

Governors divided on early primaries

by UPI

WASHINGTON - U.S. governors are divided on whether the rapid-fire 2008 presidential primary schedule should be repeated in 2012, said a report posted online. Stateline.org reported that some of the governors told the Web site they were happy with the prominence their states gained by moving up their presidential nominating contest. Others said the process moved too quickly. Democratic Govs. Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas and Eliot Spitzer of New York said their earlier-than-usual primary allowed voters in their states to help shape the overall presidential race. "I'm thrilled that we moved up," Sebelius said, while Spitzer said moving the Empire State's primary to Super Tuesday Feb. 5 allowed his state to "have a significant impact." Tennessee Gov. Phil Bredesen, a Democrat, told Stateline he was not so happy about his state taking part in the Super Tuesday voting blitz. He said Tennessee got lost in the bustle. Republican Gov. Haley Barbour of Mississippi said the nominating calendar deserves a second look. His state holds its primary March 11. "When you have to choose between attending the Iowa caucus and taking down your Christmas tree, there's a little something wrong with the system," he said. "The primaries ought to be starting about now, rather than ending about now."

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