

**25 YEARS AGO**

Articles from the March 1986 issue of State Legislatures:

◆ **HOW TO PURCHASE A COMPUTER** “Computer systems are without a doubt a big-budget item. Rarely does a state legislature spend as much or make a purchase that has such long-term implications.”

◆ **LAWMAKERS HALT HOSTILE TAKEOVERS** “New York Governor Mario Cuomo signed a bill designed to curtail takeovers saying that lack of federal action to regulate corporate mergers prompted New York to pass the legislation.”

◆ **VERMONT RAISES DRINKING AGE TO 21** “The last state in New England enacted legislation to raise the legal drinking age from 18 to 21.”

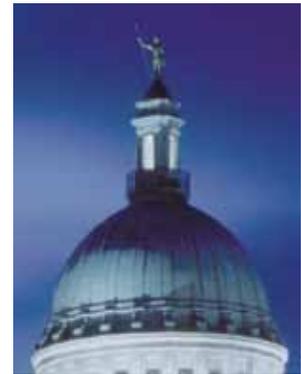
**DID YOU KNOW ...**



A winding dirt road to the top floor served as a ramp during construction of Iowa’s Capitol, which was finished in 1886. Mule wagons used it to carry the heavy 29 varieties of hand-

crafted marble used in the interior. The contractor, Robert Finkbine, devised the rather genius idea.  
—From “A Celebration of State Capitols,” by Richard R. Gibson

**WHOSE DOME IS IT?**



**SL ONLINE**

To find out, go to: [www.ncsl.org/magazine](http://www.ncsl.org/magazine)

**SL ONLINE**

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**THIS MONTH**

**SECRET STATEHOUSE**

See which statehouse dome we’re featuring this month.



Learn more about state laws related to immigrants and NCSL’s Task Force on Immigration and the States.



**CLEANING COAL**

Read more about clean coal, and see a list of resources.

**PAYING FOR ROADS**

State lawmakers talk about the challenges of transportation funding.

**TACKLING HEALTH CARE**



Learn more about steps states have taken to comply with federal health reform and what challenges are ahead.

**REGULAR FEATURES**



**GRASSCATCHER**

See what major news outlets are writing about state policy at State Legislatures’ GrassCatcher. It’s updated daily.



**SPOTLIGHT**

Check out the latest NCSL research on our home page. Updated often.



**BLOG: THE THICKET**

A bipartisan blog about the legislative institution and federalism written by and for legislative junkies. Updated often.