



# SGR CONNECTION

*Periodic overview of some of NFIB's issues in state legislatures. (May 6, 2022)*

## UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE TRUST FUND

### COLORADO

On April 27, 2022, Colorado [lawmakers introduced](#) SB 22-234, a bill that includes [\\$600 million](#) to replenish the state's unemployment trust fund, which owes over \$1 billion to the Department of the Treasury. Among other things, the bill includes provisions to extend unemployment insurance benefits to undocumented workers and removes the waiting period between when applicants file and receive benefits. The bill passed in the Senate yesterday and was referred to the House Committee on Finance. Colorado lawmakers also considered [SB22-066](#), a bill that would fully replenish the state's unemployment trust fund. The bill failed to advance in committee earlier this week and is considered dead for the current session.

### MINNESOTA

On April 29, 2022, Minnesota [Governor Tim Waltz](#) signed into law a bill that includes \$2.7 billion to replenish the state's unemployment trust fund. The state's trust fund is currently \$1.4 billion in debt. The new law repays the trust fund fully and allows for a \$1.3 billion positive trust fund balance. The bill also includes \$500 million in bonuses for frontline workers.

### IOWA

On April 26, 2022, Iowa Senate lawmakers passed a bill [that would](#) reduce unemployment benefits from 26 to 16 weeks. The bill passed the House last month and heads to Governor Kim Reynolds for her signature. By reducing the unemployment insurance benefits, the bill is expected to lower the amount paid by the [unemployment trust](#) fund by \$140 million within the next two years.

### KENTUCKY

Last month, Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear [signed into](#) law a bill that would extend the freeze of the unemployment insurance assessment rate set in 2020 through 2022. The [bill also](#) includes \$242 million set-aside to replenish the unemployment insurance trust fund.

## CHILD CARE

### KENTUCKY

On April 8, 2022, Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear signed into law a bill that would increase child care service availability in the state. The bill would establish the Employee Childcare Assistance Partnership program allowing public and private partnerships to provide child care services. The program would be voluntary for employers and funding by employers would be fully matched with state funding. The bill also establishes an Employee Childcare Assistance Partnership Fund and allocates \$15 million to the fund.

### COLORADO

On April 19, 2022, Colorado [House lawmakers](#) introduced [SB22-213](#), a bill that would provide additional funding for child care service programs in the state. The bill includes approximately \$100 million in funding for child care programs, which includes \$50 million for “the purpose of implementing the child care sustainability grant program; \$19 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund to emerging and expanding the child care grant program; and \$10 million from the economic recovery and relief cash fund to implement the employer-based child care facility grant program.” The bill is under consideration by the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

### NEW YORK

On April 12, 2022, New York Governor Kathy Hochul signed into law a \$220 billion budget package for the fiscal year 2023. Among other things, the spending plan [includes](#) \$7 billion for child care programs over the next four years. The total amount includes [\\$343 million](#) set-aside for stabilization grant funding for child care providers in an effort to strengthen the state’s child care workforce. The newly passed budget also includes provisions to expand eligibility for child care support based on income.

### VERMONT

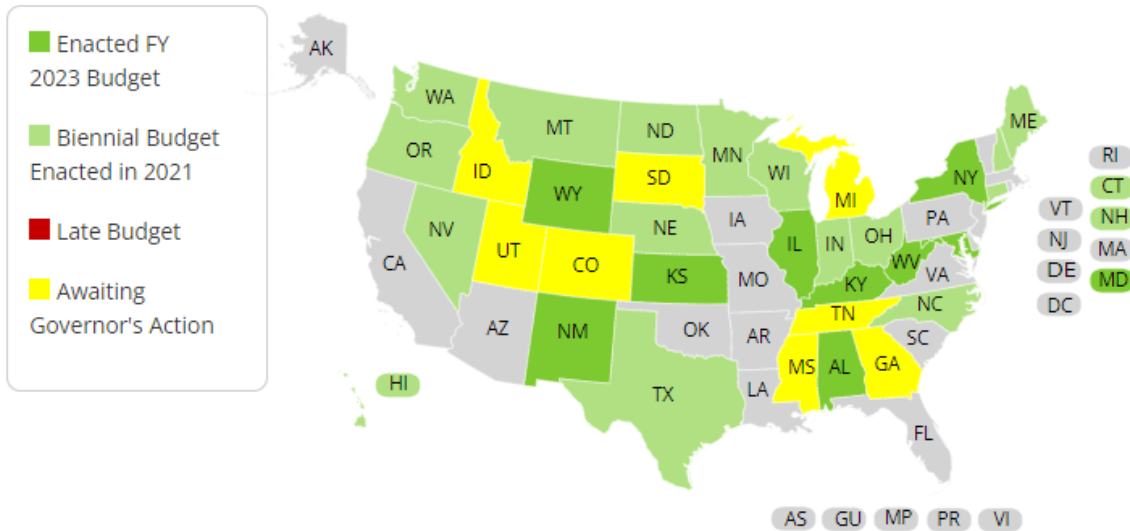
In Vermont, lawmakers are considering [legislation](#) that would [provide](#) child tax credits for eligible families. The House-passed version of the bill would provide a \$1,200 tax credit per child for children six years old and under for families with a maximum income of \$200,000. The Senate proposal would provide \$1,000 per child five years or under. Both versions of the bill are being considered by a Conference Committee.

### MAINE

In April 2022, the Maine legislature [passed](#) a bill that includes \$12 million to fund child care services in the state. The bill would primarily support the state’s child care workforce by providing a \$200 increase per month in income for child care providers.

## FY2023 BUDGET UPDATE

The state fiscal year 2023 budget process has been underway in several states as 46 states begin FY2023 in July 2022. As of this month, 25 states have enacted their FY2023 budgets, and eight states passed their budgets and await final approval.



Source: [NCSL](#)

## MISCELLANEOUS

### CONNECTICUT

In April 2022, the Connecticut House and Senate [lawmakers passed SB 6, a bill that would](#) establish a comprehensive data privacy law in the state similar to those enacted in California, Colorado, Utah and Virginia. The bill would become effective in July 2023 and apply to businesses that, over the span of one year, “controlled or processed the personal data of at least 100,000 Connecticut residents (excluding for the purpose of completing a payment transaction); or 25,000 Connecticut residents if the individual or entity derived more than 25% of their annual gross income from selling personal data.” If signed into law, the bill would allow Connecticut residents to view, amend, and delete data collected on them. The bill would also allow individuals to opt-out of data collection. It does not include a private cause of action provision and is awaiting the Governor’s signature.

### CALIFORNIA

In February 2022, California House Lawmakers introduced [AB2932](#), a bill that would shorten the workday from five to four days. Specifically, the bill “would require the compensation rate of pay at 32 hours to reflect the previous compensation rate of pay at 40 hours and would prohibit an employer from reducing an employee’s regular rate of pay as a result of this reduced hourly workweek requirement.” The bill would apply to employers with 500 or

more employees. The bill failed to be considered by the state's Assembly's Labor and Employment Committee last month and is considered dead for the year.

## **HAWAII**

In April 2022, the Hawaii legislature passed [HB2399](#), a bill establishing an extended producer responsibility program in the State. Unlike other states, the bill does not establish a producer responsibility organization and allows private and local organizations to work together to reduce waste. The bill applies to “companies that either have global annual gross sales above \$500 million or generate a total of more than 10,000 metric tons of packaging waste a year.” The bill does not establish a permanent model and is expected to sunset in 5 years. The bill is considered dead for the current session.

## **HAWAII**

Also in Hawaii, the state legislature [passed a bill](#) that would raise the minimum wage from \$10.10 per hour to \$18 per hour, the highest rate in the nation. If passed into law, the bill would go into effect [October 2022](#) raising the minimum wage to \$12 per hour. The minimum wage would then be increased to \$14 per hour by 2024; \$16 per hour by 2026; and \$18 per hour by 2028. The bill now heads to Hawaii Governor David Ige who is expected to sign it into law.

## **CONNECTICUT**

In April 2022, Connecticut House and Senate lawmakers passed a bill that would prohibit “captive audience” [meetings](#) in the workplace. Specifically, “the bill prohibits employers, including the state and its political subdivisions, from disciplining or discharging (i.e., penalizing) an employee or threatening to do so because the employee refused to attend employer-sponsored meetings, listen to speech, or view communications primarily intended to convey the employer’s opinion about religious or political matters.” If signed into law, Connecticut would be the second state in the country to enact such laws after Oregon. The bill is currently pending the Governor’s signature.

Need additional information?  
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