment to their local economy.

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Navigating Federal Agencies

The federal government is the nation's single largest employer, with more than 2 million civil servants performing missions as diverse as providing for the national defense and combating cancer. Accordingly, it may be difficult to determine who to approach in order to engage in a productive dialogue on key issues. Fortunately, each federal agency contains an intergovernmental affairs liaison office, which can be a key resource for assisting states in their communication with the federal government.

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Emerging State Policies on Youth Apprenticeships

Apprenticeships can feel like they are from another era, or be seen as an inferior form of post-secondary training. However, in a time of high college tuition and high unemployment rates among young workers, apprenticeships are a powerful pathway into middle- to high-wage employment. As states begin to embrace apprenticeships as a promising opportunity for their youth, engaging students in pre-apprenticeship training during high school is vital to their programs' success.

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Study Examines Licensing Barriers for People with Criminal Records

According to a study produced by the National Employment Law Project, or NELP, the majority of states are creating barriers for people with criminal records to access occupational licensure opportunities. NELP estimates between 70 and 100 million Americans (nearly 1 in 3) have a criminal record. The study produced by NELP examined existing laws in 40 states, and graded each state based on the effectiveness of their laws at creating licensing opportunities for people with criminal records.

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National Association of State Technology Directors Launches New Logo, Website

The National Association of State Technology Directors, a CSG Affiliate, which represents information technology professionals from the 50 states, through four regions, and the private sector, today released a new logo and a refreshed association website. The association has updated its logo and website in preparation for its upcoming 40th anniversary and 40th Annual Conference and Technology Showcase, set for The Peabody Memphis hotel in Memphis, Tennessee, from Aug. 27-31. For more information about NASTD, visit www.nastd.org.

2017 Infrastructure Report Card

Tuesday, April 4, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy webinar
REGISTER HERE

Attracting Investment into States

Tuesday, April 11, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy webinar
REGISTER HERE

The Legal Landscape of Public Employee Pension Reform

Tuesday, April 18, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy webinar
REGISTER HERE

CSG 2017 Spring Business Meeting

April 20-23
Lexington, Kentucky
REGISTER HERE

Workforce Development: How States are Innovating with WIOA

Tuesday, May 9, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy webinar
REGISTER HERE

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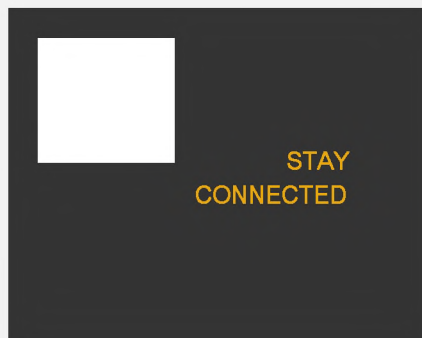
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