

<p>August 8, 2002</p>	<h1 style="margin: 0;">In the News</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">www.csg.org A Service from The Council of State Governments</p>			
<p>Nation: Tight times for states improve gambling's odds</p>	<p>East: Connecticut: Juvenile programs fall short</p>	<p>West: West is wary of new rules governing power sales</p>	<p>Midwest: Indiana: State targets assets hidden from Medicaid</p>	<p>South: Missouri: State launches amnesty effort to collect back taxes</p>

In the Nation

Tight times for states improve gambling's odds

Faced with massive, unexpected debts, many states are taking a fresh look at gambling as a possible cure to their fiscal woes, triggering what could become the first broad expansion of casinos and slot machines in a decade. The hunt for an antidote to budget shortfalls that doesn't require raising taxes has softened resistance to gaming in Maryland, where opposition once ran high, and in New York, Pennsylvania and Kentucky. It is the chance for states to cash in that is proving irresistible, said Robert McIver, who handles investor relations for International Game Technology of Nevada, one of the nation's largest makers of slot and video poker machines. Without gaming, McIver said, "you're going to have to raise taxes or cut programs. And you know how politicians feel about that."

Read the story:

Tight times for states improve gambling's odds – [Washington Post](#)

See the resources:

Gambling expansion tempts cash-strapped state legislatures (Stateline Midwest) – CSG's STARS, an electronic database accessible free to all CSG members at www.csg.org or for purchase by calling 1-800-800-1910

Colorado: Lottery posts record sales for past year – [Rocky Mountain News](#)

Iowa: Court upholds tax ruling for tracks – [The Des Moines Register](#)

Connecticut: Casino opponents come together – [The Hartford Courant](#)

Kentucky: Patton suggests expanded gambling – [Courier-Journal](#)

Indiana gaming commission flexes its muscles – [The Indianapolis Star](#)

Nebraska gambling proposal a threat to Iowa – [The Des Moines Register](#)

[Back to Top](#)

In the East

Connecticut: Juvenile programs fall short

When the state started offering alternative incarceration programs for juvenile delinquents in the mid-1990s, it expected a drop in the rate of children committing

crimes after they left the system. A report to be released today [Aug. 1] will show just the opposite. Juveniles who took part in the state-funded programs in 1999 were more likely to commit crimes after their discharge than youths in the system during 1994, before the programs were implemented.

Read the story:

Juvenile programs fall short – [The Hartford Courant](#)

See the resources:

Interstate Compact on Juveniles – [CSG's Public Safety and Justice Policy Group](#)

To rehabilitate juveniles, South Dakota must reform system (Stateline Midwest) – CSG's STARS, an electronic database accessible free to all CSG members at www.csg.org or for purchase by calling 1-800-800-1910

Juvenile Probation on the Eve of the Next Millennium (Perspectives) – CSG's STARS

Juvenile Justice: Adult Consequences for Young Offenders (SGN) – CSG's STARS

Despite promising statistics, juvenile crime remains a top concern in states (Firstline Midwest) – CSG's STARS

Juveniles Facing Criminal Sanctions: Three States that Changed the Rules (Spectrum) – CSG's STARS

Juvenile Justice Information Center (California) – [Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice](#)

Juvenile Justice Reform – [Kansas Juvenile Justice Authority](#)

Recommendations for Juvenile Justice Reform – [American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry](#)

[Back to Top](#)

In the West

West is wary of new rules governing power sales

Federal energy regulators yesterday proposed nationwide rules for power sales aimed at preventing a repeat of last year's energy crisis in California and other Western states. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission wants to eliminate an inefficient patchwork of regulations across the country that allows or even encourages manipulation of energy markets and dampens competition. But officials from many Western utilities worry that the proposals will allow just the opposite.

Read the story:

West is wary of new rules governing power sales – [Seattle Post-Intelligencer](#)

See the resources:

Standard of Review for Proposed Changes to Market-Based Rate Contracts for Wholesale Sales of Electric Energy by Public Utilities (pdf file) – [Federal Energy Regulatory Commission](#)

Power struggles: Midwest hopes to learn from other states' deregulation woes (Stateline Midwest) – CSG's STARS, an electronic database accessible free to all CSG members at www.csg.org or for purchase by calling 1-800-800-1910

The Unfulfilled Promises of Electric Restructuring (Nor'Easter) – CSG's STARS

Rocky Mountain Restructuring: What Works for the Western States – [U.S. Department of Energy](#)

Federal authorities must return to cost-based rates in western wholesale electricity markets (pdf file) – [Consumer Federation of America](#)

Western States' Energy Policy Roadmap (pdf file) – [Western Governors' Association](#)

[Back to Top](#)

In the Midwest

Indiana: State targets assets hidden from Medicaid

It will be harder for Hoosiers who don't want to spend their life savings on nursing home care to get taxpayers to foot the bill, because state officials are closing loopholes in Medicaid law. Many people have avoided going broke by purchasing savings bonds Medicaid cannot touch, investing in rental property and giving it away, or buying annuities meant to preserve their money for children and grandchildren. State officials hope to wipe out all three loopholes this year.

Read the story:

State targets assets hidden from Medicaid – [The Indianapolis Star](#)

See the resources:

Health: Medicaid Needs Surgery (SGN) – CSG's STARS, an electronic database accessible free to all CSG members at www.csg.org or for purchase by calling 1-800-800-1910

Nebraska: Gov. Johanns' Medicaid cuts advance – [Press & Dakotan](#)

Indiana: Medicaid lawsuit payout less than expected – [The Courier-Journal](#)

Indiana: Medicaid costs under budget – [The Indianapolis Star](#)

Washington: Some pharmacies cut off Medicaid patients – [Seattle Post-Intelligencer](#)

[Back to Top](#)

In the South

Missouri: State launches amnesty effort to collect back taxes

Missouri's Revenue Department today launched an effort to collect at least \$20 million in back taxes from delinquent individuals and businesses. The amnesty program began today and ends Oct. 31, 2002. The taxes must have been due on or before last Dec. 31, so income taxes from 2001 are not eligible, Farmer said. Almost all types of taxes are eligible for the amnesty program, including individual and corporate income, estate, sales and motor vehicle sales and property tax credits.

Read the story:

State launches amnesty effort to collect back taxes – [News Tribune](#)

See the resources:

Tax amnesty programs win favor in cash-strapped states (Stateline Midwest) –

CSG's STARS, an electronic database accessible free to all CSG members at www.csg.org or for purchase by calling 1-800-800-1910

Illinois: State lawmakers fear tax cheats may prosper – [Chicago Sun Times](#)

Kentucky tax amnesty program offered through Sept. 30 – [The Cincinnati Enquirer](#)

Michigan: State revenue from tax amnesty is short – [The Detroit News](#)

State tax amnesty programs: 1982-Present – [The Federation of Tax Administrators](#)

Tax Amnesty Program – [Missouri Department of Revenue](#)

[Back to Top](#)

In the News is a weekly news overview compiled by [The Council of State Governments](#).
In The News Advertising: (800) 800-1910 or email us at sales@csg.org

*CSG does not endorse the editorial content of the pages to which it links.
If you wish to add names to or remove names from the **In the News** mailing list, email inthenews@csg.org with either "subscribe" or "remove" in the subject line.*