States have competed for job-creating ssC: the Biggest priZe from the federal government. Affordably elusive—even for people with jobs. “Affordable housing is becoming increas-ingly elusive—even for people with jobs. Responding to the housing Crisis mean for state legislatures.”

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THEN & NOW

25 YEARS AGO

Articles from the November/ December 1987 issue of STATE LEGISLATURES

AMERICA’S CHANGING FACE
“A changing economy and diverse lifestyles mark the current state of the nation. Here’s a look at demographic trends, and what they mean for state legislatures.”

RESPONDING TO THE HOUSING CRISIS
“Affordable housing is becoming increas-ingly elusive—even for people with jobs. Some state lawmakers are taking action, but they say they can’t do much without help from the federal government.”

SSC: THE BIGGEST PRIZE
“States have competed for job-creating projects before, but the Department of Energy’s proposed superconducting super collider is the king of economic prizes.”

DID YOU KNOW …

Pennsylvania lawmakers moved around a bit before settling into their state capitol. After meeting in temporary quarters (including taverns) in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, they occupied Independence Hall in Philadelphia, then moved to an apartment in Lancaster in 1799. Harrisburg was designated the capital in 1812, and 10 years later, legislators moved into their first official state capitol along the Susquehanna River. But it was destroyed by fire in 1897, and a Methodist church served for a while. Finally, in 1906, the current state capitol was built. Often called a “Palace of Art,” it features lavish statues, mosaic tile, a grand staircase modeled after the Paris Opera House and a dome modeled after St. Peter’s Cathedral in Rome. The dome weighs 52 million pounds and is covered in green(glazed) tile. President Theodore Roosevelt dedicated the building, calling it “the handsomest state capitol I have ever seen.” Condé Nast recently ranked it No. 1 on its list of amazing state capitols.

—From “A Celebration of State Capitols” by Richard R. Gibson, the Pennsylvania Capitol Preservation Committee, and condenast.com

WHOSE CAPITOL IS IT?

To find out, go to: www.ncsl.org/magazine.

CORRECTION

In the article on redistrict-ing in the Oct./Nov. issue, the photo of Texas Senator Kel Seliger (R) was incorrect. This is the real Senator Seliger.