



State of the State Addresses

JAN 1 - MAR. 6, 2025



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EDUCATION

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ALASKA

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY (R) - JAN. 28, 2025

- Highlighted the implementation of the Alaska READS Act meant to ensure every student will be proficient in reading by the 3rd grade
- Cited assessments stating the percentage of Alaskan students who met early literacy benchmarks grew from 41 percent to 57 percent
- Discussed rise in proficiency rates among kindergarten students
- Voiced support for school choice, saying it's important to ensure funding is in place to support all school programs and support approaches to achieve better outcomes
- Announced plans for a comprehensive education bill
- Stated his proposed budget has several initiatives to improve workforce

DELAWARE

GOVERNOR MATT MEYER (D) - 2025

- Promised to be an ally for teachers and schools
- "I've shared many of my plans for reform, and I'll discuss more details in the coming weeks. But for now, let me say to Delaware's schools, teachers, and students: you all have an ally in the governor's office."

GEORGIA

GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP (R) - JAN. 16, 2025

- Proposed an additional \$159 million for school safety

"In total, we've allocated 294 million dollars for campus safety so far, and my budget proposal includes a further 159 million dollars for that purpose."

IDAHO

GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE (R) - JAN. 6, 2025

- Expressed support for charter schools because they offer families more options while providing accountability and transparency for tax dollars
- Recommended \$50 million to expand education options in recognition of the growing desire to expand school choice, especially for students with physical or developmental conditions
- Pledged to ensure there is oversight in school choice
- Stated that teacher pay and health benefits have been significantly improved
- Pointed out that his Keeping Promises plan includes over \$150 million for public schools
- Promised to work with legislature to address gaps in rural school facilities, mental health, school safety, and literacy

- Highlighted that Indiana is now ranked 6th in the nation in reading
- Proposed universal school choice
- Called for increasing teacher base pay. Mentioned SB 146 which would raise the minimum salary for public school teachers by \$5,000

KANSAS

GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY (D) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Establish the Office of Early Childhood to consolidate child care services for parents and providers
“Thankfully, there’s a solution readily available: Let’s put the functions of these agencies under one roof – the Office of Early Childhood.”
- Called for fully funding public schools while promising to veto efforts to allocate public money to private schools
“That’s why my budget proposal this year will again, for the seventh consecutive year, fully fund our public schools.”
“...And never, ever taking taxpayer dollars from our public schools to give to private schools. Doing so weakens our public school system, particularly in our rural communities. As a state, we just can’t afford to do that. So, simply put, I will continue to reject any attempt, no matter what it looks like, to re-route public taxpayer dollars to private schools.”

KENTUCKY

GOVERNOR ANDY BESHEAR (D) - JAN. 8, 2025

- Called for prioritization of public schools over school vouchers:
“That’s a mandate – a mandate to prioritize public education. So let’s stop with the attempts to defund; let’s stop the voucher nonsense; let’s stop the end-runs through tax shelters. Instead, let’s do the hard work to strengthen and improve our public schools.”
- Pay raises for educators
“To do so, our educators need better salaries. They deserve it; our kids deserve it. We should get it done.”
- Universal pre-kindergarten for all four-year-olds
“To do so, we must enact universal pre-K for all 4-year-olds. Pre-K provides proven, lifelong gains. And right now, we are failing our kids. More than half of our Kentucky kids – 54% – are showing up for kindergarten unprepared. Those students are behind before they ever got started.”
- Called for a statewide talent attraction program
“Finally, we must invest in a talent attraction program. And a talent attraction program must be run by the state and regional agencies that do this work every day.”

- Requested \$6 million in additional funding for free school lunches

“In 2021, we also passed nation-leading legislation to ensure that no Maine child goes hungry during the school day. I am now proposing another \$6 million – for a total of \$126 million over the biennium – to continue this popular program so that no child tries to learn on an empty stomach.”

- Called for establishing ongoing funding for free community college for recent HS graduates

“Over the past several years, we have funded the Free Community College Program on a one-time basis to evaluate whether it’s working. I think the answer is pretty clear, and the time has come to make free community college permanent for recent high school graduates.”

MASSACHUSETTS

GOVERNOR MAURA HEALEY (D) - JAN. 16, 2025

- Created a Statewide Graduation Requirement Council to set baseline standards for graduation

“For that reason: I am directing a Statewide Graduation Requirement Council that will include teachers, colleges, employers and students to develop recommendations for a permanent, high standard. We’ll evolve to a new Massachusetts model for high school excellence that best serves our children.”

MISSISSIPPI

GOVERNOR TATE REEVES (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Endorsed school choice and expressed support for raising standards

“Another way we will get our state to where we want to go is by giving parents more choices and by continuing to raise standards. We cannot keep doing the same old thing and expect to get new and improved results.”

“That’s why in my most recent budget recommendation I proposed overhauling how we grade schools in Mississippi.”

- Suggested changes to the majors that university students pursue

“And while we’re at it, we should insist that our higher education institutions train Mississippians to earn. Far too many students are stuck in tracts that will not lead to fruitful careers. That may be fine for a few who want to go down academic rabbit holes, but the focus of our investment and our efforts should be preparing our kids to live well. We must focus on degrees that lead to lives of prosperity and stability.”

NEBRASKA

GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Establish a commission to review the state’s school funding model and recommend a new model
“I will establish a blue-ribbon commission of experts to cut through the bureaucracy and vested special interests in our current school funding system and recommend a new model for Nebraska, which THIS Legislature will be able to consider and adopt.”
- Increase foundation aid per student to ensure funding follows the student, not the system
“And along with other technical changes to strengthen TEEOSA, Senator Hughes is championing a bill that will honor the state’s constitutional obligation to fund K-12 education by increasing the foundation aid per student across the state, consistent with the principle that school funding should ALWAYS follow the student, not the system.”

NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Highlighted establishment of a constitutional right to childcare, universal pre-K, and free college
- Mentioned the launch of a Structured Literacy program
- Called for a comprehensive math and STEM program
- Called for full funding for her 180-day school year proposal
- Discussed plans to propose incentives for schools that ban cellphone use and funding for enhanced safety measures
- Called on the legislature to pass a bill making the Office of Special Education permanent
- Proposed \$50 million annual investment in the Indian Education Fund

NEVADA

GOVERNOR JOE LOMBARDO (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Permanent pay raises for teachers, which are extended to all charter school teachers
“...and I am pleased to announce tonight my budget will make teacher pay raises permanent. I’m also announcing that I will be extending pay raises to all charter school teachers.”
- Announced the Nevada Accountability in Education Act to establish stricter accountability for schools, promote open choice policies, creating a fund to reward high-performing teachers, and address early literacy
*“The Nevada Accountability in Education Act sets out four specific areas of how we intend to impose accountability, accelerate improvement, and give every student a legitimate shot at success.

“First, we are advancing policies that demand stricter accountability, equity, and excellence across every level of our education system. We are raising the bar for our schools, school districts, and school boards.”*

“Second, we’re expanding open enrollment policies to break down geographic barriers and provide transportation support to make choice available for all families. Every parent deserves the freedom to find the best educational setting for their child – no exceptions.”

“Third, we’re doubling down on teaching excellence. The Excellence in Education Fund will reward Nevada’s highest-performing teachers and administrators. Finally, we’re addressing one of the most fundamental issues in education — early literacy.”

NEW HAMPSHIRE**GOVERNOR KELLY AYOTTE (R) - JAN. 9, 2025**

- Called for strengthening and expanding the school voucher program

“Public Schools are critical, and I am the proud product of Nashua’s public schools, but they are not working for every child. I applaud the work the legislature has done to expand opportunities for families through education freedom accounts and look forward to strengthening and expanding this program to ensure more families have the freedom to put their children in the learning environment that is best for them.”

- Plans to ban cell phones in schools

“That’s why today I am announcing that we will be taking action to ban cell phones in our schools. Screens are negatively impacting our learning environments, drawing students’ attention away from their classes, and becoming a barrier for teachers to do their jobs. No more.”

- Called for expansions in trades and vocational education as well as workforce training

“We need to keep emphasizing the importance of investments in the trades, career-ready education and workforce training... We need to expand public-private partnerships and continue the great work that is already happening to increase workforce training programs and help our community colleges expand the pipeline.”

NEW YORK**GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL (D) - JAN. 14, 2025**

- Called for free meals at school
- Discussed plan to make community college education free for high-demand fields like advanced manufacturing, education and healthcare

NORTH DAKOTA**GOVERNOR KELLY ARMSTRONG (R) - JAN. 7, 2025**

- Said the state budget will support Education Savings Accounts
- Expressed support for providing the option to create public charter schools
- Said he wants to focus on how to make higher ed institutions more responsive to workforce needs
- Pointed out the state budget increases funding for Challenge Grants to \$50 million
- State he wants to expand the Farm-to-School program to allow students to learn more about agriculture

RHODE ISLAND

GOVERNOR DAN McKEE (D) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Observed the success of the Learn365RI that seeks to improve math and reading scores and boost attendance
- Pointed out the state has significantly reduced the gap between RI and MA in RICAS English Language Arts and math
- Stated that RI had over 244,000 fewer student absences and added approx. 1.3 million hours of learning time
- Pointed out partnership with municipal leaders to build community learning centers
- Budget will increase state aid to local education by approx. \$40 million and provide \$2.5 million in grants for out-of-school learning opportunities
- Mentioned extension of Hope Scholarship at Rhode Island College
- Mentioned expansion of Rhode Island Reconnect to help Rhode Islanders return to school or get job training

SOUTH CAROLINA

GOVERNOR HENRY McMASTER (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Requested the legislature work to raise the minimum starting teacher salary to \$50,000 this year
- Asked the General Assembly to send a new Education Scholarship Trust Fund bill to his desk and proposed \$30 million be appropriated to the trust fund

SOUTH DAKOTA

GOVERNOR KRISTI NOEM (R) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Mentioned the implementation of Science of Reading
- Said the state has revamped social studies standards
- Mentioned the launch of South Dakota Sturdy initiative
- Mentioned the state has eliminated CRT
- Announced a plan to institute Education Savings Accounts for kids

TEXAS

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT (R) - FEB. 2, 2025

- Declared teacher pay an emergency item
- Requested \$500 million towards school safety measures and give teachers more authority to remove disruptive students from classrooms.
- The governor was vocal about his support for school choice and declared it as an emergency item

WASHINGTON

GOVERNOR BOB FERGUSON (D) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Announced he plans to sign a bill to ensure that every Washingtonian with a 3.0 GPA receives automatic acceptance into higher ed institutions

WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 22, 2025

- Announced that his budget proposal will include nearly \$300 million to provide comprehensive mental health services in schools statewide
- Mentioned the launch of the first-ever teacher apprentice pilot program to retain new teachers and bolster the education workforce
- Said he plans to propose historic investments in K-12 education
- Announced the “Healthy Meals, Healthy Kids” initiative.

WYOMING

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Expressed continued support for school choice and called for expansion
“Expanding school choice, fostering talent, and building new opportunities require thoughtful resource management.”

ALABAMA

GOVERNOR KAY IVEY (R) - FEB. 4, 2025

- Spoke in support of school choice
“Beginning next school year, these ESAs will give more Alabama families greater flexibility in choosing an education that suits their child’s individual needs. Importantly, we are funding students, not systems. Already in the first month of the application period, we have an outstanding 18,000 student applicants, and we have received them from every single county. The number of applications will only grow in the next two years as program eligibility becomes fully universal.”
- Advocated for policies to ban cell phones in schools
“Senator Donnie Chesteen and Representative Leigh Hulseby will carry a bill to put a ban on cell phones in schools. The legislation will also require local boards to adopt Internet safety policies and provide students social media training. Let’s create the best learning environment for our students and get this bill to my desk so I can sign it into law.”
- Expressed support for maternity leave for teachers (and state workers)
“First, if a teacher wants to start a family, she should have the proper maternity leave. That is why I am proud to have Senator Vivian Figures and Representative Ginny Shaver joining forces this year to pass a good, responsible parental leave bill to support both our state workers and teachers.”

MARYLAND

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D) - FEB. 5, 2025

- Teacher recruitment will be a top priority for the state this year, with plans to seek legislative authority to launch a national campaign for recruitment.

OKLAHOMA

GOVERNOR KEVIN STITT (R) - FEB. 3, 2025

- Stated that Oklahoma was recently ranked fourth in the nation for education freedom
- Said he wants to sign a bill that creates more internships and apprenticeships
- Challenged the Legislature and school districts across the state to consider ways to make cell phone free schools a reality for all students

TENNESSEE

GOVERNOR BILL LEE (R) - FEB. 10, 2025

- Proposed the Tennessee Works Scholarship – a new award that will TCAT tuition and fees for all students
- Stated the Tennessee Youth Employment Program has connected over 4,500 young Tennesseans to local employers; plans to expand the program this year
- Announced more than \$580 million more to public education, including a major investment in the TISA formula and a pay raise for Tennessee teachers
- Discussed limited occupational teaching license to make it possible for experienced tradesmen and women to teach their craft without having to jump through all the hoops of extra coursework
- Announced plans to expand the Institute of American Civics at the University of Tennessee

WEST VIRGINIA

GOVERNOR PATRICK MORRISEY (R) – FEB. 12

- Called on the Legislature to allow schools to ban cell phones in the classroom.
- Wants to work with the legislature to open up the antiquated school aid formula to address financial needs including raising teacher pay.

ILLINOIS

GOVERNOR JB PRITZKER (D) - FEB. 19, 2025

- Announced a proposal for additional funding for Evidence-Based Funding to increase funding to underfunded schools

“So, despite the challenge we are facing this year, my budget proposal increases our commitment to Evidence Based Funding for public education so that we put new resources in underfunded schools first.”

- Announced legislation to ban cell phones during instructional time

“That’s why this session, I’ll move forward with legislation requiring all school districts in Illinois to adopt a cell phone policy that bans the use of phones during classroom instruction.”

- Despite record, bipartisan investments to open tuition-free paths to higher ed, career, and technical education, women are outpacing men 2:1. The Governor announced she intends to sign an executive directive to reach more young men and boost their enrollment in these programs
- Highlighted budget investments to tackle literacy and increase transparency so parents can see how their schools are performing
- Asked lawmakers to work together to make the “largest investment in career and technical education... ever”



TAXES

PG.13

- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Indiana
- Kansas
- Mississippi

PG. 14

- Nebraska
- New Hampshire
- New Mexico
- New York
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah

PG.15

- Wisconsin
- Wyoming
- Maryland
- Oklahoma
- West Virginia
- Michigan

GEORGIA

GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP (R) - JAN. 16, 2025

- Proposed lowering the state income tax by another 20 basis points

“Today, I’m proposing a further cut of 20 basis points, bringing us down to just 5.19 percent - saving Georgians another 7.5 billion dollars over the next 10 years!”

HAWAII

GOVERNOR JOSH GREEN (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Highlighted doubling the earned income and food tax credits, and enacting the largest income tax cut in Hawaii history

INDIANA

GOVERNOR MIKE BRAUN (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Wants to find new ways to deliver tax relief
- Discussed his property tax plan that has three priorities: cut property taxes, cap the annual increase, and reform the system through transparency
- Called for the creation of tax relief on retirement income

KANSAS

GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY (D) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Promised to reject tax cuts that jeopardize funding for schools and infrastructure

“As Kansans know, I’m all for tax cuts. To date, I’ve already signed over \$2 billion in tax cuts – but going forward, I will not support any proposal that robs our schools of the funds they need to teach our children. For instance, there was a proposal to slash the state corporate income tax to zero. That is a non-starter. We’ve seen that movie before. We know how it ends. We know what happened to our schools, to our roads, and to our reputation.”

- Expressed preference for waiting to discuss taxes until 2026 but with some openness

“With all that said, let me add a caveat: While I would prefer that we postpone discussions about taxes until next session, when we’ll have a better handle on the full impact of the tax cuts we passed last year, I will consider proposals to modify our tax structure that pay for themselves and don’t threaten our state’s long-term financial health.”

MISSISSIPPI

GOVERNOR TATE REEVES (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Called for eliminating the state’s income tax

“The single best thing we can do for our state and her people is to eliminate our state’s income tax. This money does not belong to the government. It belongs to the hard-working Mississippians who earn it.”

NEBRASKA

GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Further investment of \$200 million into the property tax credit fund

“By making commonsense adjustments to our tax code and making it more competitive with other states, we will invest two hundred million MORE dollars into Nebraska’s property tax credit fund.”

NEW HAMPSHIRE

GOVERNOR KELLY AYOTTE (R) - JAN. 9, 2025

- Reiterated commitment to no income tax and no sales tax while mentioning property taxes

“By the way, I’m not going to surprise anyone when I say this: no income tax, no sales tax, not now, not ever. And I would also say to our local officials, don’t forget the importance of keeping the tax burden as low as possible. Property taxes are a burden in New Hampshire in spite of the fact that the State is sending more money than ever before down to the local level.”

NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Proposed income tax exemption for families that foster children, and grandparents raising grandchildren
- Proposed a new tax rebate to help businesses foot the cost of security personnel and equipment

NEW YORK

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL (D) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Called for sweeping middle-class income tax cut
- Discussed her inflation refund plan to return surplus sales tax revenue to New Yorkers
- Stated she wants to triple the maximum Child Tax Credit

SOUTH CAROLINA

GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Governor McMaster boasted signing into law the largest income tax cut in state history
- Proposed cutting the state’s personal tax rate from 6.2% to 6%.

TEXAS

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT (R) - FEB. 2, 2025

- Abbott charged the legislature with creating \$10 billion in new property tax relief. He instructed this should be done by prohibiting local taxing authorities from raising property taxes without a two-thirds voter approval. Pledged to make property tax relief an emergency item.

UTAH

GOVERNOR SPENCER COX (R) - JAN. 23, 2025

- Cox acknowledged that Utah is one of only eight states that still taxes on social security benefits and called for this tax to be eliminated.



WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 22, 2025

- Announced that Wisconsin's state and local tax burden dropped to a record low in 2024
- Stated he has proposed middle-class tax cuts in every budget
- Observed that he signed a bill to expand child and dependent care credit that goes into effect this year

WYOMING

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Asked for additional funds to cover overpromised property tax credits

“You will remember that last year's budget made a promise to provide property tax refunds to any qualified applicant who met income criteria. As it stands today, we are oversubscribed. We do not have the funds to cover that promise. In order to stay true to our word, I have asked for an additional \$10.5 million in the Property Tax Refund promise we made in the budget.”
- Encouraged the legislature to use a new tax authority to differentiate residential property tax

“But I also want to encourage you to make use of the new capacity to differentiate residential property tax from the ‘Other’ category in our Constitution. Voters approved it at the General Election. I have no doubt you can work wonders with this new authority.”

MARYLAND

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D) - FEB. 5, 2025

- Moore acknowledged that Maryland is the only state in the country with both an inheritance tax and an estate tax
- Plans to put forward a package for tax reform this year. Promised that the sales tax and property tax will not be raised.

OKLAHOMA

GOVERNOR KEVIN STITT (R)) - FEB. 3, 2025

- Called for a half point cut to individual and business income tax and a path to zero income tax

WEST VIRGINIA

GOVERNOR PATRICK MORRISEY (R) – FEB. 12

- Renewed his call to ensure the state has the lowest income tax of the states it touches.

“Now, some may question why I want to lower taxes when the state has inherited a shortfall. But the answer to fiscal constraints is not to raise taxes – it's to cut spending and grow our economy.”

MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER (D) – FEB. 26

- Focused on tariffs, highlighting the broad impact they have on the Michigan economy

“This year, hundreds of thousands of senior households will save an average of \$1,000 on their taxes and 650,000 families—home to half the kids in Michigan—will get an average tax refund of \$3,200 bucks... Together, we put \$1 billion back in people's pockets and lifted 20,000 children out of poverty.”

SOCIAL MEDIA

PG.17

- Connecticut
- Idaho
- Nebraska
- Michigan

CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT (D) - JAN. 9, 2025

- Highlights that the state is “continuing to work with other states and social media companies to give parents more control over social media access.”

IDAHO

GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE (R) - JAN. 6, 2025

- Promised to add more resources in cybersecurity to protect citizens online.

NEBRASKA

GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Called for support of legislation to regulate social media, ban phones in classrooms, and adjust child pornography laws to cover AI-generated images.

“Here in Nebraska, we are going to level the playing field between parents and Big Tech giants. I am grateful to Senators Sanders, Hardin, Bosn, and Storer for introducing a package of bills to protect children from the harms of social media, ban phones in classrooms, and fix our child pornography laws to include AI-generated images.”

MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER (D) – FEB. 26

- Supports banning cell phones in classrooms

ENERGY

PG. 19

- Alaska
- Connecticut
- Hawaii

PG. 20

- Idaho
- Mississippi
- New Mexico
- New York

PG. 21

- North Dakota
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Utah
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

PG. 22

- Maryland
- Oklahoma
- Tennessee
- West Virginia
- Michigan

ALASKA

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY (R) - JAN. 28, 2025

- Highlighted the success of several oil projects on the North Slope, saying there is additional work there in the very near future
- Observed the Alaska Energy Authority is moving forward on energy projects to reduce reliance on gas, including a \$342 million expansion of Bradley Lake, the largest hydroelectric facility in Alaska, and the Sterling to Quartz Creek Transmission Upgrade
- Discussed the progress of the Alaska Liquefied Natural Gas Project, which will be the largest LNG project in the world
- State that the growth in the Permanent Fund stems from savings from oil production, and said the Fund will continue to grow further with deposits from the projects in process
- Observed that AIDEA's leases being restored by the Trump administration are well situated to recover large amounts of oil estimated to lie in the Northwest corner of the 10-02 area
- Announced plans to introduce legislation to develop untapped timber resources
- Stated that the near future will not be about replacing one source of energy with another; advocated all energy forms
- Said that agriculture will remain a priority for future administrations; highlighted his recent EO establishing the Alaska Department of Agriculture

CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT (D) - JAN. 9, 2025

- Acknowledged the state's high price of electricity and referenced 2023 efforts to evaluate affordability.
- Wants to focus on reliability and affordability as demand grows due to advanced manufacturing and AI.
- Urged increasing supply, especially "low-carbon supply, starting with our investment in Revolution Wind, which is under construction right now, more commercial solar from Maine and hydro from Canada."
- Currently working with the federal government to find ways to expand nuclear capacity.
- Indicated that his administration is working on a "no-cost, money-saving efficiency program" for residential homes.

HAWAII

GOVERNOR JOSH GREEN (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Announced he plans to permanently shut down the Red Hill fuel facility
- Stated he is implementing recommendations from the Climate Advisory Team to mitigate the effects of climate-related disasters by funding resiliency efforts across the state
- Announced he is partnering with youth advocates and organizations to champion emissions reductions and sustainable transportation solutions

- Highlighted that his Keeping Promises plan will help tackle the backlog of unfunded water projects.

MISSISSIPPI

GOVERNOR TATE REEVES (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Issued a call and challenge for Mississippi to become the #1 state for energy

“We must be a leader in American energy. We must be at the front of the pack in the race to have more power. In today’s world, power is the key to prosperity. If we can be on the bleeding edge of energy technology, we can beat our peers and bring about more wealth and better lives for all Mississippians.”
- Announced the “Mississippi Power Play”

“I know they will be excited as our state embarks upon a transformative effort that I’m calling Mississippi’s Power Play. We are marshalling the forces of our government and our private sector to find bold solutions to bring more energy to our state’s grid and our economy. Right now, the top minds of our administration are huddled – developing plans to invest in affordable, abundant, American energy for the people of this state. We welcome all ideas and inputs on one condition: have a bias towards boldness. Help us dream bigger, and aim higher. Help us lean in at this unique and opportune moment, and we will achieve great things together. This is the key to our future, and we know that we must get this right.”
- Endorsed an “all of the above” energy policy

“It will take all forms of energy and every corner of our economy. Electricity derived from nuclear power, our sun, our winds, and that beautiful, life-giving technology: natural gas. We need transformative solutions, and a sprint to escalate what we already know works. We don’t need ideology and climate-cult death-wish politics. We need abundant, affordable energy that feeds ambition and wealth for our citizens.”

NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Called for building technology to clean up industrial water
- Announced she is proposing a Strategic Water Supply again
- Proposed making the goal of net zero emissions by 2050 a law this session

NEW YORK

GOVERNOR KATHY HOCHUL (D) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Announced recommitment to reducing emissions with offshore wind.
- Called for a \$1 billion investment to transition to a zero-emission economy.
- Pointed out the need for power-ready sites to expand the green industry.
- Observed the state’s investment in advanced nuclear strategy to support microchip fabs, data centers, and AI supercomputers.

NORTH DAKOTA

GOVERNOR KELLY ARMSTRONG (R) - JAN. 7, 2025

- Credited the state's population growth with the revitalization of the oil and gas industry.
- Promised to continue pushing back against federal bureaucracy in the energy space.
- Highlighted the need to build out pipeline infrastructure to offload natural gas.
- Promised to continue promoting pro-agriculture policies.

SOUTH CAROLINA

GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Encouraged the General Assembly to bring legislation to his desk that address the state's future energy needs.

TEXAS

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT (R) - FEB. 2, 2025

- Highlighted the state's rank as number one for electric power generation.

UTAH

GOVERNOR SPENCER COX (R) - JAN. 23, 2025

- Governor Cox listed energy abundance as one of his five key areas of focus.
- Intend to drive down energy prices and make the grid more secure and reliable.
- Highlighted the work being done in Utah to lay the groundwork for advanced nuclear reactors.

WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 22, 2025

- Announced an additional \$5 million to continue our work getting harmful contaminants out of water wells
- Stated that Wisconsin will continue to be bold on clean energy, and fight the climate crisis

WYOMING

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Adding attorneys to the AG's staff to litigate in natural resources cases and transitioning the coal litigation fund to a natural resources litigation fund.

"Now is the time to finish those efforts, and then stand ready to defend new Wyoming-friendly policies. To do so, I have asked for your favorable consideration of the addition of two attorneys to her qualified staff. And to extend and expand the coal litigation fund set up by a prior legislature, specifically making it a natural resources litigation fund and providing it with \$3.5 million at its disposal."

MARYLAND

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D) - FEB. 5, 2025

- Wants to see Maryland as a capital for clean energy

OKLAHOMA

GOVERNOR KEVIN STITT (R) - FEB. 3, 2025

- Stated he wants to make 2025 the year of the Energy Abundance Agenda and continue to unleash the state's energy potential
- Praised the growing footprints of oil and gas giants in the state

TENNESSEE

GOVERNOR BILL LEE (R) - FEB. 10, 2025

- Said the proposed budget will include \$100 million to create a regional water supply strategy
- Stated his Nuclear Energy Fund has grabbed the attention of America's most cutting-edge energy companies
- Stated the proposed budget will include additional \$10 million to the Nuclear Energy Fund
- Stated the proposed budget will include \$50 million for the development of the Clinch River Site

WEST VIRGINIA

GOVERNOR PATRICK MORRISSEY (R) – FEB. 12

- Highlighted West Virginia's status as America's energy state and his work as Attorney General to push back against the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Announced the establishment of the West Virginia POWER Tech Center – that stands for the Powering Our Workforce through Energy and Revolutionary Technology Center - to help West Virginia become “the most innovative, aggressive supplier of energy to the growing technology industry.”

MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER (D) – FEB. 26

- Spotlighted bipartisan legislation she recently signed to expand the Michigan Energy Assistance Program, which already saves 50,000 households \$700 a year.

HEALTHCARE

PG. 24

- Connecticut
- Georgia
- Hawaii
- Indiana
- Kansas

PG. 25

- Kentucky
- Maine
- Massachusetts

PG. 26

- Mississippi
- Nevada
- New Hampshire

PG. 27

- New Hampshire (Cont.)
- New Mexico
- Rhode Island

PG. 28

- South Dakota
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming
- West Virginia

PG. 29

- Illinois
- Michigan

CONNECTICUT

GOVERNOR NED LAMONT (D) - JAN. 9, 2025

- Focused on increased healthcare prices, including Medicaid and employee healthcare.
- Raised concerns about anticipated cuts to Medicaid and Obamacare subsidies from the Trump administration.
- Stated that helping small businesses negotiate better pricing for their workers is a priority.
- Mentioned that “Access Health CT is working to extend the individual benefits of being on the exchange to small businesses, and the Comptroller is working with the private sector to encourage our workers to seek hospitalization where they get the best quality at the best value.”
- Highlighted that pharmaceutical costs have increased substantially and proposed linking price increases to inflation for generics to encourage next-generation therapies.
- Opposes more subsidies, stating that they would “only shift more costs to taxpayers” and opposes heavy-handed price caps due to potential unintended consequences.

GEORGIA

GOVERNOR BRIAN KEMP (R) - JAN. 16, 2025

- Plans to increase ease of access through Georgia Pathways, a program that helps Georgians start a career, get a degree, attain real-world skills, and receive better healthcare coverage.

HAWAII

GOVERNOR JOSH GREEN (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Spotlit launching the Health Care Education Loan Repayment Program (HELP) to address the shortage of health care professionals in rural and underserved areas
- Observed significant financial investments in rural hospitals, behavioral health centers and Medicaid improvements
- Highlighted the dedication of more state and federal funds to raising Medicaid rates

INDIANA

GOVERNOR MIKE BRAUN (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Braun acknowledged that Indiana residents pay some of the highest health care costs in the country
- Called for the passage of HB 1003, which deals with health care price transparency
- Mentioned Seante Bill 3 which mandates that third party administrators for health insurance plans have a fiduciary duty to act in the best interests of the plan sponsor.

KANSAS

GOVERNOR LAURA KELLY (D) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Proposed Medicaid expansion

“Speaking of opportunities, here’s another idea: Medicaid expansion. Now, I’ve proposed this the last six years, and I will propose it again this year.”

- Referenced expansions in healthcare access and research funding in 2024.

“In addition to access, we’ve boosted research. Last year’s state budget provided record funding for childhood cancer research. We did this by working together because ending childhood cancer is not and cannot be partisan. No parent should ever have to hear that there are no more treatment options. No parent should ever lose hope.”

MAINE

GOVERNOR JANET MILLS (D) - JAN. 28, 2025

- Proposed additional funding to address a payments gap in MaineCare in a supplemental budget

“In the supplemental budget I am asking you to close a current gap in MaineCare that jeopardizes timely payments to hospitals and others”

- Proposed \$122 million per year in the biennial budget to stabilize MaineCare

“Protecting the health care of Maine people – particularly our most vulnerable and those who cannot afford health insurance – is important. That is why in this budget I am proposing \$122 million a year to stabilize the MaineCare program over the biennium.”

- Called for funding to establish a residential psychiatric facility for youth

“In this budget we are also strengthening our children’s behavioral health system, including fully funding a residential psychiatric treatment facility for youth, the first of its kind in Maine, so that kids aren’t sent out of state in order to get appropriate care.”

- Proposed increased regulation of the state’s medical cannabis market

“And while we are talking about cannabis, I want to say that the time has come to better regulate the medical market with testing and tracking requirements so that those consumers – just like recreational users – can be confident that those products are safe. If you are ingesting cannabis for medical reasons, you should want to know that you are not consuming pesticides or other contaminants that are going to make your health worse. We cannot continue to encourage the wild wild west of medical cannabis, which is contributing to the illicit market that has emerged – and that needs to be fought – across rural Maine.”

MASSACHUSETTS

GOVERNOR MAURA HEALEY (D) - JAN. 16, 2025

- Including school-based mental health support in the executive budget proposal.

“We also need more resources in schools, to meet students where they are. So, our budget will fund behavioral health support in schools across our state.”

- Called for shifting healthcare resources to primary care, especially career paths in primary care.

“I am directing my Administration to shift healthcare resources to the front lines. And by that, I mean primary care. We’ll drive career training pipelines to grow the workforce. I want a whole army of primary care providers out there, so when you call for an appointment, you’ll get one.”

- Asked legislators to resist expanding Medicaid because the change in administration might require a higher amount of state spending if federal spending for the program is reduced

“We now have an administration in Washington that is dead set on reducing spending and getting us closer to a balanced budget. Medicaid changes, for example, are coming. What they will be, we do not yet know. But there is a large possibility that those changes will result in a greater spend by states who have enacted this type of welfare expansion. With all of the good things happening in Mississippi – especially when it comes to workforce development, and economic development, and job creation – now is not the time to expand welfare in our state. It’s actually the worst possible time to do it.”

NEVADA

GOVERNOR JOE LOMBARDO (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Splitting up the Department of Health and Human Services and creating the Nevada Health Authority

“I am announcing that we will be splitting up the Department of Health and Human Service and will stand up the Nevada Health Authority, which will be assigned the critical responsibilities of managing Medicaid, the Health Exchange, Employee Benefits, Mental Health Funding, and other services.”

- Announced the Nevada Healthcare Access Act

“We’re also removing barriers that prevent providers from focusing on what matters most: delivering high-quality care. By 2028, all health insurance plans in Nevada will be required to adopt standardized and digitized prior authorization plans, thus reducing delays for patients and providers.”

“By doubling our investment in graduate medical education, incentivizing providers to serve in underserved areas, and leveraging telemedicine, we are creating new career opportunities and ensuring that quality care reaches every corner of the state.”

“As I mentioned earlier, at the heart of this effort is the creation of the Nevada Health Authority; a streamlined agency designed to address our state’s most pressing health care needs. This agency will include an Office of Mental Health to expand access to behavioral health services and ensure better coordination of care for Nevada’s most vulnerable residents.”

NEW HAMPSHIRE

GOVERNOR KELLY AYOTTE (R) - JAN. 9, 2025

- Called for improving the mental health system by attracting students to become providers

“Our mental health system is a key component of strengthening our communities and providing families the assistance they need to get help for their loved ones. As I’ve traveled across New Hampshire, I have heard firsthand about the urgent need to improve our mental health care system. There are not enough providers, and we’re going to find ways to partner with our community colleges and university system to expand educational opportunities for mental health providers.”

- Supports changes to licensing for new mental health providers:
“A few months ago, I visited HOPE for NH Recovery’s location in Manchester with Mayor Ruais to hear about their efforts to support those recovering from substance use disorder. They shared with me that many of their clients are battling addiction and mental health challenges at the same time, but licensing for new providers presents a challenge when trying to grow their team. All too often, substance use treatment and mental health care are siloed, when it would be more beneficial for these challenges to be addressed together. In addition to strengthening the system itself, we also need to ensure anyone who is facing mental health challenges feels like they can reach out for help.”
- Committed to vetoing legislation that further restricts abortion:
“Lastly, before I close, just in case you forgot – since the television ads haven’t been running for a few months – if you send me legislation that further restricts access to abortion beyond our current law: I will veto it.”

NEW MEXICO

GOVERNOR MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM (D) - JAN. 21, 2025

- Observed the increase in Medicaid provider rates
- Highlighted the Health Care Affordability Fund, Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Fund, and Rural Health Care Delivery Fund
- Announced the launch of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics in seven counties this month
- Announced more than \$1 billion in new funding to hospitals through the Medicaid provider tax
- Called for additional \$50 million for the Rural Health Care Delivery Fund and \$100 million for behavioral health expansion initiatives
- Proposed a state-sponsored medical malpractice insurance program

RHODE ISLAND

GOVERNOR DAN McKEE (D) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Mentioned the October launch of a network of Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinics
- Discussed new partnership to expand access to comprehensive, virtual mental health services for students
- Said his budget will address shortage of primary care doctors
- Plans to propose an investment to provide further student loan forgiveness for physicians who commit to working in the state

SOUTH CAROLINA

GOVERNOR HENRY MCMASTER (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Proposed that the General Assembly provide funding to the Department of Health and Human Services for the construction of a new neurological hospital
- Requested that the Public Employee Benefit Authority propose cost saving measures for the State Health Plan

SOUTH DAKOTA

GOVERNOR KRISTI NOEM (R) - JAN. 14, 2025

- Highlighted the Freedom Works Here campaign which has succeeded in recruiting nurses to the state
- Highlighted measures in place to advance career opportunities for South Dakotans who use Medicaid
- Mentioned the passing of Amendment F in November, which allows future work requirements under Medicaid Expansion

TEXAS

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT (R) - FEB. 2, 2025

- Called for expanding funding for mental healthcare and increasing maternal care.

WISCONSIN

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 22, 2025

- Stated the costs of prescriptions are too high, saying “No Wisconsinite should have to choose between paying bills and putting food on the table or getting their life-saving medication.”
- Announced “Less for Rx” plan to set price ceilings for prescription and improve oversight of drug companies
- Stated he will fight every effort to repeal the Affordable Care Act

WYOMING

GOVERNOR MARK GORDON (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Recommended an increase in Medicare funding to expand OB services, behavioral health, and in-home health services
- “Accordingly, I have recommended an increase in ongoing Medicaid funding to providers of OB services, behavioral health, and in-home health providers. This will help secure a more favorable workplace for these caregivers here in Wyoming.”

WEST VIRGINIA

GOVERNOR PATRICK MORRISSEY (R) – FEB. 12

- Called for repealing Certificate of Need mandates and allowing innovation and entrepreneurship to take root.
- Acknowledged that West Virginia’s public health statistics rank lower than any other state in America.

- Characterized health care costs as a necessary area to reduce the burden for families

“This year, we are going to need to do even more to address high prices and counteract Trump’s tariffs that will raise taxes on working families. At the top of the list: We need to lower healthcare costs.”
- Criticized PBMs and blamed them for heightened pharmaceutical prices

“What’s causing that? Patients, healthcare providers, and independent pharmacists will all tell you that Pharmacy Benefit Managers – or PBMs – are driving up prices. PBMs are middlemen in the healthcare industry. They extract extra profit from patients through opaque and often predatory tactics. They are not doctors, but they work with insurance companies to deny people the drugs and treatments doctors prescribe. Not only are they driving up healthcare costs for Illinois families by hundreds of millions of dollars per year, but they are also putting small, local, independent pharmacies out of business.”
- Introducing legislation to reduce drug costs

“That’s why I’m introducing the Prescription Drug Affordability Act to reign in the unfair practices of PBMs, reduce drug costs for Illinois patients by hundreds of dollars per year on average, and protect independent pharmacists.”

“We’ll also give full statutory authority to the Illinois Department of Insurance to examine the books and records of PBMs and require them to submit to annual reporting and auditing. We’re going to end their overcharging for drugs people rely on, from insulin for diabetics to chemotherapy for cancer patients.”
- Announced an additional round of medical debt forgiveness

“Today I am announcing a second batch of medical debt cancellations, made possible through our landmark program established last year. Over 100,000 Illinoisans have now seen their medical debt automatically erased.”
- Announced his intent to seek changes to insurance requirements for prior authorization of mental health treatment as well as reimbursement for travel to treatment for rural residents

“We need to stop insurance companies from blocking access to mental health. We can do that by banning prior authorization for all behavioral healthcare.”

“And for rural Illinois families and those who live far away from certain medical care, we’ll require insurance reimbursement for reasonable travel costs associated with medical appointments when the distance traveled exceeds network adequacy requirements.”

- Addressed medical debt – wants a bipartisan solution from the legislature

ENVIRONMENT

PG. 31

- **Kansas**

- Create an Office of Natural Resources to consolidate government operations on water supply
“Right now, water faces many of the same issues I described with early childhood: it’s managed by 14 different agencies, making it very difficult, if not impossible, to align efforts around policy, planning, and investment. If this is going to work, that’s got to change – let’s create an Office of Natural Resources.”

GOVERNMENT

PG. 33

- Alaska
- Delaware
- Maine
- Nebraska

PG. 34

- New Hampshire
- Idaho
- Alabama
- Maryland
- Oklahoma

PG. 35

- Tennessee
- Illinois

ALASKA

GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY (R) - JAN. 28, 2025

- Said that Trump is the most pro-Alaska president we've ever had, and that he singled out the state for its own series of EO's

DELAWARE

GOVERNOR MATT MEYER (D) - 2025

- Promised to work with President Trump when possible
"Let me say this about the new president. I will work with anyone, of any party, who is ready to advance the best interests of the people of Delaware."

MAINE

GOVERNOR JANET MILLS (D) - JAN. 28, 2025

- Expressed openness to support or oppose the Trump administration based on effect to the state
"I want to reaffirm for the people of Maine, though, as with any administration, if the President does something good for our state, I will support him. If he does something that would harm our state, I will firmly oppose him."

NEBRASKA

GOVERNOR JIM PILLEN (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Called for a bipartisan effort to eliminate dozens of unnamed boards and commissions
"The clock ran out on these efforts last session, but we must right size our boards and commissions with a commonsense, bipartisan bill that will eliminate or consolidate dozens of them."
- Called for support of a bill to combine the Department of Environment and Energy and the Department of Natural Resources into the Department of Water, Energy, and Environment
"I am grateful to Senator Brandt for carrying an important measure that will combine DEE and DNR and establish the new combined Department of Water, Energy, and Environment. It will save costs, eliminate duplicative overhead, and streamline the mission of stewarding and protecting our natural resources and environment, and enhance collaboration, as well. We have begun the work of consolidating all of the important work of these two agencies under unified leadership, and I look forward to working with you to carry that work to its completion."

- Announced creation of a Commission on Government Efficiency (COGE)

“I’ve instructed our commissioners to roll up their sleeves and find ways to rethink our approach and where appropriate, do more with less. We need to make sure that government is operating more like the lean process in manufacturing, where waste is eliminated at each stage in the process, to produce better results. And to help us do this, because I know nothing is harder than getting politicians to not spend money, today I am announcing the creation of the Commission on Government Efficiency, or as I like to call it – the “COGE”. COGE will make us smarter than ever before when it comes to saving taxpayer dollars and finding better ways to serve the people of our state. I can think of no better duo to lead this effort than two of the smartest business guys I know, Governor Craig Benson and Andy Crews. They are going to put proposals on my desk to streamline government, cut spending, and ensure that we’re doing everything we can to create value for our taxpayers.”

IDAHO

GOVERNOR BRAD LITTLE (R) - JAN. 6, 2025

- Stated he is looking forward to working with Trump Administration to transform how wildfire and western lands are managed
- Stated he is hoping to work with the Trump Administration to structure workforce training programs
- Said Trump’s new Department of Government Efficiency is already looking to Idaho for the blueprint on how to cut red tape, stimulate economic growth, and streamline government

ALABAMA

GOVERNOR KAY IVEY (R) - FEB. 4, 2025

- Advocated for integrating the Department of Veterans Affairs into the Governor’s Cabinet

“I am proud to support legislation from Senator Andrew Jones and Representative Ed Oliver to make the Department of Veterans Affairs part of the Governor’s Cabinet.”

- Has directed her Cabinet agencies, particularly the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency and the Alabama National Guard, to aid federal authorities when requested

“Here in Alabama, we are supporting President Trump in his mission. I have directed my cabinet agencies – including the Alabama National Guard and ALEA – to continue standing ready to lend assistance where needed.”

MARYLAND

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D) - FEB. 5, 2025

“We are being tested by a new administration in Washington that sows uncertainty, confusion, and chaos.”

OKLAHOMA

GOVERNOR KAY IVEY (R) - FEB. 4, 2025

- Stated that the Trump Administration will determine the economic trajectory of the nation through DOGE
- Announced the launch of DOGE-OK to “keep the focus on flat budgets and limited government”

- Observed that TN is still the only state that has a shared savings agreement with the federal government

ILLINOIS

GOVERNOR JB PRITZKER (D) - FEB. 19, 2025

- Criticized DOGE and the Trump Administration

“I know it’s in fashion at the federal level right now to just indiscriminately slash school funding, healthcare coverage, support for farmers, and veterans’ services. They say they’re doing it to eliminate inefficiencies. But only an idiot would think we should eliminate emergency response in a natural disaster, education and healthcare for disabled children, gang crime investigations, clean air and water programs, monitoring of nursing home abuse, nuclear reactor regulation, and cancer research.”

“With the new tariffs already put in place by President Trump and the ones that he has proposed, the cost of everyday goods like tomatoes and beef and beer is likely to rise again. It’s confounding that when that happens, it seems like large corporations just hike up prices to drive up profits, while everyday people get stuck with the bill. It’s not right, and we ought to call out the federal government and the companies on it.”

“This year the surfacing difficulty is Donald Trump’s and Elon Musk’s plan to steal Illinois’ tax dollars and deny our citizens the protection and services they need.”

“I once swallowed my pride to offer him what he values most — public praise on the Sunday news shows — in return for ventilators and N95 masks during the worst of the pandemic. We made a deal. And it turns out his promises were as broken as the BIPAP machines he sent us instead of ventilators. Going along to get along does not work — just ask the Trump-fearing red state Governors who are dealing with the same cuts that we are. I won’t be fooled twice.”

HOUSING

PG. 37

- Massachusetts
- Nevada
- Michigan

- Continued plans to build housing, especially housing near transit

“This year, with the Affordable Homes Act in place, we’re going to get shovels in the ground and people in homes. And we’re going to do it together. So far, 116 towns have said “Yes” to more homes near transit through the MBTA Communities Law. That means thousands of new homes are in the pipeline.”

- Called for the legislature to abolish tenant broker fees

“The average renter has to pay 10 grand just to get a foot in the door. That’s money you could be saving for a downpayment on a house. If you rent, you should not be forced to pay a broker’s fee. That is why I’m calling to abolish tenant broker fees in Massachusetts. It’s the right thing to do.”

NEVADA

GOVERNOR JOE LOMBARDO (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Announced the Nevada Attainable Housing Act to streamline regulations and invest state dollars into housing creation

“By streamlining permits and prioritizing the use of every buildable acre of land for Nevadans - not out-of-state investors looking to cash in - we’re creating a route for housing attainability for all. The Nevada Attainable Housing Act is our action plan to get this done. This comprehensive legislation tackles housing needs on multiple fronts, from reducing fees and fostering innovation to incentivizing development and creating public-private partnerships. The bill prioritizes state funding that will support 1 billion dollars in new attainable housing units across Nevada.”

MICHIGAN

GOVERNOR GRETCHEN WHITMER (D) – FEB. 26

- Acknowledged high interest rates and difficulties of buying a home in the current environment – stated that the median age of a homebuyer is at an all-time high of 56 years
- Stated that Michigan short 140,000 homes statewide and “we gotta build, baby, build!”
- Wants to “invest \$2 billion to build, buy, or fix nearly 11,000 home”

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

PG. 39

- Massachusetts
- Nevada

- Called for a review of all business and licensing regulations in the first three months of 2025

“In fact, I am directing our Economic team to review all business and licensing regulations in the first 3 months of this year, with the goal of cutting red tape. I want it cheaper and faster for you to do business in Massachusetts.”

NEVADA

GOVERNOR JOE LOMBARDO (R) - JAN. 15, 2025

- Announced the Economic Development Policy Reform Act to create incentives for job development, targeted tax credits for childcare, and other efforts to promote jobs

“By modernizing incentives, we are ensuring that industries that create high-quality jobs, advance clean energy, and address essential needs like healthcare and childcare are encouraged and rewarded. By embracing innovation and sustainability, we will be able to empower a diverse economy and strengthen local businesses.”

“Targeted tax credits for childcare facilities, for example, help working families but also support businesses in building a stronger, more inclusive workforce.”

CONSUMER PROTECTIONS AND FOOD LABELING

PG. 41

- Nebraska

- Called for support of legislation to regulate food labeling:

“I will never stop fighting for Nebraska’s farmers and ranchers, and I stand with Senator DeKay, who has introduced a strong bill to “beef up” our consumer protections and false labeling laws to eliminate these dishonest products from Nebraska’s grocery shelves.”



DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

PG. 43

- Indiana
- Texas

INDIANA

GOVERNOR MIKE BRAUN (R) - JAN. 29, 2025

- Stated that top-down DEI mandates led to division and inefficiency
“We replaced the political DEI ideology with a level playing field of MEI - Merit, Excellence, and Innovation.”

TEXAS

GOVERNOR GREG ABBOTT (R) - FEB. 2, 2025

- Called for banning DEI in grades K-12

INSURANCE AND TORT REFORM

PG. 45

- Georgia

- Mentioned efforts by the state’s Insurance Commissioner to “gather data and information on Georgia’s insurance industry, identify reforms that could be made to stabilize insurance costs, expand choices for consumers when they need coverage, and prevent more insurance carriers from leaving Georgia altogether.”

- Used this mention to segue into a call for tort reform

“The tort reform legislation my office will introduce in the coming days will be comprehensive - but fair.”

“But I also want to be very clear: there is always room for compromise, but there will be no room for excuses, half-measures, or failure.”

- Suggested the possibility of a special session later in the year to get tort reform done

“Whether it’s this legislative session, or a second one later this year, we will achieve meaningful, impactful tort reform.”



STATE BUDGET

PG. 47

- **Maine**
- **Illinois**

- Warned of an upcoming budget deficit, although the state is required to have a balanced budget
“To fund every program in current law – every bill already enacted, every program already authorized -- would cost a minimum of \$11.67 billion over the next two years – and that is very likely an underestimate because costs have only grown since last October, when that number was calculated. On the other hand, the State of Maine is expected to take in \$11.2 billion in revenue. I don’t have to spell it out for you – that’s a budget gap.”
- Proposed a \$1 increase to the excise tax on cigarettes
“But if I had to consider a revenue increase, I decided that I wanted it to be specific and purposeful, rather than broad-based, and I wanted it to provide some social benefit in return. That is what the cigarette tax achieves.”
“Recognizing that a higher cost to cigarettes can dissuade some people from smoking, especially young people, my budget proposes a \$1 increase to the cigarette excise tax. A \$1 increase, for a total of three dollars, puts us in the middle of our New England neighbors, which is still relatively low.”
- Proposed reducing the excise tax on cannabis while raising the sales tax
“Since retail sales began in 2020, Maine’s cannabis market has changed a lot. It’s time to change our cannabis taxes too. That’s why I am proposing to lower the excise tax and increase the sales tax, adjustments which will put Maine in the middle of the pack among the states for cannabis taxes.”
- Proposed an assessment on non-municipal ambulance services and pharmacy prescriptions to create eligibility for federal money that will then be returned to the ambulance services and pharmacies via higher reimbursement rates
“My budget also proposes an assessment on non-municipal ambulance and on pharmacy prescriptions. I understand the natural apprehension when you hear the words ambulance, pharmacy, and assessment together in one sentence, but let me explain. First, it is important to note that these are not charges that should be passed along to consumers. Here’s why: creating this new stream of revenue will allow us to draw down additional Federal funds along with it. We take this new funding, turn around, and invest much of it back into higher reimbursement rates for both those ambulances and pharmacies, so that they are basically made whole for the cost to begin with.”

- Acknowledged a lean budget year and called for economic development amid the challenge while not raising citizens' taxes

“Every single one of these budget years has presented its own unique set of difficulties. This year is no exception. Here’s the good news – we’ve made responsible investments, and Illinois is better built for the long term. That means that lean budget years are a challenge – and no longer a catastrophe. Overcoming a challenging budget year starts with growing our economy. Because every business we add, every dollar they invest, every worker we employ, every entrepreneur we uplift, strengthens our resiliency.”

“I’m proud to say this year’s budget proposal is balanced and responsible. It represents some hard sacrifices and moderated spending. We’re preserving the progress we’ve made over the last six years, streamlining certain departments to do more with less, and delivering for our residents without raising their taxes.”

“This proposed budget enacts cost-saving operational efficiencies, improves productivity, curtails new hiring at agencies, consolidates unnecessary segregated funds, eliminates dormant boards and commissions, and overhauls state purchasing to save taxpayers money.”

TECHNOLOGY & ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

PG. 50

- South Carolina
- Maryland
- Oklahoma

“In the Lowcountry, Google will grow its South Carolina footprint by establishing two new data center campuses in Dorchester County and expanding its existing data center campus in Berkeley County. This combined investment of \$3.3 billion will create 200 new jobs. Welcome Mr. Eddie Walters, Data Center Operations Manager.”

MARYLAND

GOVERNOR WES MOORE (D) - FEB. 5, 2025

- Wants to see Maryland as a capital for artificial intelligence

OKLAHOMA

GOVERNOR KEVIN STITT (R) - FEB. 3, 2025

- Highlighted Google’s continued investment in its data center in Pryor, OK
- Mentioned Trump’s announcement of a \$20 billion investment in data centers across the country, including in OK
- Stated, “This is a massive opportunity to create more jobs for people in our state and to continue to put us on the map as the best state for business.”

PERMITTING & LICENSING

PG.53

- Michigan

- Pledged to simplify permitting across the board, stating:
“You shouldn’t need a permit to sell ginseng, install a model train, or lime your soil.
If you want to fix your driveway, you shouldn’t have to wait any more than 90 days to start.
If you want to upgrade your house’s plumbing or electrical, you should be able to go to 1 place and get all the help you need, quickly.
And if we can track the status of our Dominos order online, a developer should be able to do the same for their multi-million-dollar project.”
- Asked the legislature to help with LARA’s proposal of “eliminating duplicative exams, honoring trade licenses, giving entrepreneurs more flexibility, and streamlining reporting requirements”



For the full list of state of the state addresses, along with links to available speeches, visit our website:
stateside.com/state-resource/2025-state-state-addresses