The American Jobs Act, as proposed by President Obama during his speech on Thursday, includes a number of provisions that would impact states. Following the president’s proposal, the White House released a Fact Sheet and Overview that provides some basic details of the program.

The $450 billion proposal is designed to address the jobs crisis, with a majority of new spending flowing through state and local governments – similar to the Recovery Act of 2009. About one-fourth of the spending would be devoted to infrastructure and education. For more information, read “The American Jobs Act, Long on State Funding, Short on Political Support.”

According to Chris Whatley, Director of CSG’s Washington D.C. Office, while the details of the bill remain fuzzy, the key elements for state governments revolve around three program areas:

1. $50 billion for highways, transit, rail, and aviation infrastructure;
2. $30-35 billion in budget support for state and local governments to prevent layoffs and allow teachers, law enforcement officers, and fire fighters to be rehired; and
3. Up to $25 billion to refurbish and upgrade schools.

The proposal also contains $15 billion for refurbishing vacant homes, $5 billion for community college improvements that would flow through states, and $5 billion for a “Pathways Back to Work Fund” to support job training and apprenticeship programs that could be administered at the state level.

In addition, the Senate Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee just released state-by-state data on the benefits of the proposal, as interpreted by their analysis. Based on the Steering Committee’s figures, CSG has calculated preliminary per capita potential funding by state and the potential number of jobs supported by the proposal by state. You can find a more detailed dataset here.

**Preliminary Calculations: Potential Per Capita Funding By State**

*Potential per capita funding includes estimated potential funding across five categories: infrastructure, public sector job support, school improvement, home refurbishment and community college support.

**Preliminary Calculations: Number of Supported Jobs**

*Estimated number of jobs supported in infrastructure, public sector (education and first responder)
and school improvement.

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