The Fiscal Link

NCSL & National Association of Legislative Fiscal Offices (NALFO) Updates

- Calling all Fiscal Directors! NCSL is hosting its annual Fiscal Directors PreConference on Sept. 14. Registration includes a waived fee for the NCSL Base Camp 2020. Reserve your spot today!

- Check out NCSL’s upcoming five-part webinar series, “Budgets, Taxes, and Pensions, Oh My?!”

- NCSL surveyed legislative fiscal offices for their states’ latest revenue estimate. Check out the compiled data through NCSL’s Power BI tool.

- NCSL’s Michael Quillen wrote a blog on the Lost Wage Assistance Program.

- NCSL’s Research, Editorial, Legal and Committee Staff (RELACS) is hosting a multi-part series of interactive webinars and virtual meetings.

State News & Reports

- **Florida** | The state’s FY 2020 general revenue dropped by $1.8 billion compared to earlier forecasts according to figures from the recent Revenue Estimating Conference.

- **Maine** | The Maine State Revenue Forecasting Committee released a rare “off-cycle” update. Sales and use and individual income taxes account for $493.3 million or 95% of FY 2021 reductions.

**September Fiscal Brief**

Internet Gambling: Expansion on the Horizon?

Lottery and casino play over the internet was authorized in relatively few states, but this may change as states look for options to shore up state budgets.
New Mexico | A new brief by the Legislative Finance Committee analyzes how changes in payments to childcare providers kept the industry afloat, leading to increased childcare assistance spending.

Wisconsin | The Legislative Fiscal Bureau released a letter outlining federal Coronavirus Relief Fund expenditures and planned uses, including $4 million to costs for National Guard deployment to assist with COVID-19 medical responses.

Federal News & Reports

- Based on guidance from the Office of Management and Budget, an updated tool was released capturing CARES Act and other federal supplemental appropriations in response to COVID-19.

- The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) issued an assessment of its past revenue projections. Since 1982, on average CBO has slightly overestimated total revenues by 1.2% for the budget year.

Other Items of Interest

- According to the American Gaming Association Commercial Gaming Tracker, revenues dropped by 79% in Q2 2020.

- The Pew Charitable Trust released updated data in its Fiscal 50: State Trends and Analysis interactive tool. Key measurements show 44 states posted healthy tax revenue gains before the pandemic and rainy day funds in 34 states exceed pre-recession levels.

The Fiscal Link Bonus Reel

- Facebook Video Series | NCSL: ‘Relief and Revenue’


- Webinar: The Volcker Alliance and Penn Institute for Urban Research: The Role of Federal Dollars to Address Unprecedented State and Local Needs

Additional Resources

- Visit the NCSL Fiscal Affairs Program homepage.
- Visit the NALFO homepage.
- Consult a list of legislative fiscal offices that maintain a webpage.
- Join NALFO’s Listserv.
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 Emily Maher 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.