

CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS

1. "Uniformity in voting systems: looking at the crazy quilt of election technology." *NCSL. The Canvass*. Issue 70. June 2016. 6 pgs. (Since the late 1800's, the decision of whether to use voting machines to help tabulate votes, and which machines to use, has traditionally been left up to local jurisdictions.)

CHARTER SCHOOLS

2. Prothero, Arianna. "The evolution of the chartered school." *Education Week*. Vol. 35. No. 34. June 8, 2016. pg. 1+. (25 years ago this month, tucked in a voluminous education funding bill headed to the Minnesota governor's desk, was a quirky and contentious idea to allow teachers and parents to create a new kind of public school-chartered schools.)

CIVIL RIGHTS

3. Ehsen, Rich. "Bathroom brawl." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIV. No. 18. June 6, 2016. pg. 1-4. (Pro, Anti-LGBT bills put GOP governors on the spot.)

CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

4. Saloner, Brendan, et al. "Justice involved adults with substance use disorders: coverage increased but rates of treatment did not." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1058-1066. (More than 1/3 of U.S. adults in the criminal justice system have substance use disorders, which contribute to health problems and recidivism. Health insurance and criminal justice reforms initiated in the last decade offers opportunities for increasing treatment access among justice involved individuals.)

5. Kennedy-Hendricks, Ailene, et al. "Improving access to care and reducing involvement in the criminal justice system for people with mental illness." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1076-1083. (The passage of critical new reforms affecting health care for vulnerable populations under the Affordable Care Act and the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 presents unique opportunities to transform systems of care and avert criminal justice involvement.)

6. Goldman, Roger. "Importance of state law in police reform." *Saint Louis University Law Journal*. Vol. 60. No. 3. Spring 2016. pg. 363-390. (This article discusses the shortcomings of state law, point out current state laws that have been effective in addressing police misconduct, analyze the new laws enacted since Michael Brown's death in Ferguson in August 2014 and, suggest ways that the federal government can work with the states to improve police accountability.)

DRUGS & DRUG TESTING

7. Allen, Leslie. "Prescription drug costs." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 20. May 20, 2016. pg. 457-479. (Do research expenses justify eye popping prices?)

8. Bao, Yuhua, et al. "Prescription drug monitoring programs are associated with sustained reductions in opioid prescribing by physicians." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg.1045-1051. (State prescription drug monitoring programs are promising tools to rein in the epidemic of prescription opioid overdose. This article uses data from a national survey to assess the effects of these programs on the prescribing of opioid analgesics and other pain medications in the ambulatory care settings at the point of care in 24 states from 2001-2010.)

9. Vestal, Christine. "In fighting an opioid epidemic, medication assisted treatment is effective but underused." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1052-1057. (Doctors need more support staff to treat addiction patients than is typically affordable in a small primary care setting.)

10. Saloner, Brendan, et al. "Justice involved adults with substance use disorders: coverage increased but rates of treatment did not." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1058-1066. (More than 1/3 of U.S. adults in the criminal justice system have substance use disorders, which contribute to health problems and recidivism. Health insurance and criminal justice reforms initiated in the last decade offers opportunities for increasing treatment access among justice involved individuals.)

11. Hendrickson, Hollie. "Prescription for pain management. 10 state strategies." *NCSL*. Feb. 2016. 6 pg. (In 2015, 30 states enacted at least 56 laws that aim to prevent deaths and overdoses from prescription drugs. With increased public policy responses to prevent these deaths, concerns exist that legitimate users of prescription painkillers may face barriers to filling prescriptions because of more restrictive state rules.) VF: Drugs-Prescription.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

12. Marshall, Patrick. "Nanotechnology." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 22. pg. 507-527. (Will the science of atom sized objects reshape the economy?)

EDUCATION

13. *The state of preschool 2015*. State Preschool Yearbook. The National Institute for Early Education Research. 2015. 187 pg. (The 2015 Yearbook is organized into three major sections. The first section offers a summary of the data and describes national trends in enrollment, quality standards, and spending for state-funded preschool. This year, a special supplemental section on state pre-K policies to support Dual Language Learners and the Workforce is also included. The second section presents detailed profiles outlining each state's policies with respect to preschool access, quality standards, and resources for the 2014-2015 year. A description of our methodology follows the state profiles, and the last section of the report contains appendices. The appendices include tables that provide the complete 2014-2015 survey data obtained from every state, as well as Head Start, child care, U.S. Census, and special education data. This year, additional appendices are included that show the complete supplemental survey data on Dual Language Learners and the workforce.) Ref LB 1140.23.S797 2015

14. Prothero, Arianna. "The evolution of the chartered school." *Education Week*. Vol. 35. No. 34. June 8, 2016. pg. 1+. (25 years ago this month, tucked in a voluminous education funding bill headed to the Minnesota governor's desk, was a quirky and contentious idea to allow teachers and parents to create a new kind of public school-chartered schools.)

EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES

15. "State minimum wages mostly track cost of living." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. Issue 11. June 2016. pg. 2-5. (Calls to raise the federal minimum wage often overlook the fact that more than half the states have minimum wages that are higher than the federal rate. A few states are on track to raise their rates to \$15 per hour.)

ENERGY

16. Mantel, Barbara. "Coal industry's future." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 23. June 17, 2016. pg. 529-551. (Should all coal fired power plants be closed?)

FINANCE & REVENUE

17. "Gambling is not a sure bet for states." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 10. May 2016. pg. 5-7. (A recent report by the Rockefeller Institute, *State Revenues from Gambling: short term relief, long term disappointment*, sounds a cautionary note about expanded gambling in states.)

GAMBLING

18. "Gambling is not a sure bet for states." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 10. May 2016. pg. 5-7. (A recent report by the Rockefeller Institute, *State Revenues from Gambling: short term relief, long term disappointment*, sounds a cautionary note about expanded gambling in states.)

HEALTH, WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES

19. Moore, Roger. "Spread of Zika: impact on southern states." SLC. May 2016. 12 pg. (As a result of relatively favorable climate conditions for disease carrying Aedes mosquitoes, many SLC member states are particularly vulnerable to limited outbreaks over the next several months.)

20. "Climbing Medicaid clawbacks." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 9. May 2016. pg.5-7. (Federal Funds Information for States reports on rising costs associated with state payments to the federal government for Medicare Part D, known as the "clawback." These payments have seen double digit increases in the past two years.)

HOUSING

21. Ehrenhalt, Alan. "Why affordable housing is hard to build." *Governing*. Vol. 29. No. 9. June 2016. pg. 14-15. (The author discusses mandatory inclusionary zoning-requiring a developer to promise a fixed number of affordable units in order to get a project approved.)

INSURANCE

22. "Pew on OPEB (other post employment benefits) liabilities." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 10. May 2016. pg. 2-5. (Pew's latest contribution on retirement issues documents funding trends and changes in state retiree health insurance.)

MENTAL HEALTH

23. Olfson, Mark. "Building the mental health workforce capacity needed to treat adults with serious mental illnesses." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 483-990. (Achieving progress in attracting mental health professionals to care for adults with serious mental illnesses will require vigorous policy interventions.)

24. Kennedy-Hendricks, Ailene, et al. "Improving access to care and reducing involvement in the criminal justice system for people with mental illness." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1076-1083. (The passage of critical new reforms affecting health care for vulnerable populations under the Affordable Care Act and the Paul Wellstone and Pete Domenici Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act of 2008 presents unique opportunities to transform systems of care and avert criminal justice involvement.)

25. Hogan, Michael F. & Julie Goldstein Grumet. "Suicide prevention: an emerging priority for health care." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 35. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1084-1090. (Many suicide deaths are among people recently seen or currently under care in clinical settings, but suicide prevention has not been a core priority in health care. In recent years, new treatment and management strategies have been developed, tested, and implemented in some organizations, but they are not yet widely used.)

PENSIONS & RETIREMENT

26. "Pew on OPEB (other post employment benefits) liabilities." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 10. May 2016. pg. 2-5. (Pew's latest contribution on retirement issues documents funding trends and changes in state retiree health insurance.)

27. Hosansky, David. "Social security." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 21. June 3, 2016. pg. 481-503. (The landmark New Deal program is paying out more in benefits than it collects in payroll taxes, and the problem is forecast to get worse.)

SCIENTIFIC ISSUES

28. Marshall, Patrick. "Nanotechnology." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 22. pg. 507-527. (Will the science of atom sized objects reshape the economy?)

STATE & FEDERAL RELATIONS

29. "A tale of decline, excepting Medicaid." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 9. May 2016. pg. 2-5. (Federal Funds Information for States recently released an analysis of federal grants that compares each state's receipt of fiscal year 2015 funding on a per capita basis. The national average was \$1,827, an increase of \$170 from the previous year.)

30. "Climbing Medicaid clawbacks." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. No. 9. May 2016. pg.5-7. (Federal Funds Information for States reports on rising costs associated with state payments to the federal government for Medicare Part D, known as the "clawback." These payments have seen double digit increases in the past two years.)

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

31. Gilroy, Leonard & Lisa Snell. Annual privatization report. 2015. Reason Foundation. (Annual Privatization Report 2015 details the latest on privatization and government reform initiatives at all levels of government. The individual sections include:State Government Privatization, Federal Government Privatization, Education, Air Transportation, Surface Transportation, Transportation Finance, Criminal Justice and Corrections.) Ref HD 3850.P7 2015

32. Ketti, Donald F. "One state at a time." *Governing*. Vol. 29. No. 9. June 2016. pg. 16-17. (Lobbying money once spent in Washington is being redeployed to state capitals.)

33. Clark, Korey. "Recession readiness." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIV. No. 20. June 20, 2016. pg. 1-4. (Are states ready for the next economic downturn?)

TAXATION

34. "If every state taxed marijuana." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 34. Issue 11. June 2016. pg.5-7. (Imagine if states had an extra \$7.1 billion per year to spend on public goods and services. That's the amount of new revenue the Tax Foundation estimates states would collect with a 20% sales tax levied on the retail sale of marijuana.)

TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

35. "Domestic drones. balancing privacy and safety with innovation and opportunity." *Congressional Digest*. Vol. 95. No. 6. June 2016. pg. 1+. (Government agencies employ drones for search and find operations, border patrol, wildlife monitoring, wildfire containment, mapping, scientific research, and many other applications-and they are also a popular consumer device. The current legal landscape for drone use is a patchwork of FAA guidelines, policy announcements from the White House and state laws.)

TRANSPORTATION

36. Wogan, J.B. "Who's an employee?" *Governing*. Vol. 29. No. 9. June 2016. pg. 32-38. (Uber's "independent contractor" policy may prove difficult to sustain.)

WOMEN & MINORITIES

37. Spivack, Miranda S. "Women in combat." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 26. No. 19. May 13, 2016. pg. 433-455. (Opponents of gender integration say few women can meet the physical rigors of combat.)