The Fiscal Link

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

- Over the fall and winter, NALFO will be holding a series of Zoom calls and webinars on a variety of topics of interest to legislative fiscal staff. Sessions will be added to this webpage as they are finalized. The first session on how states are spending federal funds will take place on Sep. 16 at 2 p.m. ET. Register here!

- NCSL’s Jackson Brainerd authored a State Legislatures News article on how internet sales tax revenue helped stabilize state finances.

- Check out highlights from NCSL’s Base Camp:
  - You’ve Got $1.9 Trillion for Pandemic Relief: Now What?
  - Infrastructure Bill Update: What Could It Mean for States?

- The 2021 Legislative Staff Nominating Committee has been formed. The purpose of the staff nominating committee is to consider candidates for the staff vice chair position as well as staff at-large members of NCSL’s Executive Committee. The deadline to declare your candidacy for the staff vice chair position is this Friday, Sept. 3. The deadline to declare your candidacy for the staff at-large position on NCSL’s Executive Committee is Monday, Sept. 20. Please visit the 2021 NCSL Legislative Staff Nominating Committee web page for more details.

Back to School, Back to Sales Tax Holidays

Seventeen states have planned at least one sales tax holiday in 2021, providing a temporary period for customers to purchase certain items tax free. What are the fiscal effects of this type of tax relief effort?
Telework and Taxes: What's a State to Do

It looks as if remote work is here to stay—and that means vexing taxation issues for states and localities, employers and individual taxpayers. Join us Nov. 3-5 at NCSL Legislative Summit in Tampa, Fla., to hear experts discuss the consequences of a growing telework economy on state tax systems.

State News and Reports

- **District of Columbia** | The Council of District of Columbia, Office of the Budget Director released an interactive budget look-up tool. The tool breaks down the fiscal year 2022 proposed budget for each agency to a granular level.
- **Maryland** | The Department of Legislative Services reviewed the effect of the 2021 legislative program on the fiscal condition of the state and local governments.
- **Montana** | The Legislative Fiscal Division analyzed individual income tax for non-resident and partial residents.
- **Wyoming** | The Legislative Service Office prepared a memorandum of the state’s approach to providing industrial development impact mitigation payments to local governments.

Federal News and Reports

- Federal Reserve Chairman Jerome Powell signaled the central bank may slow bond-buying later this year as the labor market improves.
- The U.S. Government Accountability Office reported the Treasury increased its cash-on-hand to over $1 trillion to help deal with the uncertainty around federal pandemic-related spending.
- The Congressional Research Service examined tax treatment of gig economy workers and the impact of infrastructure on the economy.

Other Items of Interest

- The National Association of State Budget Officers discuss how states are planning to use their fiscal year 2021 budget surpluses.
- The Institute on Taxation and Economic Policy released a report and state-by-state comparison of options to reduce the state and local tax cap.
- According to a report by the Tax Foundation, 11 states enacted laws in 2021 to reduce income tax rates.
Additional Resources

- Visit the NCSL Fiscal Affairs Program homepage.
- Visit the NALFO homepage.
- Consult a list of legislative fiscal offices that maintain webpages.
- Join NALFO's Listserv.
- Check out NCSL Fiscal Briefs.

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.

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