CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS

1. Colmenero, M. Eli. "Dark money: the secret life of the American campaign system." *UMKC Law Review*. Vol. 83. No. 4. Summer 2015. pg. 991-1016. (Unlike political contributions regulated by the Federal Election Commission, donations to 510(c) (4) groups to not have to be disclosed, such non disclosure has led to these funds being called "dark money.")

2. Douglas, Joshua A. "(Mis) trusting states to run elections." *Washington University Law Review*. Vol. 92. No. 3.2015. pg. 533-602. (This article critically examines recent Supreme Court election law jurisprudence, with a particular eye toward cases involving state elections administration-a hotbed of litigation at the Court in recent years.)

3. "Internet voting: creeping our way?" *NCSL The Canvass*. Issue 60. July 2015. pg. 1-3. (Computer scientists say that secure online voting is still many years-or even decades-away, and they say using the Internet to return voted ballots can't be done with confidence.)

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES


COURTS


CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

6. Tiegen, Anne S. "Legislative reforms in juvenile detention and the justice system." NCSL. 2015. 11 pg. (The legislative trends in juvenile detention reflect lawmakers' efforts to reduce the over reliance of secure confinement, promote collaboration in the justice system, address racial and ethnic disparities, and improve conditions of confinement in detention and corrections facilities.) VF: Juvenile Justice.


11. Lawrence, Alison. "Making sense of sentencing: state systems and policies. NCSL. June 2015. 11 pg. (Effective sentencing systems strive for fairness, consistency, certainty and opportunity. In order to achieve these objectives over time, legislatures regularly update their criminal codes and change aspects of their sentencing policies.) NCSL. Criminal Justice.

DRUGS & DRUG TESTING


ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

13. CanagaRetna, Sujit. "The drive to move south advances: automakers revitalize the U.S. and southern economies," SLC. July 2015. 28 pg. (This article presents data and statistics that highlight the South as a very attractive and successful region for automakers, with additional factors such as weather, reduced cost of living, lower or no personal income taxes and free or inexpensive property on which to build assembly plants.)

EDUCATION


15. White, Dan & Sarah Crane. "Crowded out: the outlook for state higher education spending." Prepared for the National Commission on Financing 21st Century Higher Education. Moody's Analytics. April 21, 2015. 23 pg. (In an effort to better understand the funding difficulties faced by public higher education institutions over the next decade, this study derives baseline state funding projections for higher education from underlying measures of economic growth.) VF: Education-Higher.

16. Barbosa, Franklin Jr. "an unfulfilled promise: the need for charter school reform in New Jersey." Seton Hall Legislative Journal. Vol. 39. No. 2. 2015. pg. 359-387. (This note describes SB 2319, compares its provisions to another recently proposed bill that failed to garner enough support in the New Jersey assembly, and presents a scheme that will promote meaningful charter reform that serves the best interest of students while adhering to the Charter School Program Act of 1995 of promoting school choice.)

17. Holdmeyer, Sarah. "A new path to excellence: the path that leads to stronger students, better schools, and engaged communities." UMKC Law Review. Vol. 83. No. 4. Summer 2015. pg. 1017-1043. (The governance of the Missouri public school system is explained and the accreditation process and transfer process is discussed in 4 parts, with examples of how other school districts across the country have addressed this problem successfully in part V.
   II. Missouri Public Schools: who decides?
   III. The Missouri Supreme Court upholds the transfer statute in several decisions.
   IV. Legislative efforts to fix the transfer statute.
   V. A new proposal-the new path to excellence.)
18. Heitin, Liana. "Common core trickles into all states." *Education Week*. Vol. 34. No. 36. July 8, 2015. pg. 1+. (As states continue to draw lines in the sand about whether or not they have adopted the Common Core State Standards, there's some evidence the new benchmarks have crept into classrooms in all states-mainly through instructional materials.)


**EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES**

21. Abreu, Liana. "No employment protection for medical marijuana users." *Seton Hall Legislative Journal*. Vol. 39. No. 2. 2015. pg. 389-416. (While medical marijuana has become legal in 23 states, and the District of Columbia, it continues to be classified as a Substance I drug under the Federal Controlled Substance Act, placing many medical marijuana users at risk of being terminated from their employment for their choice of treatment.)

**ENERGY**


**ENVIRONMENT**


**FINANCE & REVENUE**


**HEALTH, WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES**

25. Sparer, Michael S. "Medicaid at 50: remarkable growth fueled by unexpected politics." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 7. July 2015. pg. 1084-1091. (Medicaid has grown exponentially since the mid 1980's, during both conservative Republican and liberal Democratic administrations; the answer is rooted in three political variables: interest groups, political culture and American federalism.)

26. Pourat, Nadereh, et al. "In California, primary care continuity was associated with reduced emergency department use and fewer hospitalizations." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 7. July 2015. pg. 1113-1130. (The authors of this article assessed the impact of a policy to increase patients' adherence to an individual primary care provider or clinic on subsequent use of ED and hospital services in a California coverage program for previously uninsured adults called the Health Care Coverage Initiative.)

27. Andrews, Christina, et al. "Lessons from Medicaid's divergent paths on mental health and addiction services." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 7. July 2015. pg. 1131-1138. (In mental health, Medicaid became the dominant source of funding and had a profound impact on the organization and delivery of services. The modest role it has played in addiction treatment is poised to change, as the Affordable Care Act is expected to dramatically expand Medicaid's role in financing addiction treatment.)
28. Nikpay, Sayeh, et al. "Early Medicaid expansion in Connecticut stemmed the growth in hospital uncompensated care." Health Affairs. Vol. 34. No. 7. July 2015. pg. 1170-1179. (As states continue to debate whether or not to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, a key consideration is the impact of expansion on the financial position of hospitals, including their burden of uncompensated care.)

29. Swartz, Katherine, et al. "Reducing Medicaid churning: extending eligibility for twelve months or to end of calendar year is more effective." Health Affairs. Vol. 34. No. 7. July 2015. pg. 1180-1187. (Medicaid churning—the constant exit and reentry of beneficiaries as their eligibility changes—has long been a problem for both Medicaid administrators and recipients. The authors developed a longitudinal simulation model to evaluate four policy options for modifying or extending Medicaid eligibility to reduce churning.)

30. Spetz, Joanne, et al. "Future demand for long term care workers will be influenced by demographics and utilization changes." Health Affairs. Vol. 34. No. 6. June 2015. pg. 963-970. (A looming question for policy makers is how growing diversity of the US elderly population and greater use of home and community based services will affect demand for long term care workers. The authors in this article find that demographic and utilization changes would have little effect on projections of robust long term care employment growth between now and 2030. Policy makers and educators should redouble efforts to create and sustainably fund programs to recruit, train, and retain long term care workers.)

31. Rajaratnam, Shantha M.W., et al. "Teen crashes declined after Massachusetts raised penalties for graduated licensing law restricting night driving." Health Affairs. Vol. 34. No. 6. June 2015. pg. 963-970. (In 2007, as part of the Massachusetts graduate driver licensing program designed to allow junior operators ages 16 ½ to 17 years old the chance to gain experience before receiving full licensure, stringent penalties were introduced for violating a law prohibiting unsupervised driving at night. The authors evaluated the impact of these changes on police reported vehicle crash records and found crash rates for the youngest drivers fell 18.6 percent. This article also provides data for significant drops in the other age groups as well.)


34. Lemons, Jane Fullerton. "Fighting urban poverty." CQ Researcher. Vol. 25. No. 26. July 17, 2015. pg. 601-623. (This year's unrest in Ferguson, MO, and Baltimore, arising from alleged police misconduct in the deaths of black men, cast a light on impoverished conditions not only in those cities but in urban areas throughout the country.)

**PENSIONS & RETIREMENT**

35. Anderson, Tim. "Pension woes, pension successes seen in 11 state Midwest." Stateline Midwest. Vol. 24. No. 6. June 2015. pg. 4. (States have varying policies, via statute or the rules of retirement system board, that require annual contributions to be made. This amount, known as the annual required contribution, is determined by calculating the retirement system's costs and unfunded liabilities.)

36. Kellar, Elizabeth. "Strategies for well funded pension plans." Government Finance Review. Vol. 31. No. 3. June 2015. pg. 43-44. (The Center for State and Local Government Excellence examined four defined benefit pension systems that have a long tradition of being well funded: the Delaware Public Employees Retirement System, Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund, Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System, and North Carolina Retirement Systems. The study found certain characteristics common to all of these well funded plans.)
PROFESSIONAL REGULATION


REFERENCE

38. *Congressional Yellow Book*. Summer 2015. 280 pg. (This reference includes Senate and House leaders, leadership organizations and key staff.) Ref. JK 1012.64 2015.

39. *Judicial Yellow Book*. Summer 2015. 1124 pg. (At the federal level, Summer 2015 edition provides information on more than 200 courts, 2,300 judges, and 8,500 judicial staff. At the state level, this edition includes information on more than 200 courts, 1,400 judges, and 4,200 judicial personnel. Within the United States Department of Justice, this edition includes information on more than 1,100 DOJ staff in the Washington, D.C. area offices as well as 3,300 United States Attorneys and 1,300 United States Marshals at regional offices.) Ref. KF 8700.A19 J865 2015.

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT


41. Smith, Elaine. "Regulating tax preparers: transforming loving from a stumbling block to a stepping stone." *UMKC Law Review*. Vol. 83. No. 4. Summer 2015. pg. 1078-1109. (This comment argues for federal regulation of all paid tax return preparers.)

TRANSPORTATION

42. "Ride sharing companies face new challenge to business model." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 21. July 13, 2015. 15 pg. (One of the biggest obstacles facing ride sharing companies like Uber and Lyft since coming into existence a few years ago has been getting permission from city and state regulators to operate, and having won that approval in many places, the companies are confronting a new challenge that could cripple their flourishing business and that of other "on demand" services.)

WOMEN & MINORITIES