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Date: 4/4/2016 10:05:40 AM
Subject: Opioid Compact; Workforce Development; Reducing Recidivism; State Sales Taxes; Cuba Relations

Issue: 56

April 4, 2016

Confronting the Opioid Crisis

By investing more in treatment, mental health services and tools for law enforcement, states have risen to the challenge of combating an epidemic that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates is responsible for the deaths of 78 Americans every day. The Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts developed a compact that was not enacted but was designed to help states share information about opioid abusers across state lines.

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States Reinvent Workforce Programs with Innovation Grant

States that received a portion of the \$35 million in federal funds awarded last fall through the Workforce Innovation Fund, or WIF, are starting to put their proposed program innovations into action. Here's a look at how three states--Kansas, Ohio and Pennsylvania--are working to develop systems to support job seekers in a holistic way and connect them with employers through interdepartmental and industry partnerships.

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Correctional Leaders Discuss Strategies for Reducing Recidivism

Representatives from correctional systems in 12 states came together in early March to set strategies for and share experiences related to reducing recidivism in their states and across the country. Convened by the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance and The Council of State Governments Justice Center's National Reentry Resource Center, the 2016 Statewide Recidivism Reduction Forum brought together grantees of the SRR program, which challenges state correctional systems and their partners to reduce recidivism and serve as models for the rest of the country.

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The Every Student Succeeds Act: What It Means for State Accountability, Data

State officials are closely watching as the U. S. Department of Education releases more information on what the new Every Student Succeeds Act changes in accountability system requirements and funding mechanisms. As states grapple with the upcoming changes to federal requirements, it is important to know about the increased flexibility for state and local policymakers. Tune in Tuesday, April 12, at 2 p.m. EDT for a FREE CSG eCademy webcast that will explore what the reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act means for state leaders, with a focus on accountability systems and data policy.

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Overdose Deaths Capture Lawmakers' Attention

In March, the U.S. Senate passed a drug abuse prevention and treatment bill 94-1. The overwhelming bipartisan support for the bill underlined the growing attention to the

2016 State Sales Tax Rates

In 2016, 45 states plus the District of Columbia have sales taxes in place and five states do not. Sales tax rates (or lack thereof) remained the same as 2015 rates in 49 states and the District of Columbia on

very real increase in overdose deaths due to prescription drug abuse and heroin use. Fourteen states had a statistically significant increase in overdose deaths from prescription drug abuse and heroin use from 2013 to 2014, according to the latest data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

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U.S. Testing Reform, Preparing for Change in Cuba Relations

President Obama and his family's visit to Cuba March 20 marked the first time since 1928 that a sitting American president visited the island. While Obama's trip included formal bilateral meetings with Cuban President Raúl Castro, the White House and other federal departments emphasized engagement with the Cuban people and emphasized that reduced barriers would provide economic opportunity for the nation.

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Jan. 1, 2016. Despite the lack of significant changes since last year, state tax rates have been creeping slowly upward over the past decade.

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Toll Fellowship Application Deadline Approaching

Less than two weeks remain before the 2016 Toll Fellowship application deadline on April 15. Each year, the CSG Henry Toll Fellowship Program brings 48 of the nation's top officials from all three branches of state government to Lexington, Ky., for an intensive program designed to stimulate personal assessment and growth, while providing priceless networking and relationship-building opportunities. Apply today for the 2016 Toll Fellows Program, Aug. 26-31!

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The Every Student Succeeds Act: What Does It Mean for State Accountability and Data?

Tuesday, April 12, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy Webcast

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Building Student Capacity through Competency-Based Education

Tuesday, April 19, 2 p.m. EDT/11 a.m. PDT
FREE CSG eCademy

Presented by CSG West

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National Challenges, State Solutions: The Interstate Compact

Tuesday, April 26, 2 p.m. EDT
FREE CSG eCademy Webcast

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10 Years of the Roberts Court for State and Local Government

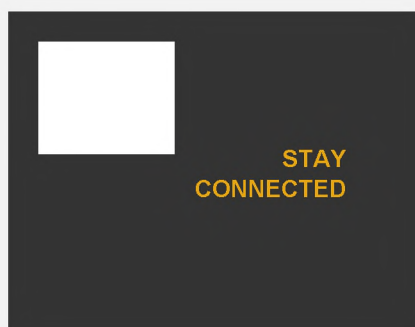
Wednesday, May 11, 1 p.m. EDT
Presented by the State and Local Legal Center

REGISTER HERE

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.

See Full Calendar

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