



"Serving Western Legislatures"

**Policy Directive 2017-01
Related to State – Federal Relations**

The Council of State Governments West (CSG West) Executive Committee, upon the recommendation of the CSG West State & Federal Relations Committee, adopted the following recommendations regarding state consultation:

- 120 days should be the minimum pre-consultation period for proposed rules. Members believed this period of time would provide adequate time to get public input particularly for geographically large districts and those with large populations;
- Cost threshold for consultation on unfunded mandates should be \$50 million. Agreed smaller states with smaller budgets should have a lower threshold;
- To improve consultation with states we recommend the development of a standardized list to be distributed to all federal agencies. This list shall be comprised of State Senate and House appointing authorities and Minority Leaders;
- All forms of communication should be utilized to address state comments and concerns including but not limited to in writing, in person via meetings, via electronic means (webinar, conference calls, etc.); and
- If a proposed rule impacts a majority of states, make it a requirement that federal agencies conduct town hall meetings within each state. When a rule has significant nationwide impact public input is essential.

Staff Directive:

The Executive Committee directs CSG West staff to communicate these recommendations to relevant regional and national partners, as well as federal agencies and members of Congress. The Committee also directs CSG West staff and/or the CSG West State and Federal Relations Committee to report to the Executive Committee on the progress of these efforts.

Adopted August 19, 2017 during the CSG West 70th Annual Meeting in Tacoma, Washington.