



MAY 2017

THE FISCAL LINK: *Your Online Connection to the Latest Fiscal Information in the States*

NCSL & NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LEGISLATIVE FISCAL OFFICES (NALFO) UPDATES

- ✓ NCSL released its [2016 State Tax Actions](#) report. This report includes 50-state information on tax actions taken during the regular and special legislative sessions in 2016, as well as actions approved by voters during the 2016 general election.
- ✓ NCSL published its [State Budget Update: Spring 2017](#). The report highlights results of NCSL's most recent survey of legislative fiscal officers about state budget conditions.
- ✓ NCSL released a web-based report detailing [Early Care and Education Budget Actions FY 2017](#). The page compiles a 50-state survey of FY 2015-2017 state appropriations for various early care and education programs.
- ✓ NCSL's Savannah Robinson wrote a [Legisbrief](#) on state and federal efforts to promote manufacturing, the fourth-largest industry in the United States.
- ✓ Registration is now open for [NCSL's 2017 Fiscal Analysts Seminar](#) on Oct. 4-6 in New Orleans. View additional details and the preliminary agenda on NCSL's website.

STATE NEWS & REPORTS

- ✓ **Alabama.** The Joint Task Force on Budget Reform published a [report](#) examining the state budgeting process and recommending changes for long-term budget and tax system reforms.
- ✓ **Arizona.** The Joint Legislative Budget Committee publishes a monthly newsletter, "[Monthly Fiscal Highlights](#)." The May issue provides information on April's Individual Income Tax Collections.
- ✓ **District of Columbia.** The Office of the Chief Financial Officer released a [study](#) on the District's retail sector, highlighting recent trends in retail sales and retail sales tax collections.
- ✓ **Florida.** The Revenue Estimating Conference released the 2017 edition of the "[Florida Tax Handbook](#)." This report provides a comprehensive view of Florida state taxes, including the fiscal impact of potential changes.

- ✓ **Iowa.** The Legislative Services Agency created a [50-state map](#) detailing state general sales tax rates for 2017.
- ✓ **Virginia.** The Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission published the report, “[Managing Spending in Virginia’s Medicaid Program](#).” The report found that while spending per enrollee has been relatively flat, total spending is driven by increasing enrolment.

FEDERAL NEWS & REPORTS

- ✓ The Congressional Budget Office released its official score of [H.R. 1628, American Health Care Act of 2017](#). The report finds that the number of uninsured would increase to 23 million by 2026 and federal deficits would be reduced by \$119 billion over the same period.
- ✓ The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia released the [state leading indexes](#) for each of the 50 states, finding that 46 state coincident indexes are expected to grow over the next six months, and four are projected to decrease. The leading index is released each month after the [state coincident indexes](#), and is used to predict the six-month growth rate of the coincident index.

OTHER ITEMS OF INTEREST

- ✓ The National Institute for Early Education Research published the report, “[The State of Preschool 2016](#).” This report provides 50-state profiles on state-funded prekindergarten programs in the United States.
- ✓ The Pew Charitable Trusts released a [50-state assessment](#) of state tax incentives for jobs and growth.
- ✓ The Rockefeller Institute of Government published a “[By the Numbers](#)” report on state tax revenues in 2016. The report finds that in FY 2016, state tax revenues performed at their weakest since FY 2010.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- ✓ Visit the NCSL [Fiscal Affairs Program homepage](#).
- ✓ Visit the [NALFO homepage](#).
- ✓ Consult a [list of Legislative Fiscal Offices](#) that maintain a webpage.
- ✓ View the online NALFO [Directory](#).

If you would like to be added to the distribution list for *The Fiscal Link*, or know a legislator or legislative staff person who should be added, just ask [Katie Quinn](#) or [Erica MacKellar](#).

NOTE: Links to external websites and reports are for information purposes only and do not indicate NCSL’s endorsement of the content on those sites.

