

The Council

Legislative Council

Upcoming Meetings

August

- 13 Legislative Procedure and Arrangements
- 14 Legislative Audit and Fiscal Review
- 18 Health Care
- 19 Tribal and State Relations
- 20 Emergency Response Services
Information Technology
- 21 Higher Education Institutions
- 26 Judiciary
- 27 Energy Development and Transmission
Higher Education Funding Review

September

- 4 Human Services
- 11 Agriculture and Water Management
- 15 Protection and Victim Services
- 18 Water Topics Overview

National Conference of State Legislatures' 50th Anniversary

The 2025 Legislative Assembly, along with legislative bodies across the country, adopted a resolution (Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 4020) congratulating the National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) on its 50th anniversary. The mission of NCSL is "to advance the effectiveness, independence and integrity of legislatures and to foster interstate cooperation and facilitate the exchange of information among legislatures." NCSL also represents state legislatures at the federal level, advocating for state sovereignty and state flexibility and protection from unfunded federal mandates and unwarranted federal preemption. NCSL is a bipartisan organization to which all states pay membership dues. Dues support NCSL's mission and staff who provide robust [research services](#) and nonpartisan information to legislators and legislative staff.



NCSL is led by an executive committee consisting of 63 legislators and legislative staff. The legislator president of NCSL is selected by a nominating committee, consisting of an equal number of members from each of the two major political parties and the position alternates each year between the two major political parties.

The formal celebration of the 50th anniversary of NCSL will take place at the NCSL annual summit to be held next week in Boston.

This Week's Interim Committee Summaries

Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency

On Thursday, July 30, the Legislative Task Force on Government Efficiency held its first meeting of the interim to receive information from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Department of Commerce, and Information Technology Department regarding opportunities to increase efficiencies and implement cost-saving measures, reduce unnecessary or duplicative processes and regulations, increase partnerships with the private sector, and receive other suggestions to improve agency operations.

The committee received information regarding DHHS programs and agency-wide funding, the delivery of services, and short-term cost-savings. The committee was informed that an area for potential cost-savings and efficiencies within the department is the Medicaid program.

The committee was informed that the Department of Commerce conducted a comprehensive statewide workforce ecosystem study, which revealed there are more than 80 workforce programs across nine state agencies. A representative of the department indicated this presents an opportunity to increase collaboration and promote efficiencies among state agencies. Combining legislative reporting requirements also was cited by the department as an area of interest.

The Information Technology Department provided information regarding information technology service fees, outdated technology platforms, and how the department is collaborating with state agencies to use technology to increase efficiency in state government. The committee was informed that the department is working with the Governor's office to evaluate information technology staff usage and relationships with other agencies.

Representative Nathan Toman, Chairman, indicated the task force will hold monthly meetings for the foreseeable future to continue reviewing agency programs and evaluate areas for potential efficiencies in state government. The next meeting is tentatively planned for late August and will focus on receiving followup information from the agencies that testified during the first meeting and more detailed program information from DHHS.



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