

2010 State Legislative Spending Transparency Efforts
(preliminary list, as of February 2, 2010)

Arizona:

[HB 2282](#), sponsored by Rep. Steve Montenegro (R-Litchfield Park), establishes searchable online databases for all state and local expenditures. The proposed bill provides for the creation of a user-friendly site containing all state monies, while protecting personal information, with a deadline for launch by January 1, 2011. The bill also mandates that all cities, towns, and counties establish similar transparency websites by 2013.

Introduced on January 14, 2010. Assigned to House Committee on Government on January 19, 2010. Referred to House Committee on Appropriations, then Rules.

Colorado:

[HB 1036](#), entitled the Public School Financial Transparency Act, sponsored by Rep. Christine Scanlan (D-Summit County), requires school districts, district charter schools, boards of cooperative education, the state charter school institute, and institute charter schools to post financial information online, in a downloadable format, for free public access.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Education on January 13, 2010. Reported favorably with amendment from Education on January 21, 2010.

Corresponding Senate legislation: [SB 91](#), sponsored by Sen. Ted Harvey (R-Highlands Ranch).

Introduced and assigned to Senate Committee on State, Veteran and Military Affairs on January 20, 2010.

District of Columbia:

B 610, sponsored by Councilmember Mary Cheh (D-Ward 3) amends provisions concerning procurement practices to establish an office responsible for strengthening internal controls against fraud and abuse in procurement, to require the creation of a procurement transparency website, to mandate and strengthen training requirements of procurement personnel, to provide for acquisition planning for procurements, to enhance contracting enforcement penalties, and to mandate that products and services procured shall have a lesser or reduced impact on the environment.

Introduced and assigned to Council Committee on Government Operations and the Environment on January 5, 2010.

Georgia

[HB 888](#), entitled the DeKalb School Board Transparency Act and sponsored by Rep. Kevin Levitas (D-Atlanta), requires any school board member with a financial interest in any contract or matter

pending before the board to disclose this interest. It also prohibits board members from accepting gifts or money, and provides a code of ethics for the DeKalb County School System.

Introduced on January 11, 2010.

Hawaii:

[HB 2088](#), sponsored by Rep. Ryan Yamane (D-Waipahu-Mililani) expands the responsibilities of the legislative federal economic stimulus program oversight commission by authorizing the commission to determine the total amount of stimulus funds the State qualifies for, has applied for, drawn down, and the distribution and uses. It also provides greater transparency by making information about the funds easily available to the public, such as through a website.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Finance on January 20, 2010

Corresponding Senate legislation: [SB 2104](#), sponsored by Sen. David Ige (D-Pearl City).

Introduced and assigned to Senate Committee On Ways and Means on January 20, 2010.

Kentucky:

[SB 40](#), sponsored by Sen. Damon Thayer (R-Georgetown), establishes the creation of online databases providing expenditures data for the legislative, judicial, and executive branches. These websites will be launched by January 1, 2011.

Introduced on January 5, 2010. Assigned to Senate Committee on State and Local Government on January 6, 2010. Reported favorably, first reading, sent to Calendar on January 27, 2010. Second reading, sent to Rules on January 28, 2010.

[SB 87](#), sponsored by Sen. Damon Thayer (R-Georgetown), establishes the creation of an online database providing financial data for all “quasi-governmental agencies.” It also requires an annual audit of each quasi-governmental agency, with the findings posted on the website each year beginning January 1, 2011.

Introduced on January 13, 2010. Assigned to Senate Committee on State and Local Government on January 14, 2010. Reported favorably, first reading, sent to Calendar with amendment on January 27, 2010. Second reading, sent to Rules on January 28, 2010. Floor amendments filed on February 1, 2010.

Maryland:

[HB 174](#), sponsored by Del. Warren Miller (R-Howard County), requires the Department of Budget and Management to include state loans in excess of \$ 25,000 on the Maryland Funding Accountability and Transparency website.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Health and Government Operations on January 20, 2010.

Missouri:

[SB 757](#), sponsored by Sen. Scott Rupp (R-Wentzville), establishes the Joint Committee on Recovery Accountability and Transparency to prevent fraud, waste, and abuse of the funds received by the state or any political subdivision from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. This committee will have the power to oversee the reporting of contracts and grants using covered funds, review whether competition requirements applicable to contracts and grants have been satisfied, review covered funds, refer matters for investigation to the Attorney General or the agency dispersing the funds, receive regular reports from the commissioner of the office of

administration, receive regular testimony from the State Auditor, review audits from the State Auditor, and review the number of jobs created in the state using these funds.

Introduced on January 13, 2010. Assigned to Senate Committee on Governmental Accountability and Fiscal Oversight on January 19, 2010.

New Jersey:

[AB 158](#), entitled the Transparency in Government Act and sponsored by Assemblywoman Alison McHose (R-Sussex), provides for the establishment of a state public finance website. This searchable site is set to include all revenues, expenditures, and compensation for state employees, as well as state bond debts. This searchable website is to be launched by July 1, 2011. The legislation also creates the Public Finance Transparency Committee to oversee the website and act in advisory to the Chief Technology Officer and State Treasurer.

Introduced and assigned to Assembly Committee on Budget on January 12, 2010.

Corresponding Senate legislation: [SB 708](#), sponsored by Sen. Joe Pennacchio (R-Morris).

Introduced and assigned to Senate Committee on State Government, Wagering, Tourism and Historic Preservation on January 12, 2010.

New Mexico:

[HB 141](#), sponsored by Rep. Nathan Cote (D-Las Cruces), requires the Commissioner of Public Lands to develop, operate, and maintain an online database providing financial information relating to state lands; this includes the annual operating budget and monthly expenditures of the State Land Office.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Rules and Order of Business on January 25, 2010.

[SB 42](#), entitled the Transparency in Government Act and sponsored by Sen. Sander Rue (R-Albuquerque), provides for the creation and maintenance of an online database providing public access to state government budgets, expenditures, and other financial information.

Introduced and assigned to Senate Committee on Committees; referred to Public Affairs, then Rules on January 19, 2010.

[SB 195](#), entitled the Sunshine Portal Transparency Act and sponsored by Sen. Sander Rue (R-Albuquerque), provides for the creation and maintenance of a web-based information portal that provides public access to state government budgets, expenditures, revenue, and other information.

Introduced and assigned to Senate Committee on Committees; referred to Public Affairs, then Finance on January 26, 2010.

Washington:

[HB 1902](#), sponsored by Bruce Dammeier (R-Puyallup), consolidates the various accounts known as the “near general fund” into a single state general fund for purpose of making the budget more transparent and understandable. It also brings all expenditures from these accounts within the state expenditure limit.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Ways and Means on February 2, 2009. Reintroduced and retained in present status on January 11, 2010.

[SB 6105](#), sponsored by Sen. Eric Oemig (D-Kirkland), requires the Department of Revenue to make publicly available an online searchable database of all taxes and tax rates in the state for each taxing district, and provide tax rate calculators on the searchable database to allow taxpayers to calculate their potential taxes.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Ways and Means on February 26, 2009. Reintroduced and retained in present status on January 11, 2010.

West Virginia

[HB 3091](#), entitled the Budget and Spending Transparency Act and sponsored by Del. Jonathan Miller (R-Berkeley), creates a searchable online database which allows taxpayers access to all state government spending.

Introduced and assigned to House Committee on Judiciary, then Finance on January 13, 2010.

For further information please contact Sandra Fabry, government affairs manager and executive director of the Center for Fiscal Accountability at 202-785-0266 or via email at sfabry@atr.org www.fiscalaccountability.org