

"Perspective from the Midwest: A Legislative Recap and 2022 Session Preview"

Midwestern Higher Education Commission November 9, 2021 Grand Rapids, Michigan

## **2021 Overview**



## The Economy

- Wild ride last 20 months
- GDP growing, but slowed in 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter
- Slower growth in Midwest Lakes outpacing Plains
- Steep declines in unemployment
- September jobless rates: 2.0% (NE) to 6.8% (IL)



## **The Fiscal Picture**

- Mostly good news
- Revenue recovery driven by influx of federal funds
- Pandemic spending growth
- Fund balances still healthy
- Challenges ahead



# 2021 Legislative Sessions



## 2021 Legislative Sessions

- Continuing Pandemic
- New biennium; longer sessions
- Improved fiscal outlook
- Familiar political landscape change coming



## 2021 - Top Issues

- Pandemic Response
- Police/Criminal Justice Reform
- Elections and Voting
- Redistricting



### Select "Other Issues" – 2021

- Budgets/Taxes
- Legislative Oversight (IN, KS, ND)
- Social Issues Abortion; Transgender Rights
- Broadband Access (NE, ND, OH)



### Select "Other Issues" – 2021

- Clean Water (OH)
- Clean Energy (IL)
- Guns (KS, MI)
- "News and Notes"



# 2022 Legislative Session Preview



## *Key Issues – 2022*

- Pandemic Response/Mandate Bans
- Budgets/Taxes Deployment of ARP Funds
- Criminal Justice Policing
- School Funding/School Choice
- Abortion (IN, IA, KS, NE . . .)



## *Key Issues – 2022*

- Medical Marijuana (KS, SD)
- Elections and Voting
- Pensions
- Energy
- Others: Occupational Licensure, Infrastructure, Human Trafficking, Sports Betting, . . .



## The Political Front: Election Year 2022

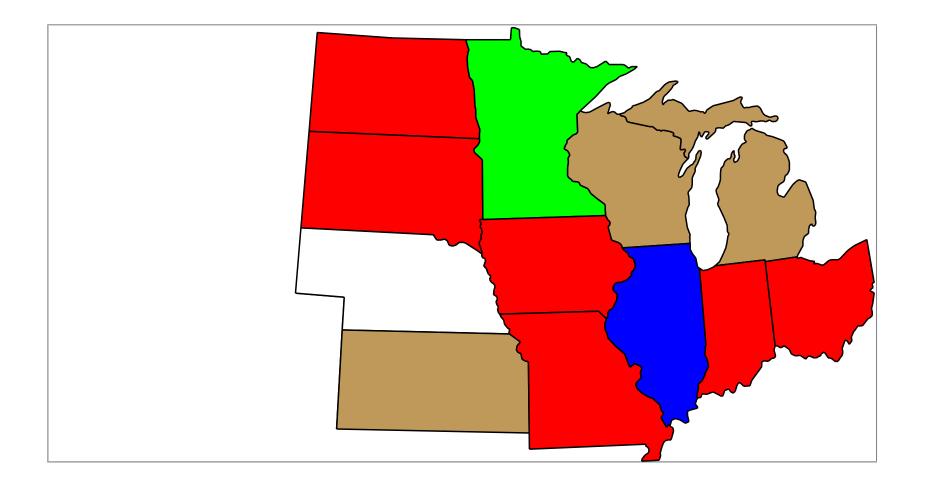


### 2020 Election Results

- No partisan control swings in Midwest
- R's still control 19 of 22 partisan chambers and more than 60% of total seats; MN remains the nation's only divided legislature
- No change in gubernatorial mix: 3 Republican incumbents won re-election



#### Partisan Control in Midwestern States 2021/22





#### Midwestern State Partisan Control 2021 Legislative Sessions

State	Governor	Governor	House	Senate
Illinois	J.B. Pritzker	D	D	D
Indiana	Eric Holcomb	R	R	R
lowa	Kim Reynolds	R	R	R
Kansas	Laura Kelly	D	R	R
Michigan	Gretchen Whitmer	D	R	R
Minnesota	Tim Walz	D	D	R
Missouri	Mike Parson	R	R	R
Nebraska	Pete Ricketts	R		NP
North Dakota	Doug Burgum	R	R	R
Ohio	Mike DeWine	R	R	R
South Dakota	Kristi Noem	R	R	R
Wisconsin	Tony Evers	D	R	R



### EY 2022 – What's At Stake?

- Gubernatorial races: 36 states, including 9 of 12 in Midwest (all but IN, MO, ND)
- Legislative races: 44 states, including some or all seats in every Midwestern legislative chamber
- Ballot measures pending



## **76<sup>th</sup> MLC Annual Meeting**









Wichita Kansas July 10-13, 2022 *Please Join Us!* 





# Thank You, MHEC!

Mike McCabe Director CSG Midwestern Office