

Trauma and Emergency Medical Services in the States: A Look at Policy and Legislation

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National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

National membership organization:

- 7,383 state legislators
- Over 30,000 legislative staff

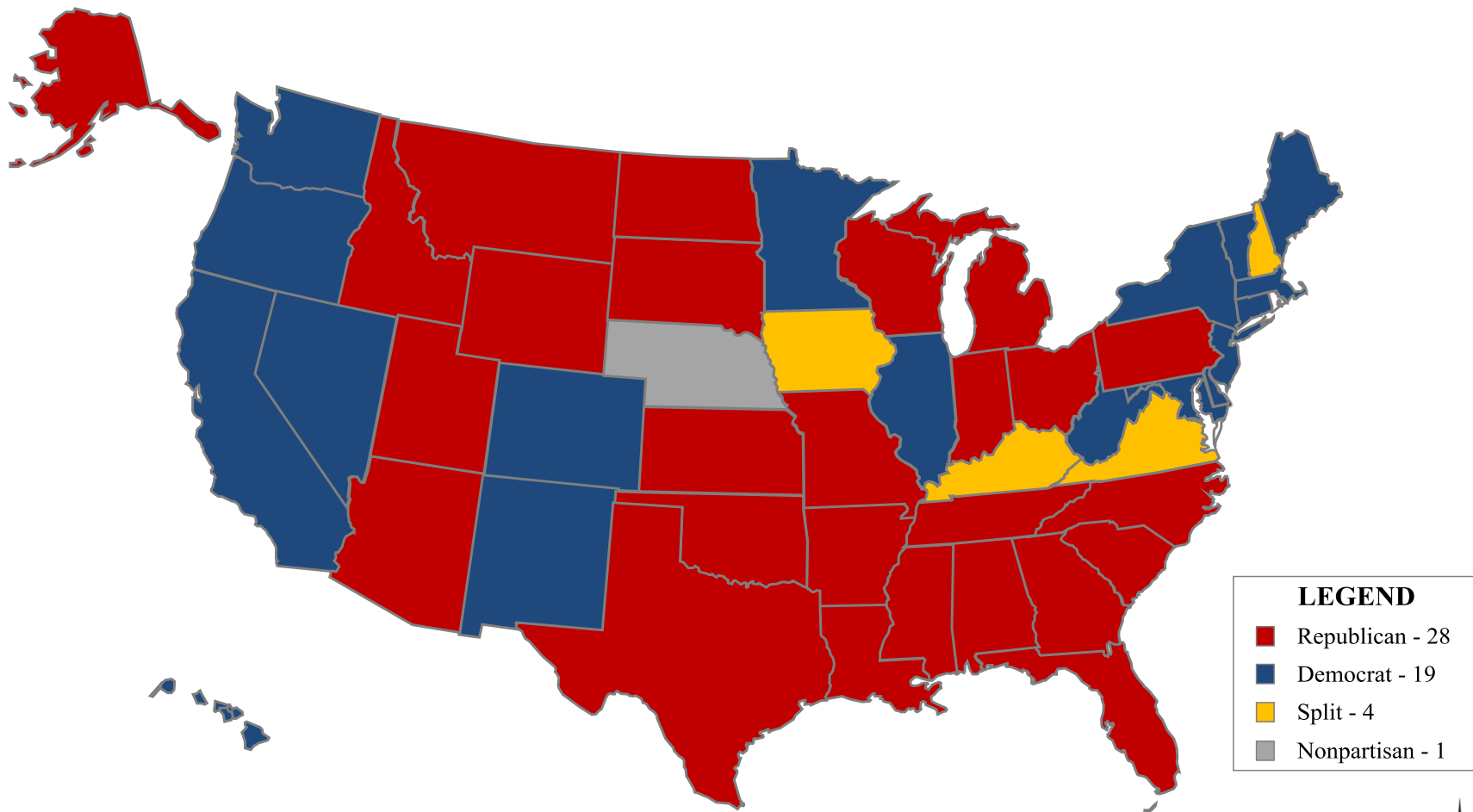
Mission:

- To improve the quality and effectiveness of state legislatures
- To promote policy innovation and communication among state legislatures
- To provide nonpartisan research information on many policy topics

Outline

- Overview of State Legislatures
 - Elections
 - Budgets
 - Priorities
- Taking Your Issues to State Legislatures
- The Legislative Role in Trauma and EMS
 - Trauma Centers
 - EMS and Trauma Advisory Groups
 - Trauma Registries
 - State Funding Mechanisms
- 2012 and 2013 Enacted EMS Legislation

State Legislatures Post-Election 2012



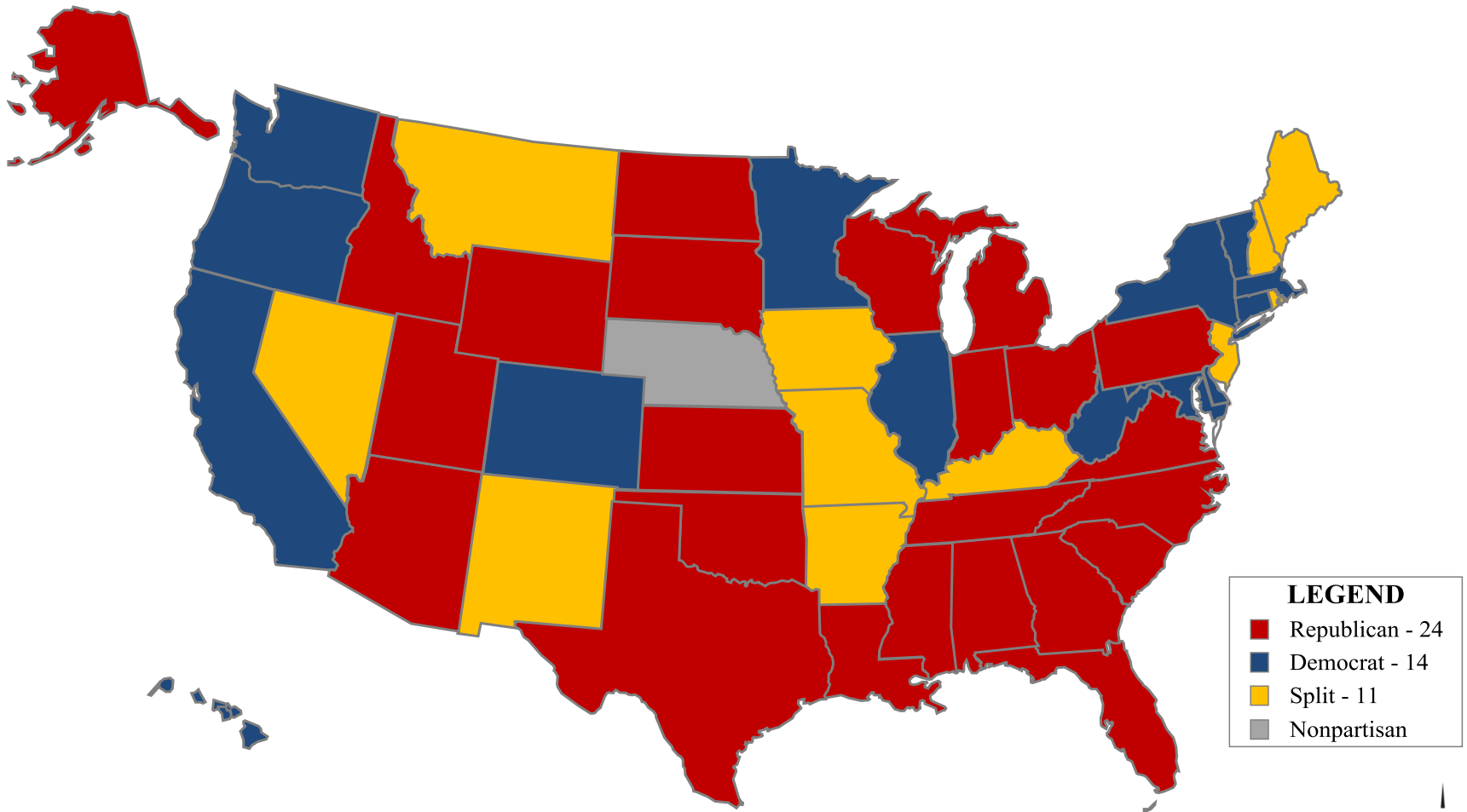
LEG

- Repul
- Democ
- Indep

New



State Governments Post-Election 2012



NCSL's Fiscal Analysts Survey

Improved state fiscal conditions

- ✓ Revenue growth outpaced projections in most states
- ✓ Expenditures were generally on target
- ✓ Solid fiscal situation in almost every state

Cautious budget outlook for fiscal year 2014

- ✓ Uncertainty about sustained revenue growth
- ✓ Spending needs likely to outpace revenue
 - ✓ Medicaid and higher education

Top Health Policy Issues 2013

- PPACA Implementation
 - Health Insurance Exchanges
 - Medicaid Expansion
 - Other
- Medicaid Cost Containment
- Payment/Delivery System reform - esp. for chronic conditions
- Workforce

Taking Your Issue to State Legislatures

Legislators Are Generalists

- Dozens of topics:
 A to Z
 - Hundreds of bills
 - Can't be experts in all
 - **Good News:** Most Legislators see themselves as Students
- Agriculture
 - Corrections
 - Education
 - **Health**
 - Housing
 - Human Services
 - Labor
 - Transportation
 - Zoning . . .

Overload!!!

"I don't need to know how to make a watch, I just need to know what time it is."

-N.D. Sen. Judy Lee

"Going through all this information we have here is kind of like trying to drink from a fire hydrant."

-Colo. Rep. Mark Paschall

"My seatmate told me this was a bad bill. I was going to vote no on it until I realized it was my own bill."

-Colo. Sen. Ray Powers



Frame the Discussion

- **Craft message to the times**
(did I mention the budget?!)
- **Make the message relevant**
(did I mention the budget??!!)
- **Affect on constituents/district?**
- **Humanize the issue**

Educate the Educators

- 15 states have term limits
- 50% of all seats held by newcomers ≤ 2 years
- New staff (or newly assigned committee duties)
- Being "green" affects:
 - Institutional memory
 - Complex program understanding
 - Depth of issue knowledge
- **Continually educating** legislators and their staff about EMS issues is **crucial**

THEREFORE:

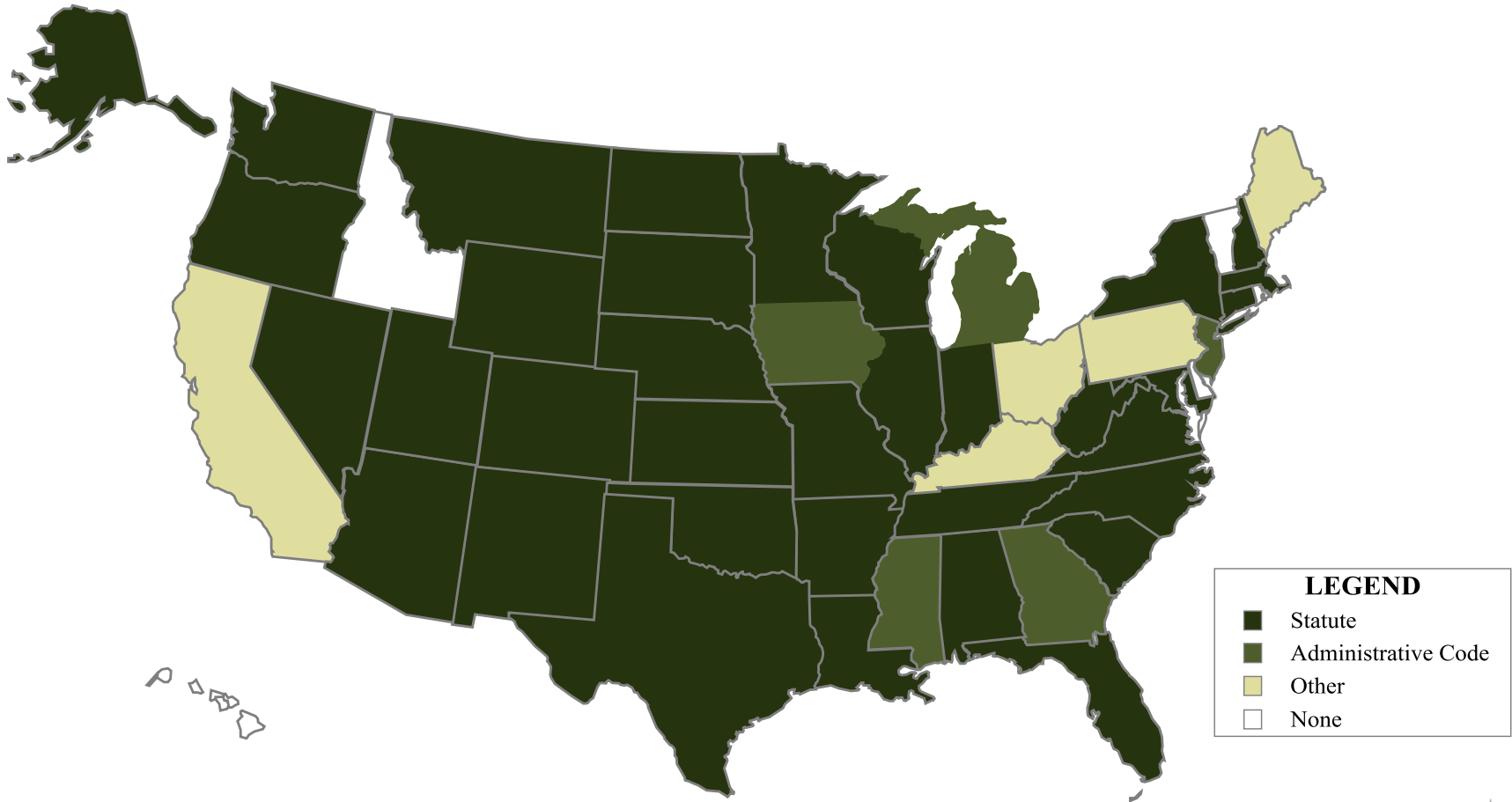
- Befriend your agency's government relations person
- Prioritize!
- Frame the discussion!
- Make suggestions:
 - What are the "hot" issues?
 - New, important information
 - What do newbies need to know?
- Let them know what information you have and what you can get
- They'll start coming to you!

The Legislative Role in Trauma and EMS

Trauma Centers

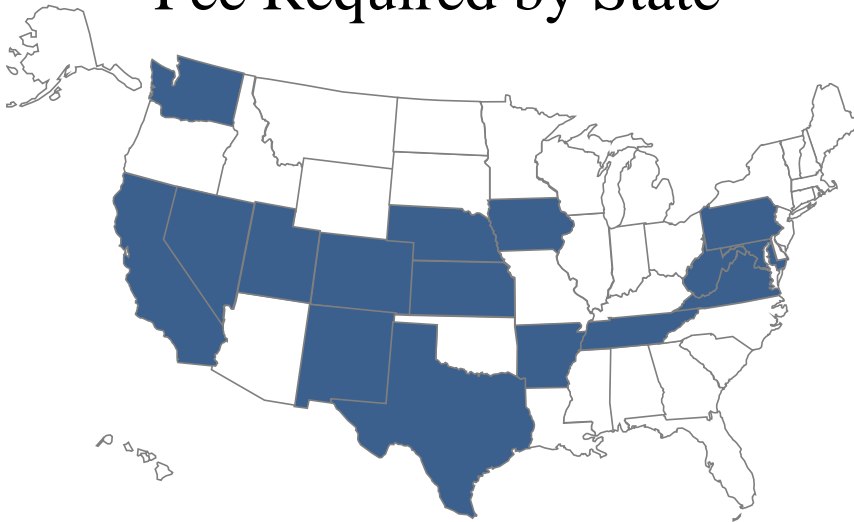
- Access to a Level I trauma center can reduce the risk of death by 25%.
- Uneven distribution of trauma centers throughout the United States:
 - Within one hour of injury...
 - Almost 43 million Americans have access to 20 or more Level I or II trauma centers.
 - Over 46 million Americans lack access to Level I or II trauma centers.

Legal Authority to Designate Trauma Centers



Required Fee or Site Visit for Trauma Center Designation

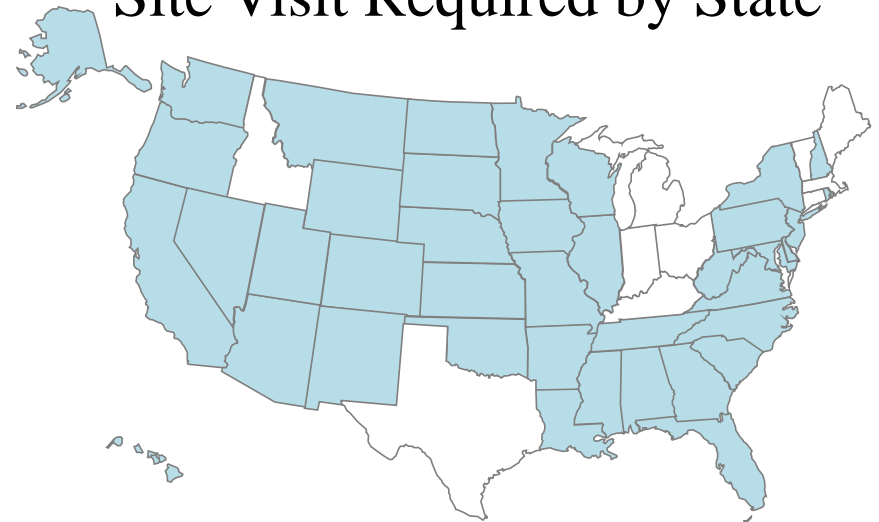
Fee Required by State



Questions for you to consider:

- *What is the fee amount?*
- *What are these funds used for?*
- *What is the rationale in your state?*

Site Visit Required by State



Questions for you to consider:

- *Who conducts the site visit?*
- *How often are the site visits required?*

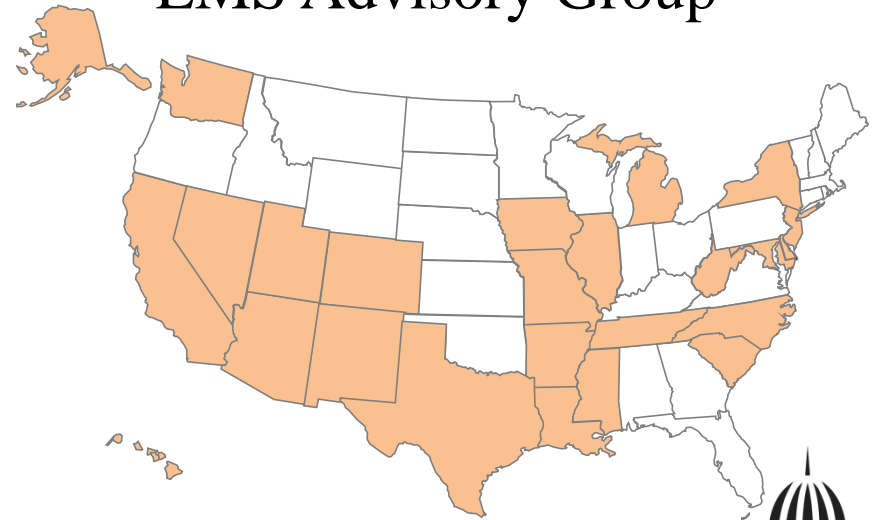
Advisory Groups

- Trauma or EMS advisory groups can be a platform to inform policymakers about activities, success stories, needs, etc.

Trauma Advisory Group



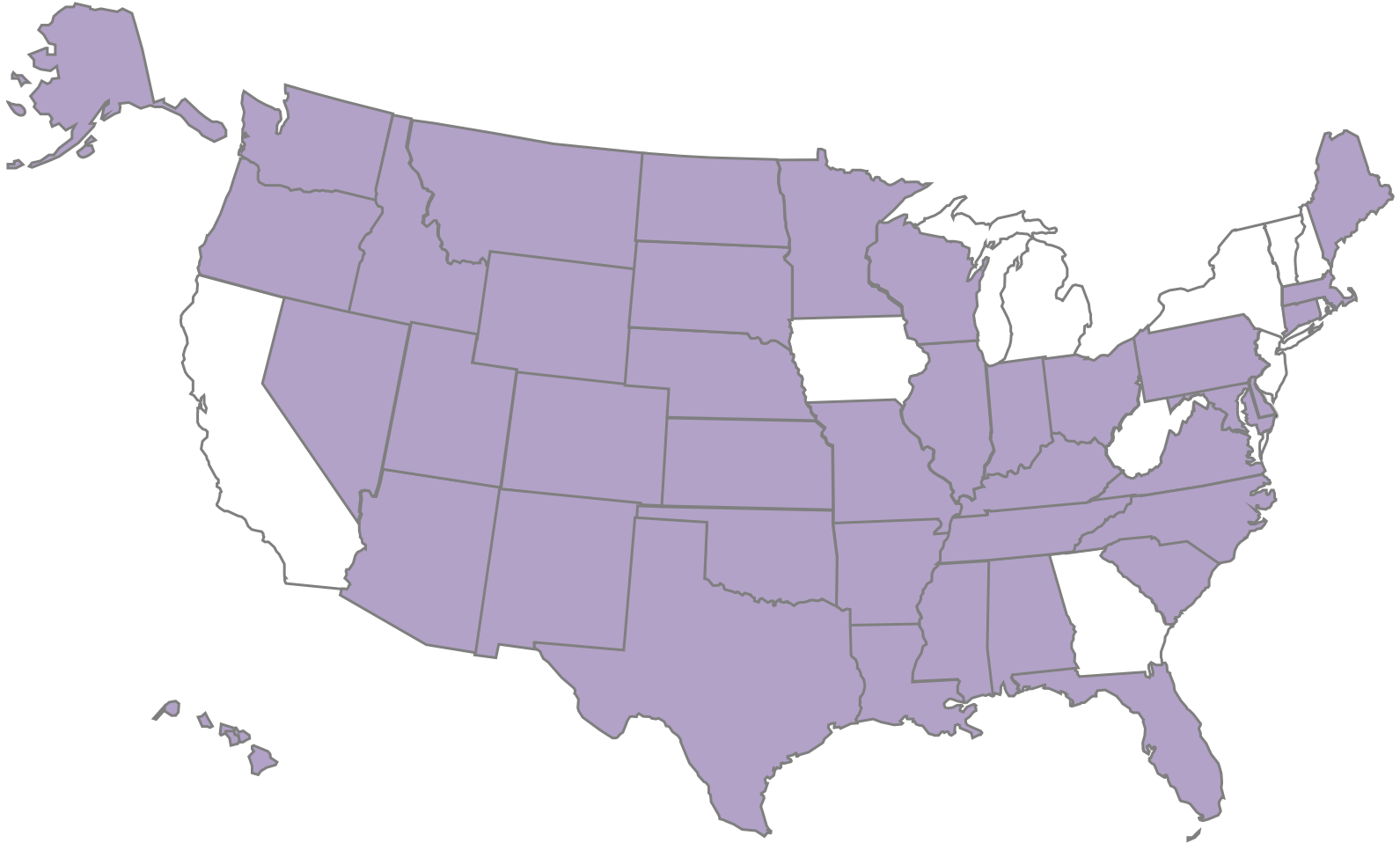
EMS Advisory Group



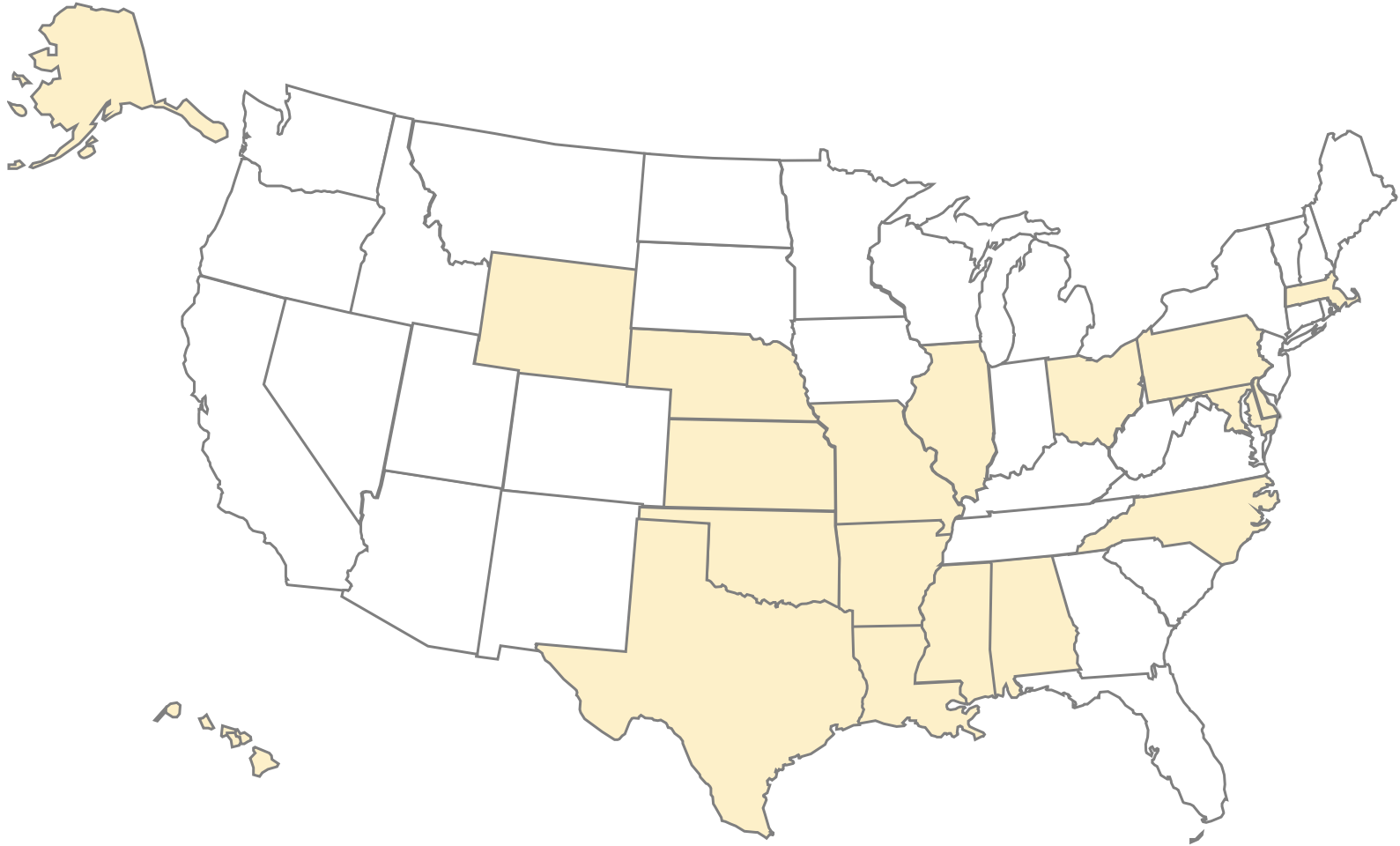
Trauma Registries

- In most states, trauma registries collect data about the incidence, severity, causes, costs and results of trauma.
- The data collected in these registries can be used to help legislators evaluate many aspects of the system.

Statewide Trauma Registry Established by Statute



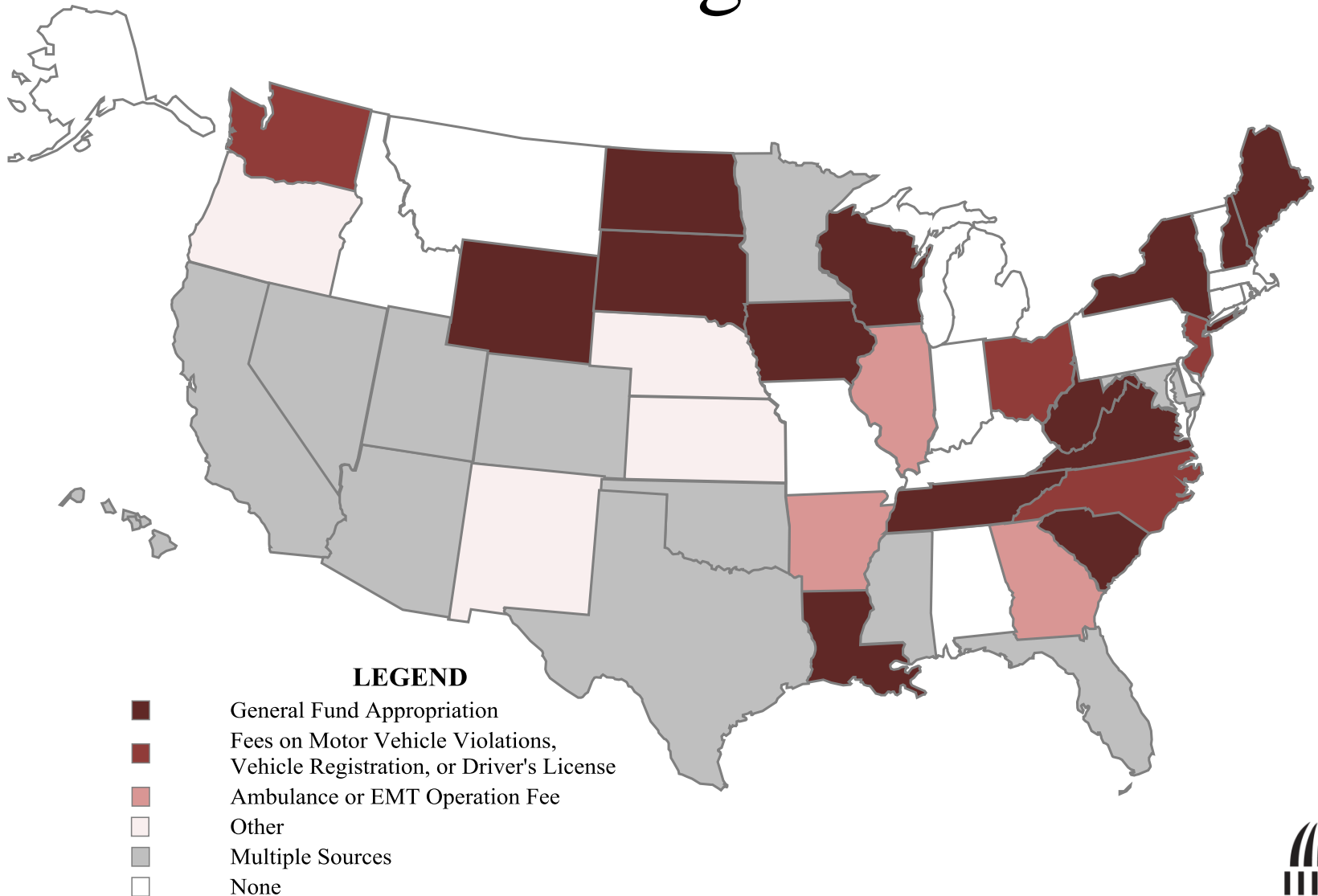
Trauma Registry and Prehospital Data Integration Required



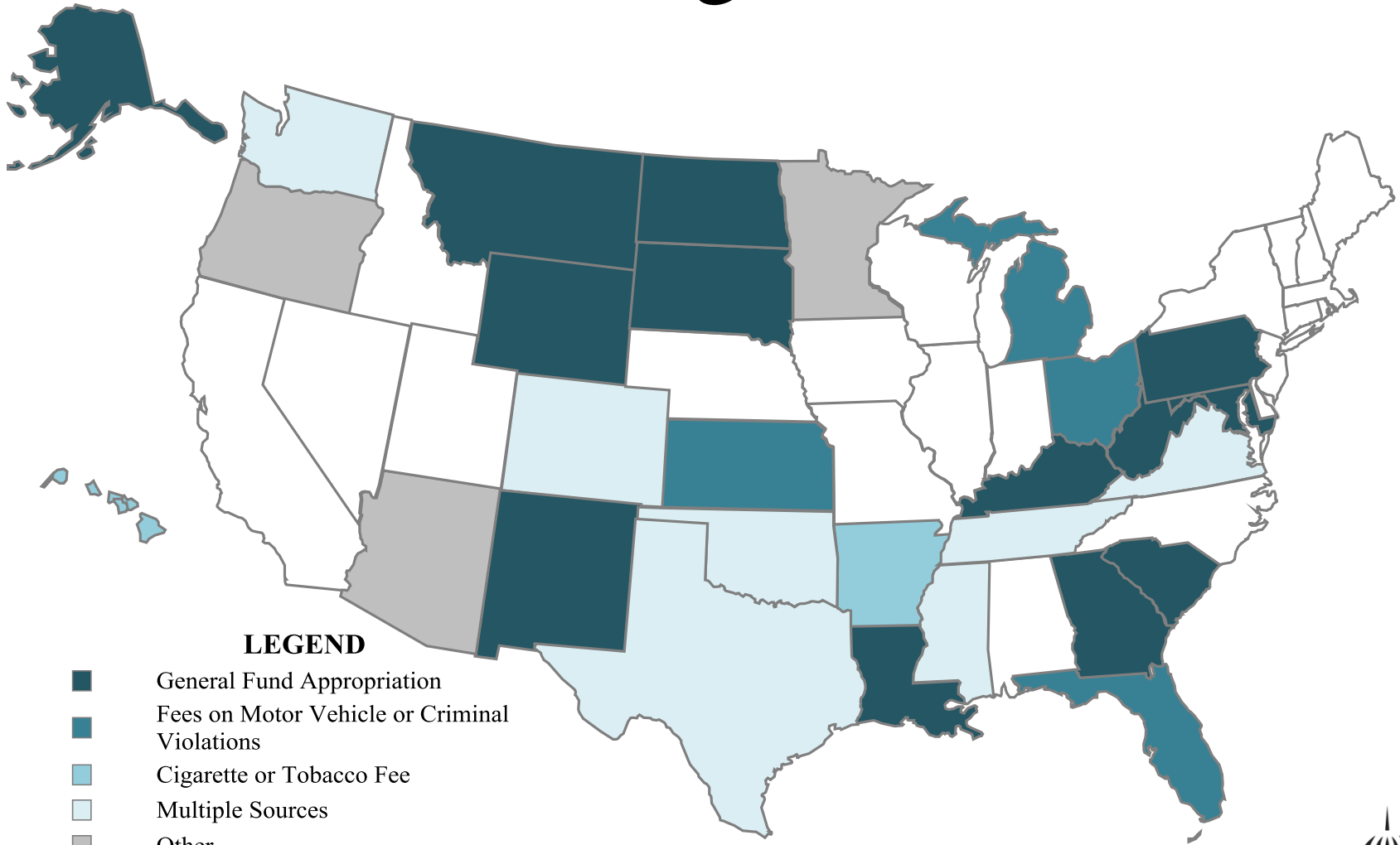
State Funding Mechanisms

- State-based support for trauma and EMS often consists of funding from several sources.
- Most states fund trauma services and EMS services separately.

State Funding for EMS



State Funding for Trauma

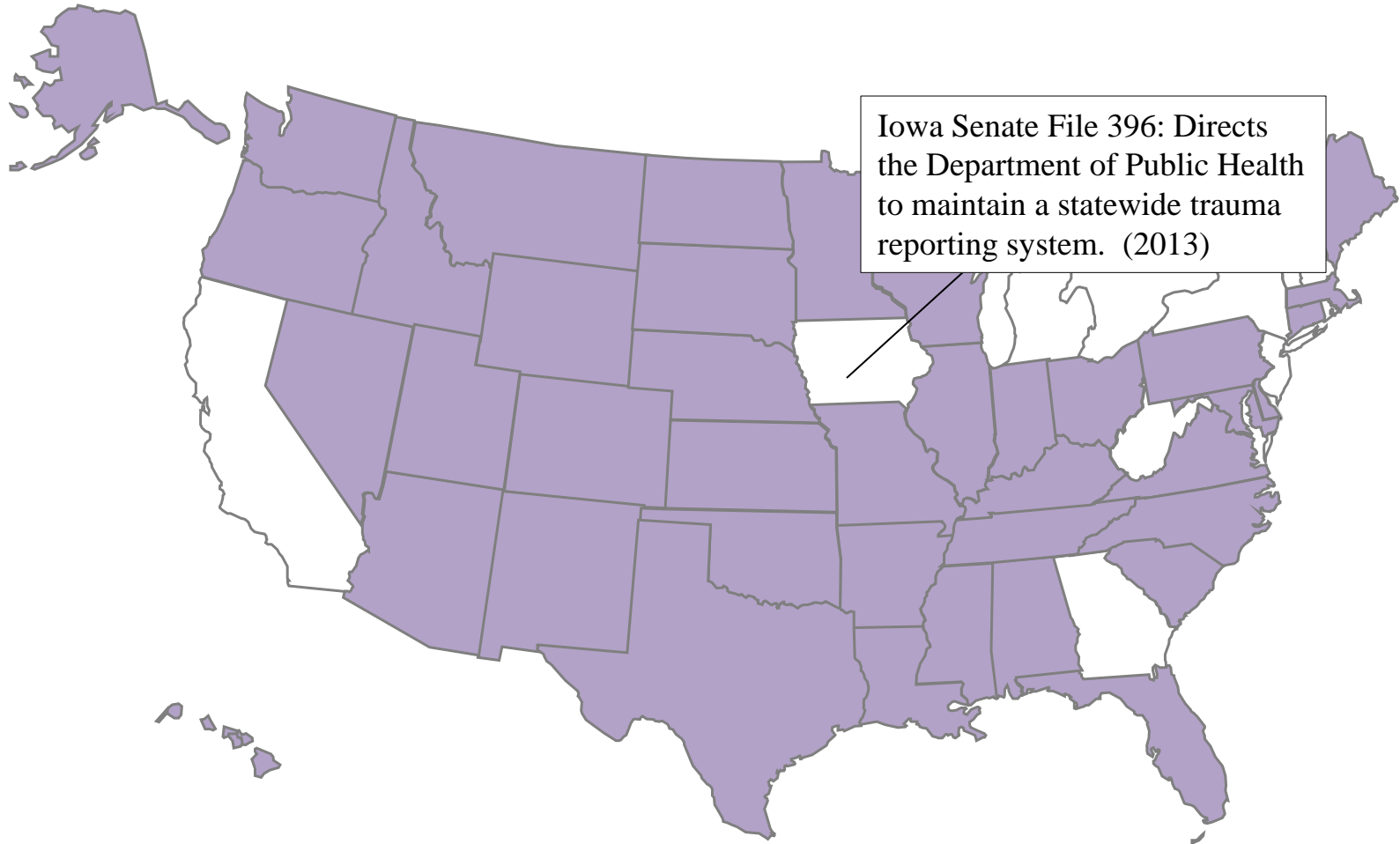


LEGEND

- General Fund Appropriation
- Fees on Motor Vehicle or Criminal Violations
- Cigarette or Tobacco Fee
- Multiple Sources
- Other
- None

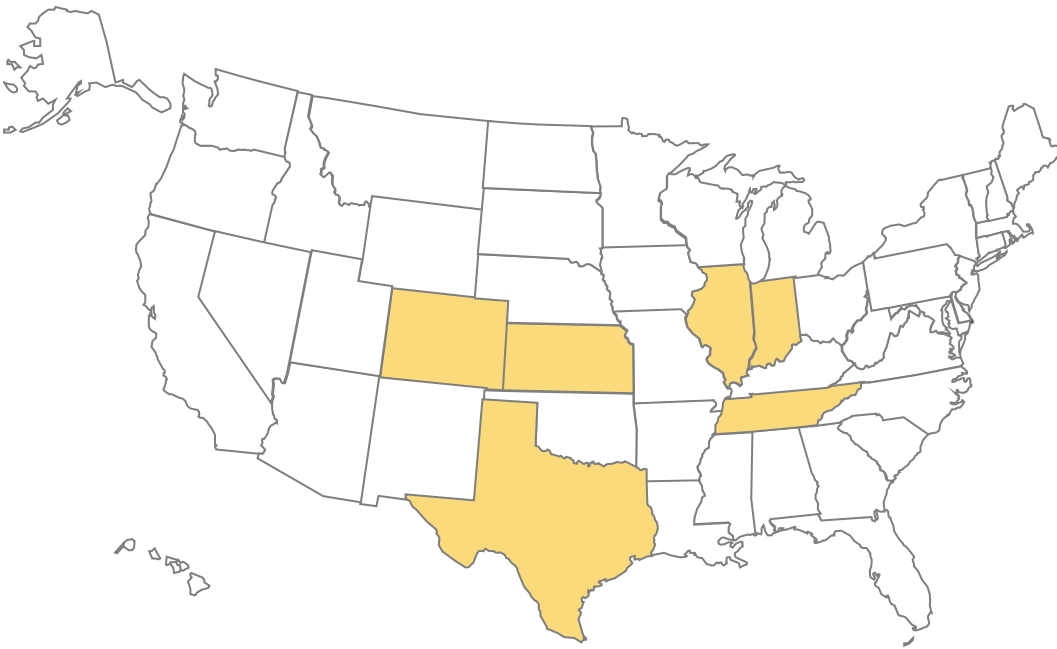
Emergency Medical Services: 2013 Enacted Legislation

Statewide Trauma Registry: 2013 Legislation



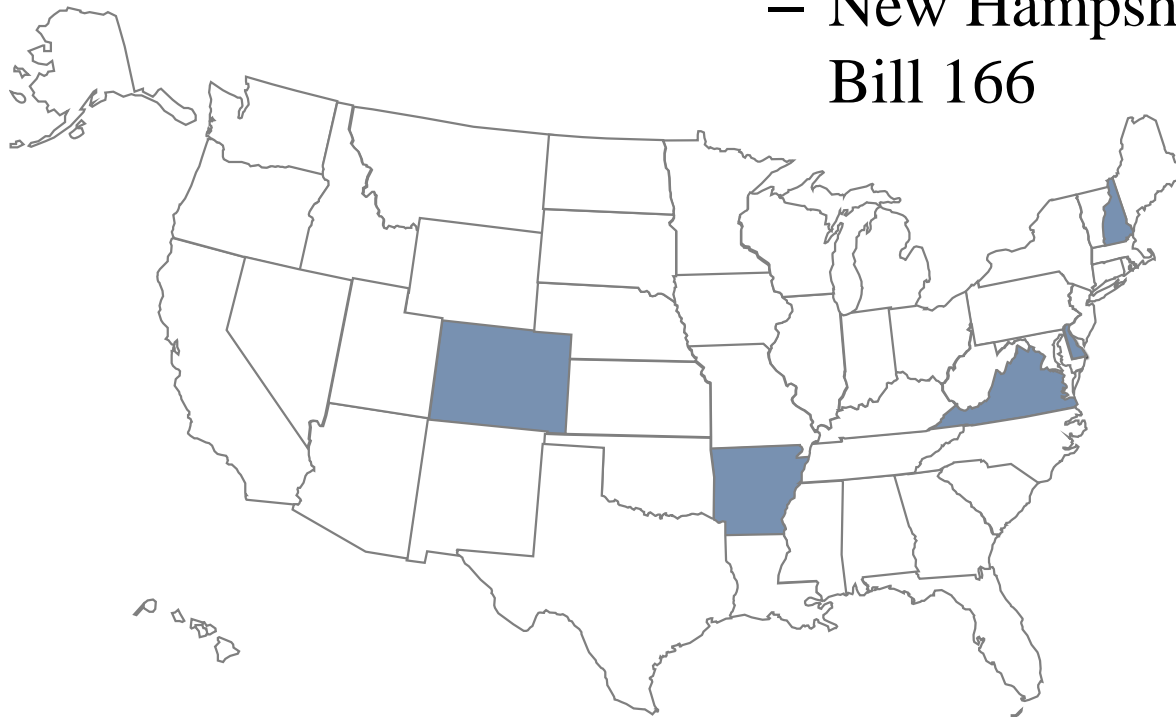
EMS Certification and US Military Personnel

- 2012 Enacted Legislation:
 - Colorado House Bill 1059
- 2013 Enacted Legislation:
 - Illinois House Bill 3186
 - Indiana Senate Bill 290
 - Kansas House Bill 2078
 - Tennessee Senate Bill 493
 - Texas House Bill 1960



Peer Support and Confidentiality

- 2012 Enacted Legislation:
 - Virginia House Bill 856
 - Delaware Senate Bill 174
- 2013 Enacted Legislation:
 - Arkansas House Bill 1971
 - Colorado Senate Bill 38
 - New Hampshire Senate Bill 166



A few concluding notes...

- No organized national trauma system.
- State legislatures are responsible for developing and funding state-based systems.
- State-to-state comparisons may be useful.
- Legislators need YOU!
 - You are the experts within our state.
 - Legislators need your stories and data.

NCSL Resources

Trauma/EMS System Video:

www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabId=25206

Trauma/EMS System Interactive Map:

www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabID=25221

Beyond 911: State and Community Strategies for
Expanding the Primary Care Role of First
Responder:

www.ncsl.org/Default.aspx?TabID=25383

Thanks!

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