

AGRICULTURE

1. Neff, Roni A., et al. "A food systems approach to health food and agriculture policy." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 11. Nov. 2015. pg. 1908-1915. (This article outlines the diverse ways in which agriculture affects public health and describes three policy issues: farm to school programming, sustainability recommendations in the Dietary Guidelines for Americans, and antibiotic use in animal agriculture.)

CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS

2. "Online voter registration" *Pew Charitable Trusts*. May 2015. 12 pg. (States across the country are increasingly adopting online voter registration to reduce costs, enhance government efficiency and build more complete and accurate voter lists.) VF: Election Procedure.

CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

3. Farmer, Liz. "Family friendly." *Governing*. Vol. 28. No. 12. Sept. 2015. pg. 50-53. (Shifting attitudes about work life balance have put paid family leave on legislative agendas in many states.)

4. Wiltz, Teresa. "States grapple with girls in the juvenile justice system." *Stateline*. The Pew Charitable Trusts. Nov. 25, 2015. 7 pg. (Arrest rates for girls haven't fallen as sharply as those for boys. States are working to develop programs targeted to girls.) VF: Juvenile Justice.

COURTS

5. Miller, Susan M., et al. "Pushing constitutional limits in the U.S. states: legislative professionalism and judicial review of state laws by the U.S. Supreme Court." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*. Vol. 15. No. 4. Dec. 2015. pg. 476-491. (This article suggests that because the level of professionalism of state legislatures affects the types of state laws pursued by different states, it may also affect the likelihood that a state has a law struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court.)

CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

6. Williams, Rich. "Policing under review." *State Legislatures*. Vol. 41. No. 10. Dec. 2015. pg. 12-15. (Discord among Americans on the nature of policing has law enforcement officials, community leaders and lawmakers searching for solutions.)

7. Williams, Rich. "Police body cams." *State Legislatures*. Vol. 41. No. 10. Dec. 2015. pg. 16-17. (One of the big policy questions for lawmakers, researchers and justice officials alike is how open records laws should apply to police recordings.)

8. Wogan, J.B. "Parole models." *Governing*. Vol. 29. No. 1. Oct. 2015. pg. 34-39. (Probation and parole officers are rethinking how they relate to offenders.)

9. "Trends in juvenile justice state legislation 2011-2015." *NCSL*. Sept. 2015. 15 pg. (Juvenile justice has become a largely bipartisan issue as lawmakers work together to develop new approaches in justice systems to align sound fiscal responsibility, community safety and better outcomes for youth.) VF: Juvenile Justice.

10. Beitsch, Rebecca. "States slowly scale back juvenile sex offender registries." *Stateline. Pew Charitable Trusts*. Nov. 19, 2015. 8 pg. (Some states are beginning to change their laws for registering youthful sex offenders.) VF: Sexual Offenders.

11. Wiltz, Teresa. "States grapple with girls in the juvenile justice system." *Stateline. The Pew Charitable Trusts*. Nov. 25, 2015. 7 pg. (Arrest rates for girls haven't fallen as sharply as those for boys. States are working to develop programs targeted to girls.) VF: Juvenile Justice.

DRUGS & DRUG TESTING

12. Trevithick, David & Karmen Hanson. "Preventing prescription drug abuse." *Legisbrief*. Vol. 23. No. 44. Nov. 2015. 2 pg. (To curb abuse and misuse, policymakers are taking a closer look at opioid drug prescribing.) VF: Drug Abuse.

13. Hanson, Karmen. "Regulating marijuana: taxes, banking and federal laws." *Legisbrief*. Vol. 23. No. 43. Nov. 2015. 2 pg. (This brief focuses on taxes and federal issues related to state legalization of cannabis.) VF: Marijuana.

14. Anderson, Tim. "Deadly rise in drug overdoses has states searching for answers." *Stateline Midwest*. Vol. 24. No. 10. Oct. 2015. pg. 1+. (Midwest hit hardest by health crisis; policy responses include greater oversight of prescription drug use and access to treatment.)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

15. Pardalos, Ann. "Driving home the importance of international trade." *Capitol Ideas*. Vol. 58. No. 6. pg. 24-25. (The author discusses ways states can play a critical role in opening new doors for small businesses to expand their opportunities through international trade.)

16. Burnett, Jennifer. "Beyond borders; state international trade offices." *Capitol Ideas*. Vol. 58. No. 6. pg. 30-31. (According to the State International Development Organizations 2015 of state trade directors, 40 states operate a collective 199 trade offices overseas. China is the most popular country, with 27 states operating trade offices there, and 15.2% of total U.S. trade is with China imports + exports, putting it a close second behind Canada.)

17. Tomaka, Laura. "New accounting standards will require states, local governments to report impact of tax incentives." *Stateline Midwest*. Vol. 24. No. 10. Oct. 2015. pg. 2. (In 2017, a new rule of the Governmental Accounting Standards Board takes affect, and it will require state and local governments to report how much revenue they are losing or willingly not collecting as a result of their tax abatement agreements with businesses.)

18. "CSG's state pathways to prosperity initiative. A framework for state policymakers." *Council of State Governments*. Aug. 2015. 50 pg. (Developing pathways to ensure a skilled workforce for state prosperity.) VF: Economic Development.

EDUCATION

19. Weeden, Dustin & Ben Schaefer. "Making college affordable." *Legisbrief*. Vol. 23. No. 42. Nov. 2015. pg. (The federal government and state governments have taken several actions in recent years to ensure that college remains within reach of all Americans.) VF: Education-Higher.

ENERGY

20. Edmondson, Liz. "The grid of the future." *Capitol Ideas*. Vol. 58. No. 6. pg. 32-33. (Challenges and opportunities in reliable and affordable electricity generation.)

21. Domanski, Jeff. "States going green saving green." *Capitol Ideas*. Vol. 58. No. 6. pg. 36-37. (As responsible stewards of public funds, states have acted as energy efficiency leaders for many years, recognizing that increased efficiency of state buildings cuts energy costs and stretches taxpayer dollars. Reducing energy demand reduces power plant emissions and prevents the need to build new power plants.)

ENVIRONMENT

22. Brody, Anne Roberts. "Where the rubber meets the road: waste tire disposal laws in the southern states." *Southern Leadership Conference of the Council of State Governments*. Oct. 2015. 19 pg. (This SLC Regional Resource outlines some of the key criteria contained in the SLC states' waste tire disposal laws and rules, provides an overview of state waste tire laws and concludes with an assessment of best practices undertaken by states in the region.)

23. Woods, Clint. "New rules soar for state air quality." *Capitol Ideas*. Vol. 58. No. 6. pg. 34-35. (Charged with keeping the nation's skies clean, state air quality regulators are discovering that their to do lists are growing dramatically.)

ETHICS

24. Indiana House Speaker Brian Bosma. "Citizen legislature, ethics laws and the public trust." *Stateline Midwest*. Vol. 24. No. 10. Oct. 2015. pg. 9. (Bipartisan changes in Indiana provide more guidance and training.)

FINANCE & REVENUE

25. "SD considering changes to budget process." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 36. Nov. 23, 2015. pg. 5-6. (Members of the state Legislature's Executive Board are considering a number of changes to the budget process, including setting revenue estimates in February instead of the last week of the session in March and making major policy decision for the coming year in mid February.)

GAMBLING

26. Royse, David. "Welcome to the big time." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 35. Nov. 16, 2015. pg. 1-4. (Fantasy sports come under legislative scrutiny.)

HEALTH, WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES

27. "TANF at 19." *State Policy Reports*. Vol. 33. No. 20. Oct. 2015. pg. 4-7. (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families replaced Aid to Families with Dependent Children in 1996, and provided each state a grant, time limits, and a good deal of flexibility, without open ended entitlement.)

28. "Rural health care: its effect on rural communities." Proceedings from the Sept. 15, 2015 Missouri Rural Health Care Summit. 26 pg. (To examine issues surrounding the stability of the health care environment in rural Missouri, how it affects other rural stakeholders, and opportunities for rural communities, a Rural Health Summit was convened in Columbia, MO, on Sept. 15, 2015.) VF: Rural Healthcare.

29. Gundersen, Craig & James P. Ziiak. "Food insecurity and health outcomes." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 11. Nov. 2015. pg. 1830-1839. (Almost fifty million people are food insecure in the United States, which makes food insecurity one of the nation's leading health and nutrition issue. The authors examine recent research evidence of the health consequences of food insecurity for children, nonsenior adults, and seniors in the United States.)

30. Wang, Y. Claire, et al. "Severe obesity in adults cost state Medicaid programs nearly \$8 billion in 2013." *Health Affairs*. Vol. 34. No. 11. Nov. 2015. pg. 1923-1929. (The authors analysis of population representative data indicates that in 2013, severe obesity cost the nation approximately \$69 billion, which accounted for 60% of total obesity related costs.)

HOUSING

31. Clark, Korey. "Sharing economy prevails in first public referendum." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 31. Nov. 9, 2015. pg. 1-4. (The home sharing website Airbnb has faced its share of resistance from regulators in recent years as explosive growth has propelled it past even major hotel chains, and recently overcame one of it's biggest challenges yet, as voters weighed in on a proposition aimed at restricting short term rentals in San Francisco.)

32. Jost, Kenneth. "Housing discrimination." *CQ Researcher*. Vol. 25. No. 40. Nov. 6, 2015. pg. 937-959. (Should the government do more to reduce residential segregation?)

INSURANCE

33. Cannon, Lou. "Health problems." *Capitol Journal*. Vol. XXIII. No. 36. Nov. 23, 2015. pg. 1-4. (Obamacare has accomplished much while falling short of its lofty goal of providing affordable health care for more U.S. citizens; some 32 million Americans still lack health insurance.)

MENTAL HEALTH

34. Buntin, John. "In treatment." *Governing*. Vol. 28. No. 11. Aug. 2015. pg. 25-31. (America's jails are filled with offenders suffering from severe mental illness. Miami is pioneering a different approach.)

PRIVACY

35. Moodie, Samantha. "Facial recognition and biometrics." *Legisbrief*. Vol. 23. No. 41. Nov. 2015. 2 pg. (Biometric screening technology allows users to identify and track human characteristics; its uses are growing beyond such traditional methods as fingerprinting to include facial recognition, voice recognition, iris scans, and even DNA or other unique measurable human characteristics.) VF: Privacy.

STATE LEGISLATURES

36. Kurtz, Karl. "Who we elect." *State Legislatures*. Vol. 41. No. 10. Dec. 2015. pg. 20-25. (Although not quite as diverse as the American public, state lawmakers are a remarkably varied lot.)

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT

37. Lewis, Daniel C., et al. "Institutional characteristics and state policy priorities: the impact of legislatures and governors." *State Politics & Policy Quarterly*. Vol. 15. No. 4. Dec. 2015. pg. 447-475. (This article examines how the institutional characteristics of state legislatures and governors affect state policy priorities.)

TRANSPORTATION

38. Vock, Daniel C. "Roads for all." *Governing*. Vol. 29. No. 1. Oct. 2015. pg. 47-50. (The 'complete streets' movement is reshaping urban boulevards, small town main streets and even rural highways, but there are still plenty of bumps in the road.)