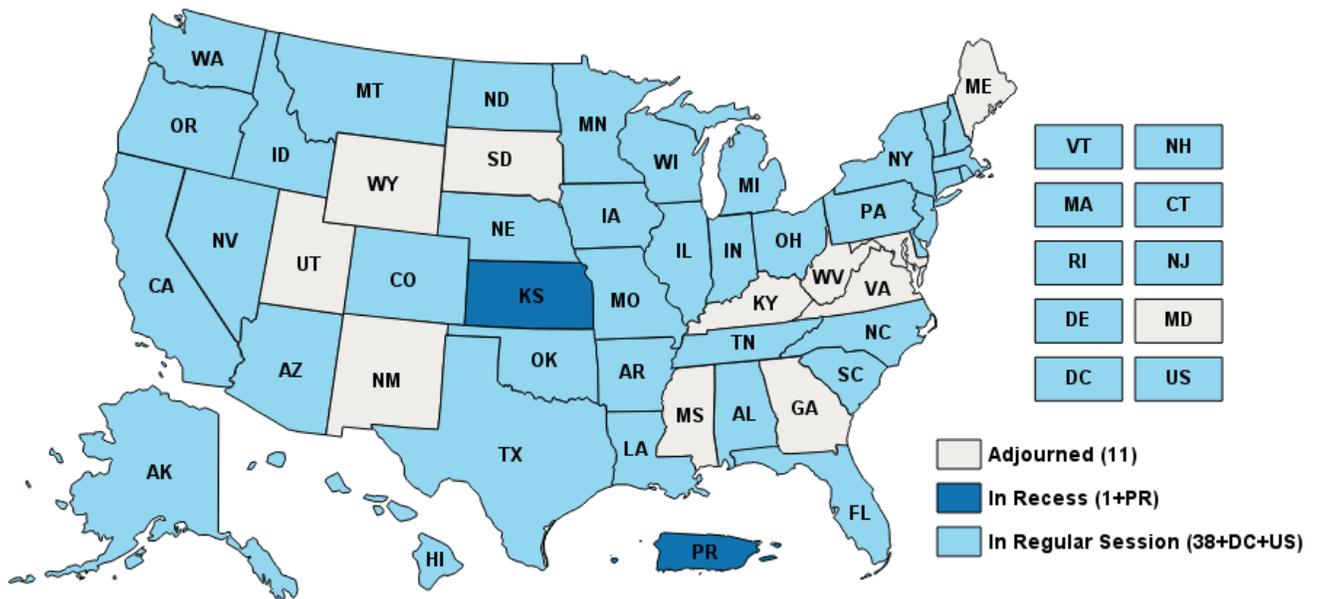




Visit our [COVID-19 Resources](#) site to see our 50-state charts and research detailing state Shelter-in-Place designations, State Budget freezes and more.

**Massachusetts has started to assign bill numbers to legislation for the 2021 session. Previously, only docket numbers and titles had been available. These bills will appear in your database as they are posted by the General Court.**

## States in Session



## Overview

Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio House, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Vermont, Washington and Wisconsin are in regular session. The District of Columbia Council and the U.S. Congress are also in session.

The following legislatures are in recess until the dates provided: **Ohio Senate** and **Puerto Rico** (April 20) and **Kansas** (May 3).

**Maine** adjourned their legislative session sine die on March 30. The legislature is scheduled to convene for a special session on April 28 to consider a supplemental budget proposed by Democratic Gov. Janet Mills, reports the [Maine Wire](#).

The following states adjourned their 2021 legislative session sine die on the dates provided: **West Virginia** (April 10) and **Maryland** (April 12).

The following states are scheduled to adjourn their 2021 legislative sessions on the dates provided: **Arizona** (April 24), **Washington** (April 26), **Montana** and **North Dakota** (April 28), **Hawaii** and **Indiana** (April 29) and **Arkansas**, **Florida**, **Iowa** and **Tennessee** (April 30).

**New Mexico** Democratic Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham had until April 9 to sign or veto regular session legislation or it was pocket vetoed.

**South Dakota** Republican Gov. Kristi Noem has until April 19 to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **New Mexico** Democratic Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham has until April 20 to sign or veto special session legislation or it is pocket vetoed. **Wyoming** Republican Gov. Mark Gordon has until April 22 to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **West Virginia** Republican Gov. Jim Justice has until April 28 to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. However, if the bill in question is a budget bill or supplementary appropriations bill, the governor only has until April 16 to act before it becomes law. **Georgia** Republican Gov. Brian Kemp has until May 10 to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **Maryland** Republican Gov. Larry Hogan has until June 1 to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **Illinois** Democratic Gov. J.B. Pritzker has 60 days from presentment to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **Kentucky** Democratic Gov. Andy Beshear has 10 days from presentment, except Sundays, to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **Maine** Democratic Gov. Janet Mills must act on legislation presented within 10 days of adjournment or it becomes law unless returned within three days after the next meeting of the same legislature. **Mississippi** Republican Gov. Tate Reeves has 15 days from presentment, except Sundays, to sign or veto legislation or it becomes law without signature. **New Jersey** Democratic Gov. Phil Murphy has 45 days from presentment to act on legislation or it becomes law without signature.

## Special Elections

**Connecticut** held a special election for House District 112 on April 13. Tony Scott, R-Monroe, won the seat with 53 percent of the vote, reports [The CT Mirror](#).

**New Hampshire** held a special election for Hillsborough District 21 on April 13. Bill Boyd, R-Merrimack, won the seat with 52.6 percent of the vote, reports [WMUR](#).

**Louisiana** House District 2 held a special election on March 20. Neither Troy Carter, D-New Orleans, or Karen Carter Peterson, D-New Orleans, received more than 50 percent of the vote and the election will be sent to a run-off on April 24.

## Cooperative Purchasing

**Alabama** [SB 15](#) was reported from the House State Government Committee on April 1. This bill would amend competitive bid laws applicable to the purchase or leases of goods and services by city and county boards of education and other governmental entities to specifically include leases and lease/purchase agreements within the exclusions from the laws for purchase made through national or regional cooperative purchasing agreements. This bill also specifies that, upon request, a vendor would need to provide the entity purchasing or leasing items which exceed \$15,000 a report of the sales, leases and lease/purchases that must include a general description of the goods or services, the number of units sold and the price of units purchased, leased or leased/purchased. Similar bill [HB 187](#) was reported from the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee on March 9 and is pending further action.

**Alabama** [HB 423](#) was reported from the Senate Fiscal Responsibility and Economic Development Committee on April 14. Under existing law, purchases of goods or services made as part of a governmental cooperative purchasing program, excluding voice or data wireless communication services, are exempt from the state competitive bidding requirements. This bill would delete the exclusion of voice or data wireless communication services from this exemption.

**Montana** [SB 171](#) was transmitted to Republican Gov. Gregory Gianforte on April 13. Governor Gianforte has until April 23 to sign or veto the legislation, or it becomes law without signature. This bill would allow a county to enter into an agreement for cooperative purchasing with the state, a political subdivision of the state or any other state or any other government entity. This bill also specifies that a cooperative purchasing agreement would be exempt from competitive bidding requirements.

**Oklahoma** [SB 299](#) was reported from the House Rules Committee on April 8. This bill would allow any school district, including a technology school district, to participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative or piggybacking purchasing agreement for the acquisition of any commodities or services including public construction contracts, with one or more public agencies, public agency procurement units or external procurement units in accordance with an agreement entered into by the participants.

This bill would also define cooperative or piggybacking purchasing agreement as an agreement between a public agency procurement unit and another public agency procurement unit or an external procurement unit to authorize the use of a contract procured by one of the parties to the agreement to benefit the other party to the agreement. This amendment would add a provision declaring an emergency.

**Texas** [HB 1496](#) was reported from the House Public Education Committee on April 7. This bill would require a school district that enters into a purchasing contract valued at \$25,000 or more under any cooperative purchasing program authorized for school districts by law to document any contract-related fee, including any management fee, paid by or to the district and the purpose of each fee under the contract. Similar bill [SB 1597](#) was referred to the Senate Education Committee on March 24 and is pending further action.

## Catch-All Procurement

**Connecticut** [HB 5736](#) was heard in the Joint Government Committee on April 15. This bill would provide a price preference of 10 percent for the purchase of goods or services from veteran-owned businesses when determining the lowest responsible qualified bidder in state contracting.

**Nevada** [AB 28](#) passed the Assembly on April 13 and was referred to the Senate Government Affairs Committee on April 14. This bill contains a provision that would impose an inverse preference on certain bidders for state purchasing contracts. This provision specifies that a person responsible for awarding a contract must increase the bid or proposal or decrease the score of the bid or proposal by an amount that is substantially equivalent to the preference that the other state denies to a person with a principal place of business in the state of Nevada.

**New York** [AB 2580/Chap. 95](#) was signed into law by Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo April 6. This law will extend the expiration date for the authority of New York municipalities, school districts and other local governmental entities to purchase from federal and other states' contracts for goods or services that were competitively bid from July 31, 2021 to July 31, 2023. This law is effective immediately. Companion bill [SB 1090](#) was substituted by AB 2580 on March 30.

**New York** [AB 3005C](#) was transmitted to Democratic Gov. Andrew Cuomo on April 7. Governor Cuomo has until April 19 to sign or veto the bill, or it becomes law without signature. This budget bill contains a provision that would amend the public authorities law relating to procurements by the New York City transit authority and the metropolitan transportation authority. Rather than expiring on April 1, 2021, this bill would extend the expiration date of the provision to April 1, 2024. Companion bill [SB 2505](#) was substituted by AB 3005C on April 6.

**Texas** [HB 362](#) was referred to the Senate Local Government Committee on April 13. Relating to the authority of a county to require electronic bids or proposals for competitive bidding, this bill would allow the commissioners court of a county to require submissions of bids or proposals through electronic transmission if the county makes available all technology necessary to submit a bid or proposal through electronic transmission to any person who submits a hard-copy bid or proposal in person. Companion bill [SB 326](#) was heard in the Senate Local Government Committee on April 12.

## Construction Procurement

**Arkansas** [HB 1853](#) was reported from the Senate State Agencies and Governmental Affairs Committee on April 13. This bill contains a provision that a person named in an anticipation to award a contract that is protested could file a written response to the protest. A response to a protest must be submitted in writing within five days of the date the person is given notice of the protest.

**California** [AB 846](#) was reported from the Assembly Higher Education Committee on April 12 and was rereferred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the same date. This bill contains a provision that would require an entity that is awarded a job order contract in excess of

\$25,000 to provide an enforceable commitment to the community college district that the entity and its subcontractors at every tier will use a skilled and trained workforce to perform all work on the job order contract that falls within an apprenticeable occupation in the building and construction trades.

**Connecticut** [HB 6444](#) was referred to the Office of Legislative Research and Office of Fiscal Analysis on April 12. This bill contains a provision that would prohibit a state agency or institution or quasi-public agency from entering into a large state construction or procurement contract unless the contract contains a representation that the chief executive officer or authorized signatory of the contract and all key employees of the officer or signatory have read and understood the summary and agree to comply with the provisions of state ethics law.

**Washington** [SB 5032](#) passed the House unanimously on April 6. The Senate concurred with the House [amendment](#) on April 14. Relating to public works contracting procedure, this bill would specify guidelines by which the capital projects advisory review board would operate. Members of the board would be urged to develop and recommend to the legislature policies to encourage competition and enhance equity in capital construction projects. This would include considerations for reducing barriers for and increasing participation by disadvantaged business enterprises.

This bill also contains a provision that would require the board to establish a project review committee to review and approve public works projects using the design-build and general contractor/construction manager contracting procedures. This committee would be required to include at least one member representing the interests of disadvantaged business enterprises.

**Washington** [SB 5356](#) was transmitted to Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee on April 12. Governor Inslee has until April 17 to sign or veto the legislation, or it becomes law without signature. Concerning every invitation to bid on a prime contract that is expected to cost \$1 million or more for the construction, alteration or repair of any public building or public work for the state or a state agency, this bill would require each prime contract bidder to submit additional information relating to subcontractors in order to be considered.