ALCOHOL


CAMPAIGNS & ELECTIONS

2. Milita, Kerri. "Elections laws and agenda setting: how election law restrictiveness shapes the complexity of state ballot measures." State Politics and Policy Quarterly." Vol. 15. No. 2. June 2015. pg. 119-146. (This article shows that laws governing access of initiatives to the ballot also shape the policy agenda; provisions making it harder for proposals to get on the ballot decrease the complexity of the initiatives on the ballot.)

3. "Elections technology: nine things legislators may want to know." NCSL. The Canvass. Issue 58. May 2015. pg. 1-6. (The Election Technology Project seeks to find ways to learn how elections and technology work together, listing nine key issues regarding elections and technology.)


CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

5. Morse, Ann. "Hungry for solutions." State Legislatures. Vol. 41. No. 5. May 2015. pg. 20-23. (Businessmen and policymakers are taking a fresh look at how to get kids the nutrition their growing bodies and minds need.)

CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES


COURTS

7. Owens, Ryan J., et al. "Nominating commissions, judicial retention, and forward looking behavior on state Supreme Courts: an empirical examination of selection and retention methods." State Politics and Policy Quarterly." Vol. 15. No. 2. June 2015. pg. 211-238. (Using a recent innovation in matching called covariate balancing propensity scores, the authors find that the U.S. Supreme Court is equally likely to review and reverse decisions by judges regardless of the selection or retention methods.)

CRIME & CRIMINAL JUSTICE


10. Owens, Ryan J., et al. "Nominating commissions, judicial retention, and forward looking behavior on state Supreme Courts: an empirical examination of selection and retention methods." State Politics and Policy Quarterly, Vol. 15, No. 2, June 2015, pg. 211-238. (Using a recent innovation in matching called covariate balancing propensity scores, the authors find that the U.S. Supreme Court is equally likely to review and reverse decisions by judges regardless of the selection or retention methods.)

11. Von Drehle, David. "Bungled executions, backlogged courts, and three more reasons the modern death penalty is a failed experiment." Time, Vol. 185, No. 21, June 8, 2015, pg. 27-33. (The author provides an in depth look at the failing modern death penalty in the United States, and the reasons behind its failure.)

**DRUGS & DRUG TESTING**

12. Barcott, Bruce & Michael Scherer. "The great pot experiment." Time, Vol. 185, No. 19, May 25, 2015, pg. 4044. (Legalization keeps rolling ahead, but because of years of government roadblocks on research, we don't know nearly enough about the dangers [or benefits] of marijuana.)

**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

13. Brainerd, Jackson. "Tax bait for trophy companies." State Legislatures, Vol. 41, No. 5, May 2015, pg. 16-19. (Big corporations have been lured by tax incentives to expand in or locate to a state. Are they worth it?)

**EDUCATION**


17. McMahon, Walter. "Financing education for the public good: a new strategy." Journal of Education Finance, Vol. 40, No. 4, Spring 2015, pg. 414-437. (This article develops the total return to education relative to full costs as the basic education financing criterion for whether there is under or over investment in education for efficient family and statewide development.)

18. Hoerner, Jonathan K. "A failing school district and a failing statute: how Breitenfeld v. School District of Clayton and the unaccredited district tuition statute nearly destroyed a struggling school district and disrupted the education of its students." St. Louis University Law Journal, Vol. 59, No. 2, Winter 2015, pg. 559-590. (Part I of this note will examine the court's analysis and holding in Breitenfeld as well as provide some background information on the Normandy School District, and part II will discuss how the Breitenfeld holding and the unaccredited district tuition statute were implemented in relation to Normandy.)

19. Mitchell, S. David. "Zero tolerance policies: criminalizing childhood and disenfranchising the next generation of citizens." Washington University Law Review, Vol. 92, No. 2, 2014, pg. 271-323. (A juvenile adjudication of guilt has far more drastic consequences than existed just 10 years ago. Some of the consequences may not be apparent for a number of years, but their possibility should be anticipated, fully considered, and planned for, whenever possible.)

2
EMPLOYERS & EMPLOYEES

20. 2015 Comparison of State Unemployment Insurance Laws. Ref. KF 3675.Z95 C65 2015. (This provides state by state information on workers covered, benefit eligibility, methods of financing, and other areas of interest in the Unemployment Insurance program.)


ENERGY

23. LaFountain, Joyce. "Show me the sun: how Missouri can support its commitment to renewable sources of energy through preemption of local zoning ordinances." St. Louis University Law Journal. Vol. 59. No. 2. Winter 2015. pg. 617-639. (The author argues that the state of Missouri, in seeking to achieve its goal of increased reliance on renewable sources of energy, would be best served by strong state level control over land use regulation affecting residential scale renewable energy systems.)

ENVIRONMENT

24. Husch, Ben & Kristy Hartman. "Reducing methane emissions." Legisbrief. Vol. 23. No. 18. May 2015. 2 pg. (Since President Obama unveiled a multi-pronged effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in June 2013, state officials have focused their attention on efforts to address and comply with new regulations on carbon dioxide emissions from the electric utility sector, more commonly known as the Clean Power Plan.) VF: Environment.

25. Vock, Daniel G. "Whose pollution is it?" Governing. Vol. 28. No. 9. June 2015. pg. 36-41. (Fertilizer from Iowa's farms is fouling the water in Des Moines. Urban and rural interests are fighting over how to clean it up.

ETHICS

26. Wilson, Ethan. "Separation of powers and legislative immunity." Legisbrief. Vol. 23. No. 20. May 2015. 2 pg. (Tension is revealed when the executive branch is tasked with enforcing ethics laws related to members of the legislative branch, absent a constitutionally granted power to do so. 43 states have constitutional provisions pertaining to 'speech and debate immunity.') VF: Ethics, code of.

HEALTH, WELFARE & SOCIAL SERVICES


30. Miller, Debra. "Rural hospitals: sustaining their critical roles in communities." Capitol Ideas. Vol. 58. No. 3. May/June 2015. pg. 32-33. (Rural hospitals have their jobs cut out for them and so do the policymakers who care about them.)


32. Tormey, Kate. "Rethinking health policy." Stateline Midwest. Vol. 24. No. 4. April 2015. pg. 1+. (New state strategies look beyond access to care, focus on other factors that lead to poor health outcomes and higher costs.)

INSURANCE


34. Zhu, Ling & Jennifer H. Clark. "Rights without access: the political context of inequality in health care coverage in the U.S. states." State Politics and Policy Quarterly." Vol. 15. No. 2. June 2015. pg. 239-262. (This research explores how partisanship in government affects subnational level inequality in health care coverage in the context of racial diversity; the authors find a negative relationship between the seat share of Democratic representatives and inequality in health care coverage in states with racially diverse populations.)

PRIVACY


REFERENCE


STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENT


38. "State lawmakers growing less enthused about local control." Capitol Journal. Vol. XXIII. No. 16. June 2015. pg. 1-6. (As advocates are gaining more success at the local level, opponents are now turning back to statehouses for help avoiding what they see as a patchwork of confusing or contradictory state laws.)

39. Online voter registration coming to Florida." Capitol Journal. Vol. XXIII. No. 16. June 2015. pg. 7-8. (If all goes as planned, Florida will eventually join the 21 other states that have already implemented online voter registration.)

TAXATION

41. Brainerd, Jackson. "Tax bait for trophy companies." State Legislatures. Vol. 41. No. 5. May 2015. pg. 16-19. (Big corporations have been lured by tax incentives to expand in or locate to a state. Are they worth it?)


TRANSPORTATION