

State Approaches to Education Governance



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SPEAKER

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WHO WE ARE.

The essential, indispensable member of any team addressing education policy.



WHAT WE DO.

We believe in the power of learning from experience, and we know informed policymakers create better education policy.



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Research



Report



Convene



Counsel

SPEAKER

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ASSISTANT POLICY DIRECTOR

Education Commission of the States





Roles in State Governance

Roles and Responsibilities of Individuals or Entities in State Education Governance



Roles in State Education Governance

- Governors
- Voters
- Chief State School Officers
- State Boards of Education
- Local Boards of Education





Chief State School Officers

Roles, Selection, and Authority



Chief State School Officers

- Titles and Roles
- Selection
 - 20 appointed by state boards
 - 17 appointed by governors
 - 12 are elected
 - 1 is appointed by executive-level secretary
 - 1 state where the governor is the superintendent of education



Chief State School Officers

- Source of Authority
- Powers and Policy Authority
 - Efforts related to the Department of Education
 - Supervision of public schools
 - District-level efforts



Executive- Level Secretaries

- Most often, the CSSO serves as the secretary of the state board of education, with a formal role on the board.
- In some states, the secretary of the state board is an independent cabinet position.



Executive- Level Secretaries

- Roles for state superintendents vs. executive-level secretaries





State Boards of Education

Roles, Selection, and Authority



State Boards of Education

- Membership
 - Number of voting members vary by state
 - 7-9 voting members is most common
- Student & Teacher Representation
 - 21 states and the District of Columbia include student representatives
 - 12 states include teacher representatives



State Boards of Education

- Selection
 - 35 states with appointed members
 - 15 states where some or all members are elected
- Powers and Policy Authority
 - Teacher licensure
 - State standards
 - Other roles/duties



Local Boards of Education

- Membership
- Eligibility
- Powers and Policy Authority



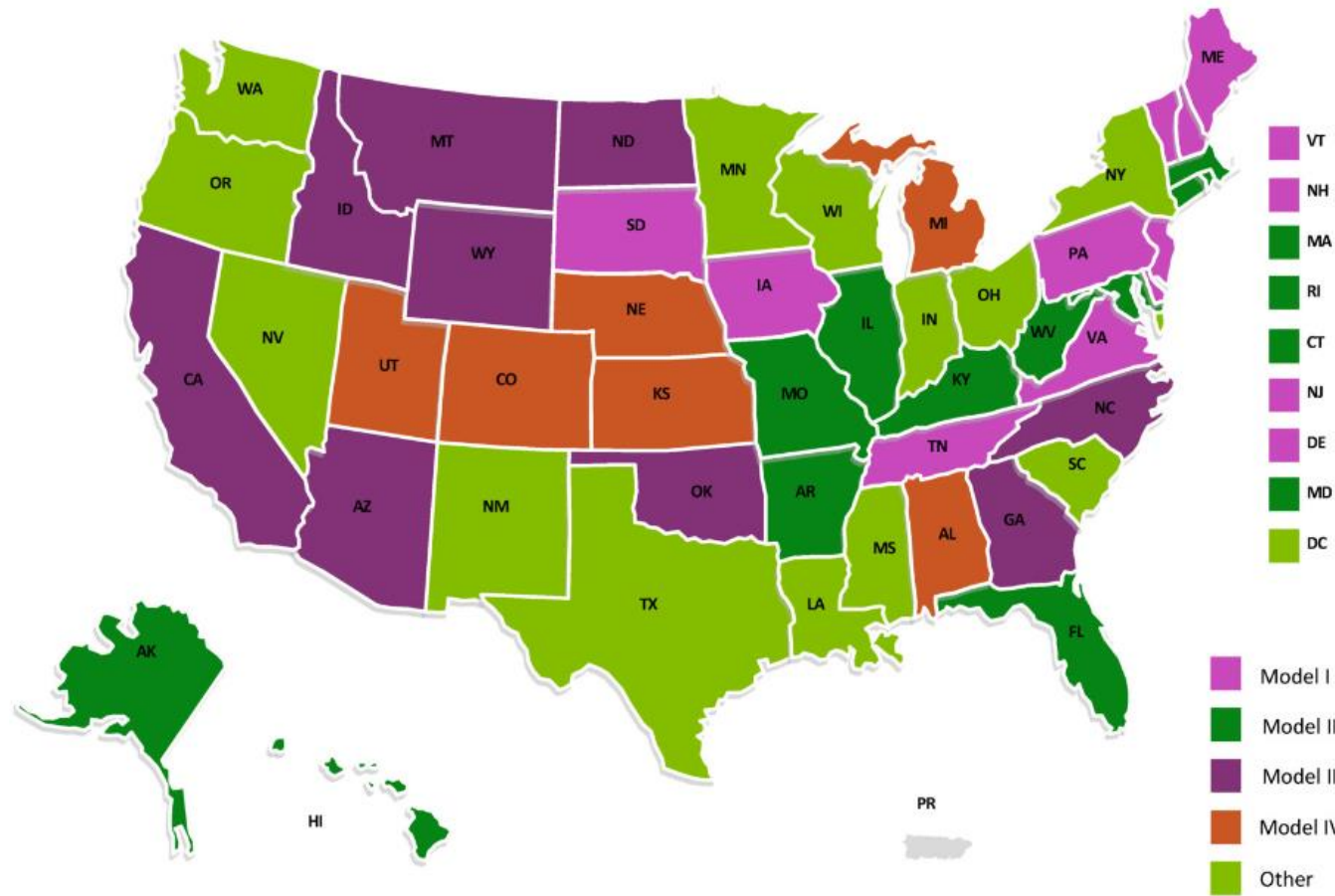


State Governance Models

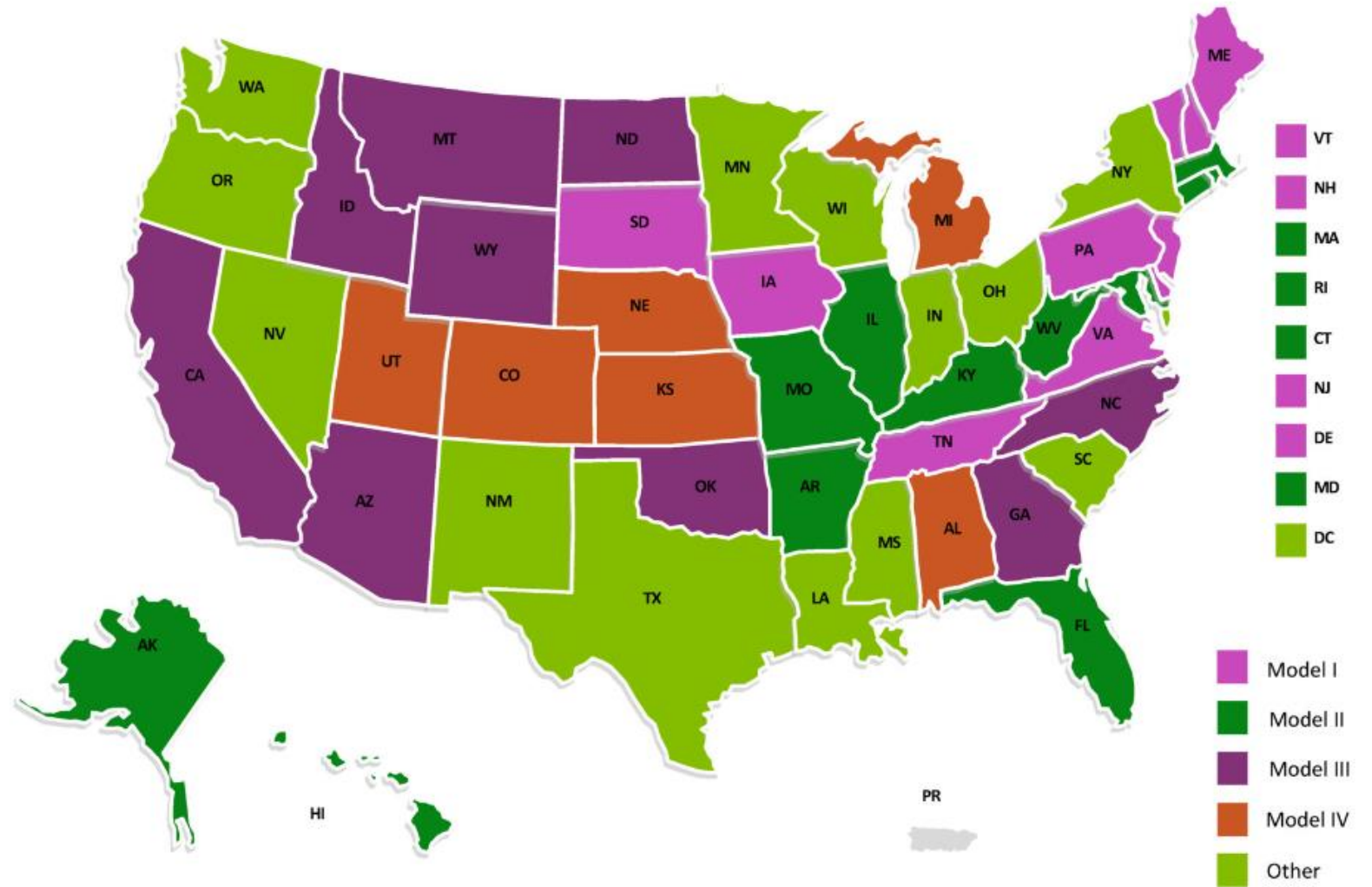
Defining approaches to governance and state examples



State Governance Models



Model I: Appointed Board, Appointed Chief

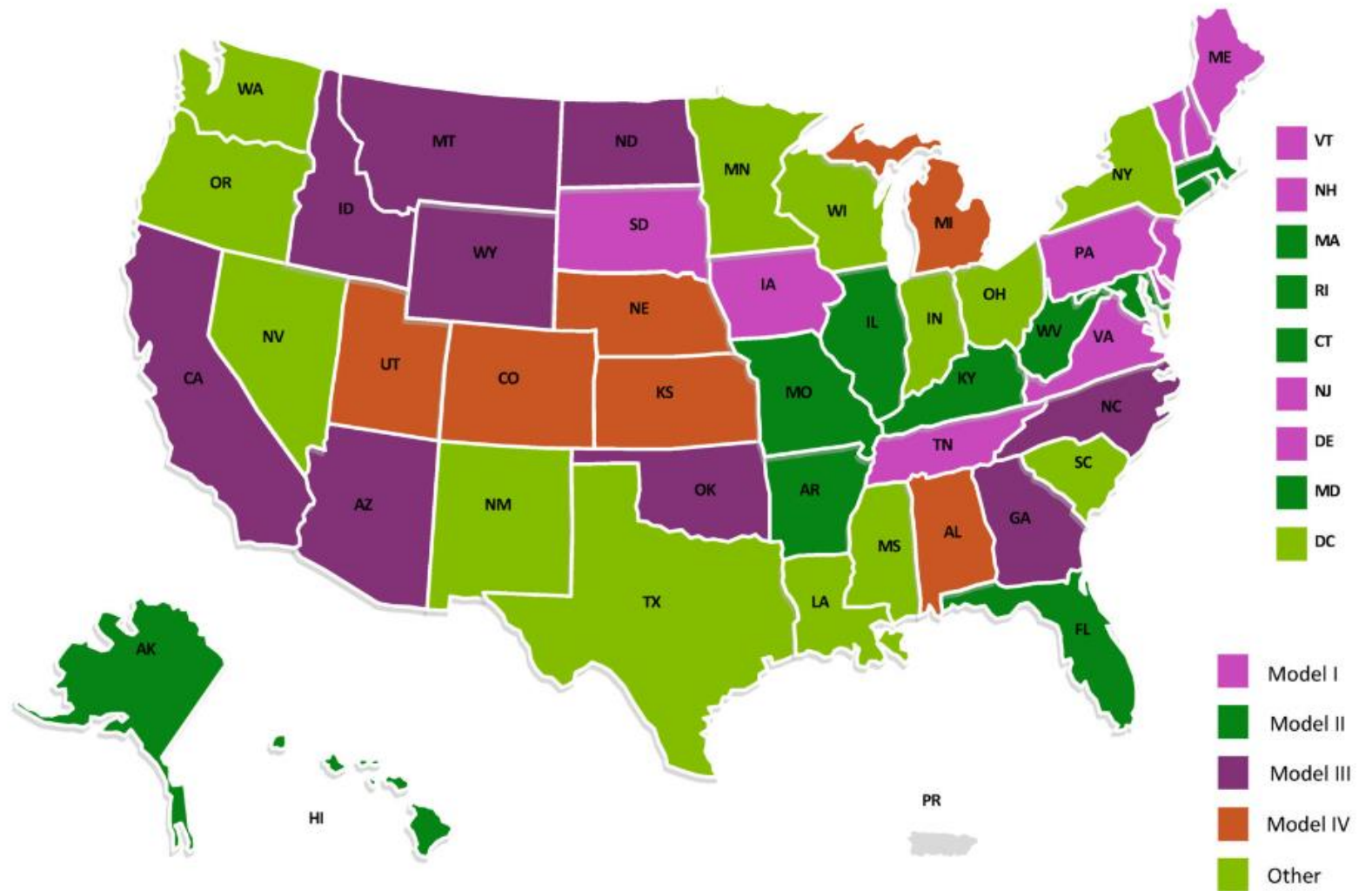


Model I State Example: Tennessee



- The governor appoints the board.
- The commissioner of education is appointed by the governor.

Model II: Gov. Appoints Board, Board Appoints Chief

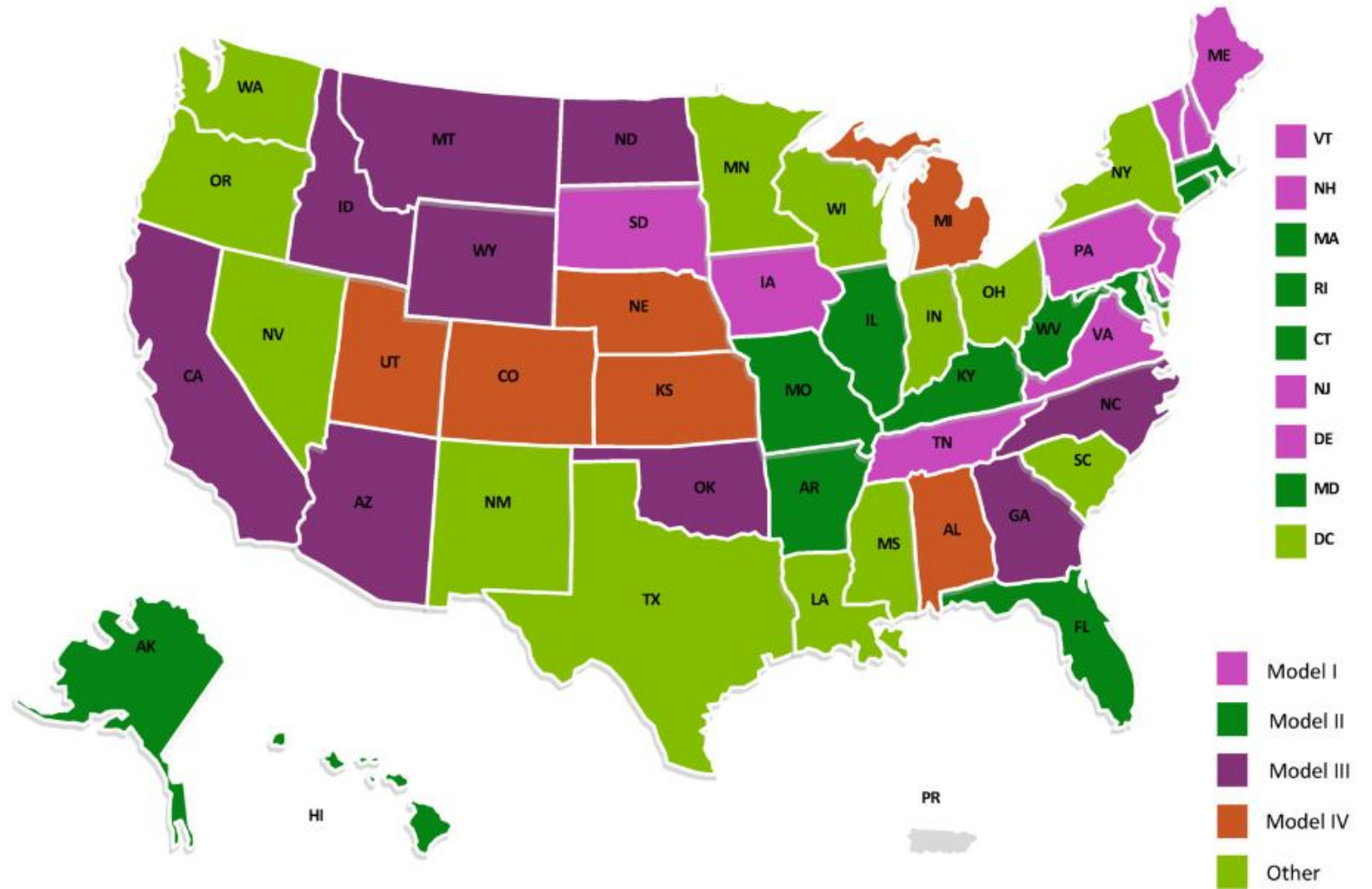


Model II State Example: West Virginia



- Members are appointed.
- The state superintendent of schools is appointed by the state board.

Model III: Appointed Board, Elected Chief

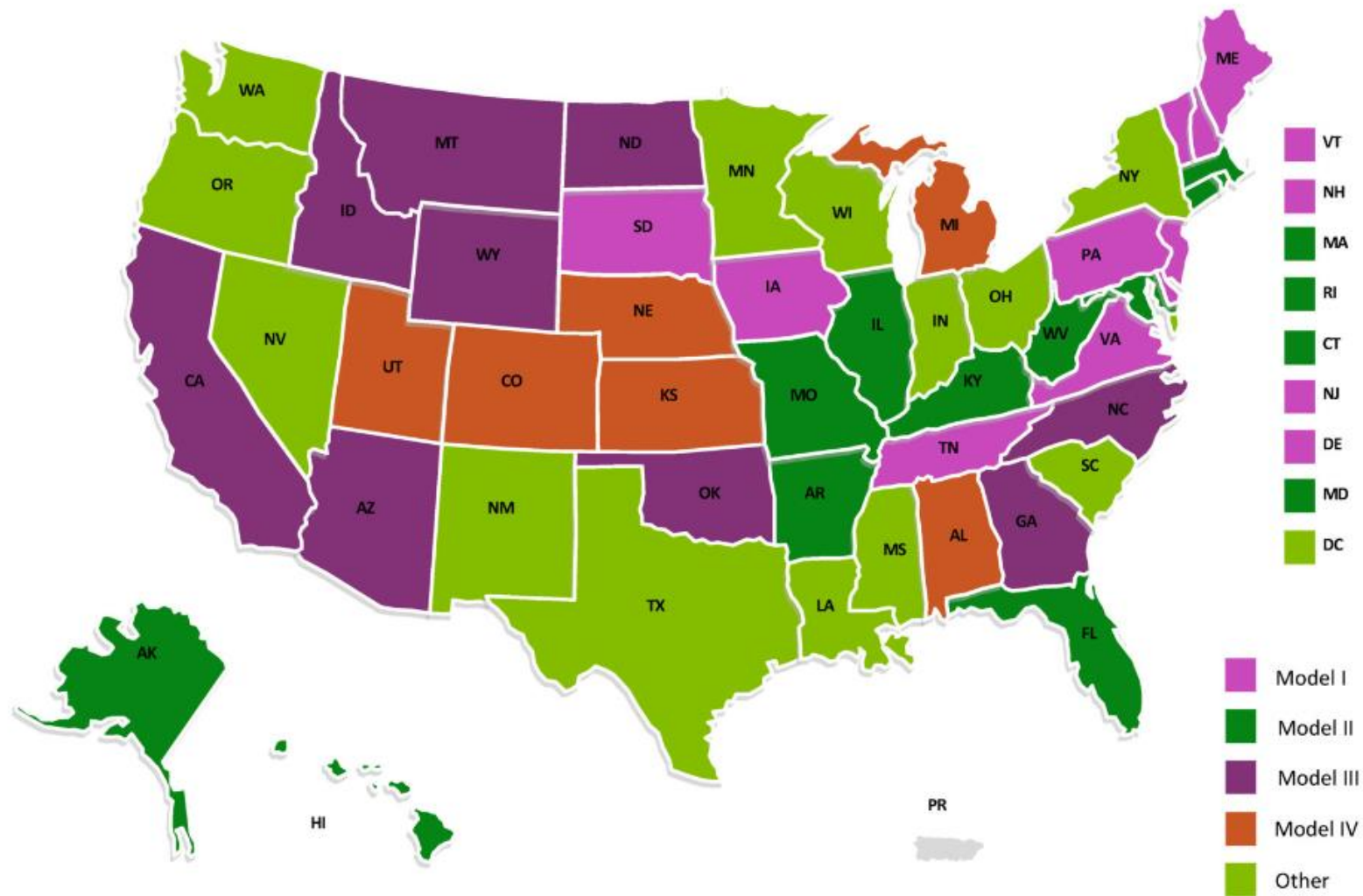


Model III State Example: Georgia



- State board members are appointed.
- The state school superintendent is elected.

Model IV: Elected Board, Board Appoints Chief

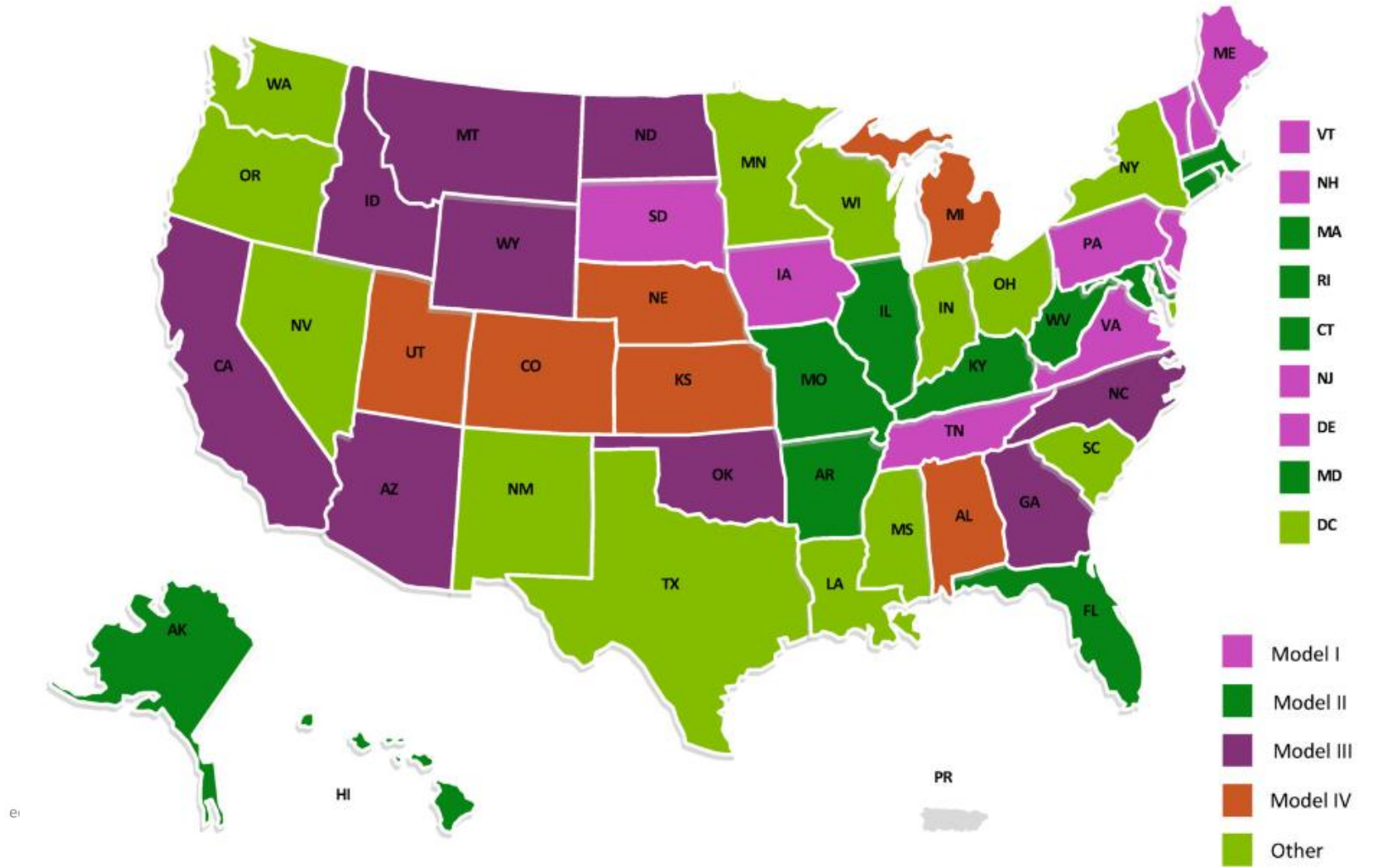


Model IV State Example: Colorado



- The state board of education is elected.
- The commissioner of education is appointed by the state board.

Other Approaches



Key Takeaways

- Nationally, a wide-range of governance approaches exist
- Collaboration between roles is key
- A focus on student achievement





Q & A





**EDUCATION
COMMISSION**
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Your education policy team.

THANK YOU!

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