CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES


CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE


3. Lawrence, Alison. "Prison break." *State Legislatures*. Vol. 42. No. 2. Feb. 2016. pg. 22-25. (States have found ways to reserve prison space for the most serious offenders without jeopardizing public safety.)

4. Richmond, John Cotton. "Human trafficking: understanding the law and deconstructing the myths." *St. Louis University Law Journal*. Vol. 60. No. 1. Fall 2015. pg. 1-41. (This article seeks to deconstruct several common myths surrounding human trafficking, and provide a general outline of the international and domestic legal framework.)

5. Campbell, Elizabeth. "Michigan's first human trafficking court." *St. Louis University Law Journal*. Vol. 60. No. 1. Fall 2015. pg. 97-114. (Description of how the Michigan court was developed, how the initial idea was conceived, the team players, and the goals and structure of the Court.)

6. Flake, Dallan F. "When any sentence is a life sentence: employment discriminates against ex-offenders." *Washington University Law Review*. Vol. 93. No. 1. 2015. pg. 45-102. (This article proposes three amendments to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 that seek to balance ex-offenders' need for employment with employers' safety concerns.)

DRUGS & DRUG TESTING

7. Hendrikson, Hollie & Karmen Hanson. "Benefits and limits of abuse deterrent painkillers." *Legisbrief*. Vol. 24. No. 6. 2 pg. (Abuse deterrent painkillers are formulations of prescription drugs that make them more difficult to crush, break or dissolve-methods used to expedite a "high" from consumption.)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

8. Royse, David. "States defy D.C. by keeping Iran sanctions." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 44. Feb. 15, 2016. pg. 1-4. (While the United States and other world powers have lifted oil and financial sanctions on Iran, several states continue to adhere to their own bans on investing or doing business with companies with ties to the country.)
9. "States still divesting from Iran." Capitol Journal. Vol. XXIII. No. 44. Feb. 15, 2016. pg. 4-5. (22 states and the District of Columbia have laws on the books prohibiting at least some state pension or retirement funds from investing in companies that do a certain amount of business from Iran. This article includes a map highlighting the differing amounts of business each state allows.)

10. Mazerov, Michael & Michael Leachman. "State job creation strategies often off base." Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. Feb. 3, 2016. 13 pgs. (To create jobs and build strong economies, states should focus on producing more home grown entrepreneurs and on helping startups and young, fast growing firms already located in the state to survive and to grow—not on cutting taxes and trying to lure businesses from other states.) VF: Economic Development.


EDUCATION


13. Kralik, Joellen. "New state approaches to student discipline." Legisbrief. Vol. 24. No. 2. Jan. 2016. 2 pg. (In an effort to explore more effective disciplinary policies, many school districts and states across the country have been working to revise their zero tolerance policies and reduce their use of exclusionary discipline. Two promising alternative strategies include the Positive Behavior Intervention and Supporters framework, and use of restorative justice practices. Legislatures in a handful of states are even implementing specific statewide limits and prohibition on the use of out of school suspension and expulsion.) VF: Schools-Discipline.

14. Cunningham, Josh. "The next generation of school vouchers: education savings accounts." NCSL. Oct. 2015. 4 pg. (The Arizona Legislature created "empowerment scholarship accounts" in 2011. Like traditional school vouchers, state funds are used to provide financial support to qualifying parents who want to send their children to private school. What makes Arizona’s program different is that parents have the freedom to use their state support for more than just private school tuition.) Schools-Attendance.

15. Cunningham, Josh. "Expanding choices with education savings accounts." Legisbrief. Vol. 24. No. 5. Feb. 2016. 2 pg. (This program differs from traditional school vouchers: parents can choose not to use the funds for tuition, but, instead, use them to pay for a number of products and services—including online courses, textbooks and tutoring related to educating their children.) Schools-Attendance.

16. Lindberg, Mikko. "Special education school vouchers: a look at southern states." SLC. Feb. 2016. 15 pg. (This SLC Regional Resource examines the strategies taken by Southern states to increase school options for special education students through the implementation of state funded school voucher programs, focuses on their many variations, and addresses school voucher programs that provide direct payments or reimbursements to private alternative schools or parents and legal guardians.)

**ELECTIONS**

18. Underhill, Wendy. "Allowing voters to register online." Legisbrief. Vol. 24. No. 7. Feb. 2016. 2 pg. (The biggest trend in election administration in the last few years has been online voter registration. In 2008, only two states allowed eligible citizens to complete a voter registration application online by using personal data stored at the motor vehicle agency. Now, 30 states plus the District of Columbia allow this-and two more are slated to do so as well.) VF: Elections-Law & Legislation.

**EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES**


**ENERGY**


**ENVIRONMENT**


**FIREARMS**

efforts to proactively suppress crime, and another about the proper role of firearms in public, and this article demonstrates that these debates, while generally conducted in isolation, are closely intertwined.)

HEALTH, WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES

25. Ehisen, Rich. "States increasing efforts to address depressive disorders." Capitol Journal. Vol. XXIII. No. 43. Feb. 8, 2016. pg. 1-3. (Lawmakers will soon have the chance to weigh in on legislation that would mandate suicide awareness training for pharmacists and firearms dealers and require them to offer prevention information to their customers.)

26. "States take action on Mental Health First Aid." Capitol Journal. Vol. XXIII. No. 43. Feb. 8, 2016. pg. 3-4. (During the 2013-14 legislative year, 14 states enacted bills related to Mental Health First Aid-CPR-like training to help emergency personnel, teachers and others recognize and respond to mental health disorders, according to the National Council for Behavioral Health.)

27. Missourians to End Poverty Coalition. "2016 State of the State. Poverty in Missouri." 9 pg. (Five key factors are identified that impact poverty in the state: food, health, education, housing & energy and family & economic security.) VF: Poverty.

28. Blackman, Kate. "Covering and reimbursing telehealth services." Legisbrief. Vol. 24. No. 4. Jan. 2016. 2 pg. (Telehealth is a tool that uses technology to provide health services remotely, and state leaders are looking to it now more than ever as a way to address workforce gaps and reach underserved patients.) VF: Health Services.

29. Colgrove, James & Abigail Lowin. "A tale of two states: Mississippi, West Virginia, and exemptions to compulsory school vaccination laws." Health Affairs. Vol. 35. No. 2. pg. 348-355. (Through a review of legislative histories, legal rulings, media accounts, and interviews with health officials in at least two states, the authors of this article consider the reasons for and consequences of their allowing only medical exemptions and the prospects their approach holds out for other states that may wish to emulate it.)


31. Wright, Bill J.. et al. "Formerly homeless people had lower overall health care expenditures after moving into supportive housing." Health Affairs. Vol. 35. No. 1. Jan. 2016. pg. 20-27. (The provision of supportive housing is often recognized as important public policy, but it also plays a role in health care reform.)


Medicaid and private health insurance, which contributed to an increase in the insured share of the population.)

34. "Telehealth. Policy trends and considerations. NCSL. 2015. 27 pgs. (Telehealth offers one potential strategy to help achieve the triple aim of better health care, improved health outcomes and lower costs. Telehealth is a means of delivering care that capitalizes on technology that remotely provides health care and other health services.) VF: Health Services.

35. Dr. Tracey B. Carter. "From youth sports to collegiate athletics to professional leagues: is there really "informed consent" by athletes regarding sports related concussions?" UMKC Law Review. Vol. 84. No. 2. Winter 2015. pg. 331-372. (This article emphasizes the serious problem of sports related concussions and addresses whether youth, collegiate and professional athletes are really "informed" regarding sports related concussions.)


**HOUSING**

37. Wogan, J.B. "Home front." Governing. Vol. 29. No. 6. Feb. 2016. pg. 25-30. (If you are homeless and you're a veteran, there may be an apartment waiting for you. If you're not a veteran, the prospects aren't so good.)

**INSURANCE**

38. Sommers, Benjamin D., et al. "Both the 'private option' and traditional Medicaid expansions improved access to care for low income adults." Health Affairs. Vol. 35. No. 1. Jan. 2016. pg. 96-105. (The authors compared the first year impacts of traditional Medicaid expansion in Kentucky, the private option in Arkansas, and nonexpansion in Texas by conducting a telephone survey of two distinct waves of low income adults in those three states in Nov. and Dec. 2013, and one year later.)

**REFERENCE**


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40. Karch, Andrew & Aaron Rosenthal. "Vertical diffusion and the shifting politics of electronic commerce." State Politics and Policy Quarterly. Vol. 16. No. 1. March 2016. pg. 22-43. (Since the late 1990's, Congress and the states have debated how to treat electronic commerce for purposes of sales taxation. Frustrated by their limited progress at the national level, advocates of policy change attempted to generate vertical diffusion by using increasingly aggressive state level actions to press Congress to act.)

**STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**TAXATION**


**TECHNOLOGY ISSUES**


**TOBACCO**

44. Ku, Leighton, et al. "Medicaid tobacco cessation: big gaps remain in efforts to get smokers to quit." Health Affairs. Vol. 35. No. 1. Jan. 2016. pg. 62-69. (This article provides the first data about the effectiveness of state Medicaid programs in promoting smoking cessation.)