

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU  
CALIFORNIA STATE LIBRARY  
Studies in the News**

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**California -- One Hundred Years Ago**

**January 1909.** “Emma Goldman, the notorious anarchist, and Ben L. Reitman, widely known as the ‘king of the hobos,’ were arrested tonight as they were about to hold one of eight meetings they had previously announced, and were lodged in the city prison on eight charges of ‘conspiracy to rout.’ ‘Rout’ is defined by the State statutes as the assembly of two or more persons at a meeting where measures are advocated, which, if carried out, would lead to riot. The police acted on the theory that each of the meetings announced constituted such a conspiracy. Bail has not been found at a late hour tonight. William Buwaida, who was dishonorably discharged from the army and sentenced to five years imprisonment on Alcatraz, the Federal military prison...for shaking hands with the Goldman woman at a meeting held by her some months ago, was placed under arrest also.... Buwaida was only recently released under a pardon from President Roosevelt.” *Los Angeles Times* (January 15, 1909) pg. I13.

**January 1909.** “The trial of Emma Goldman, the anarchist speaker, and Dr. Ben Reitman, her manager, charged with calling an unlawful meeting, was held before Police Judge Deasy this afternoon. Only four witnesses were examined, and at the conclusion of the evidence the court instructed the jury to return a verdict of acquittal.” *Los Angeles Times* (January 29, 1909) pg.I3.

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## **Introduction to Studies in the News**

*Studies in the News* is a current compilation of items significant to the Legislature and Governor's Office. It is created weekly by the California State Library's [California Research Bureau](#) to supplement the public policy debate in California. To help share the latest information with state policymakers, these reading lists are

now being made accessible through the California State Library's website. This week's list of current articles in various public policy areas is presented below. Prior lists can be viewed from the California State Library's Web site at [www.library.ca.gov/sitn](http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn)

- When available, the URL for the full text of each item is provided.
- California State Employees may contact the State Information & Reference Center (916-654-0261); [csinfo@library.ca.gov](mailto:csinfo@library.ca.gov) with the SITN issue number and the item number [S#].
- All other interested individuals should contact their local library - the items may be available there, or may be borrowed by your local library on your behalf.

The following studies are currently on hand:

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

### **CHILD PROTECTION**

**Enhancing Child Safety and Online Technologies. By the Internet Safety Technical Task Force. (Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts) December 2008.**

["A task force created by 49 state attorneys general.... was charged with examining the extent of the threats children face on social networks like MySpace and Facebook, amid widespread fears that adults were using these popular Web sites to deceive and prey on children. But the report concluded that the problem of bullying among children, both online and offline, poses a far more serious challenge than the sexual solicitation of minors by adults.... Children and teenagers were unlikely to be propositioned by adults online. In the cases that do exist, teenagers are typically willing participants and are already at risk because of poor home environments, substance abuse or other problems." New York Times (January 14, 2009) 1.]  
[Request #S09-3-3277]

Report. 278 p.

<http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/pubrelease/isttf/>

Executive Summary. 5 p.

[http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/sites/cyber.law.harvard.edu/files/ISTTF\\_Final\\_Report-Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://cyber.law.harvard.edu/sites/cyber.law.harvard.edu/files/ISTTF_Final_Report-Executive_Summary.pdf)

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## EX-OFFENDERS

**“Criminal History on a “Need To Know” Basis: Employment Policies that Eliminate the Criminal History Box on Employment Applications.”** By Jessica S. Henry. IN: *Justice Policy Journal*, vol. 5, no. 2 (Fall 2008) pp. 1-22

Full text at: [http://www.cjcj.org/files/criminal\\_history.pdf](http://www.cjcj.org/files/criminal_history.pdf)

["Employment is a critical component of successful reentry by ex-offenders to society. Major cities such as Boston, San Francisco and Chicago implemented an innovative and cost-effective initiative to promote the employment of ex-offenders by removing from public employment applications all questions relating to an applicant's criminal history. Prisoner rights advocates had argued that the presence of the criminal history question on job applications deterred ex-offenders from applying to jobs for which they were otherwise qualified and also resulted in employment discrimination based on ex-offender status. Initial data indicate that the implementation and effectiveness of the policy vary considerably between cities. Significant limitations of the policies should be addressed to ensure the intended outcome of increased ex-offender employment."]

[Request #S09-3-3216]

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## MENTAL ILLNESS

**Mental Health Courts: A Primer for Policymakers and Practitioners.** By the Council of State Governments Justice Center. (The Center, New York, New York) January 2009. 34 p.

Full text at: <http://consensusproject.org/mhcp/mhc-primer.pdf>

["Mental health courts are one of many initiatives launched in the past two decades to address the large numbers of people with mental illnesses involved in the criminal justice system.... Mental health courts have spread rapidly across the country in the few years since their emergence. In the late 1990s only a handful of such courts were in operation; as of 2007, there were more than 175 in both large and small jurisdictions. If this recent surge in popularity is any indicator, many more communities will consider developing a mental health court in the coming years. This guide is intended to provide an introductory overview of this approach for policymakers, practitioners, and advocates, and to link interested readers to additional resources."]

[Request #S09-3-3253]

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## PRISONERS

**Prisoners in 2007. By Heather C. West and William J. Sabol, Bureau of Justice Statistics. (The Bureau, Washington, DC) December 2008. 26 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p07.pdf>

["California has more men and women locked up in prison than any other state and unlike any other state, the vast majority of those placed behind bars are parole violators. The report bolsters contentions by critics of the much-overcrowded prison system that state parole officers, who belong to the same union as prison guards, are extraordinarily willing to slap a parole inmate back behind bars, thereby exacerbating a prison overcrowding problem. California's prisons had 174,282 inmates in 2007, and although it was one of the few states to show a decline in inmate population -- 1,230 fewer than in 2006 -- the total surpassed every other state, beating out second-place Texas by about 4,000 felons." Sacramento Bee (December 12, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3179]

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## CULTURE AND SOCIETY

### SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

**The Legal, Medical, Economic and Social Consequences of New Jersey's Civil Union Law: Final Report. By the New Jersey Civil Union Review Commission. (The Commission, Trenton, New Jersey) December 10, 2008. 72 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.nj.gov/oag/dcr/downloads/CURC-Final-Report-.pdf>

["The Civil Union Review Commission said current New Jersey law, drafted in response to a state Supreme Court order, allowing gay couples to enter civil unions 'encourages unequal treatment of same-sex couples and their children and that some employers and hospitals don't afford civil union couples the same rights as married ones. The commission said that state law should be amended to allow gay marriage." The Daily Record (December 11, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3178]

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## ECONOMY

### BANKING

**The Rise and Fall of the U.S. Mortgage and Credit Markets: A Comprehensive Analysis of the Meltdown. By James R. Barth and others, the Milken Institute. (The Institute, Santa Monica, California) January 2009. 51 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/Riseandfallexcerpt.pdf>

["With the door closed on 2008, but the economic crisis still firmly planted on 2009's stoop, the Milken Institute has closely examined the root causes behind the buildup and collapse of the mortgage market. This report is a brief preview of the extensive data collection and in-depth analysis conducted by Milken Institute economists on the mortgage meltdown and the ensuing financial crisis. It provides insight and information that breaks through the rhetoric and attention-grabbing headlines, along with policy recommendations for moving forward."]

[Request #S09-3-3288]

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### CALIFORNIA

**Economic Recovery Task Force: Final Report. By the California Economic Recovery Task Force. (Public Policy Institute of California, San Francisco, California) December 2008. Various pagings**

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/pressrelease.asp?p=902>

["California has an unprecedented opportunity to take bold steps toward economic recovery but only if its elected leaders can unite to present a clear plan for using federal dollars, according to a group of state leaders assembled by the Public Policy Institute of California. The California Economic Recovery Task Force, established at the request of the bipartisan leadership of the state legislature, was diverse in its membership but united in its message: California faces a crisis of historic proportions that requires its elected leaders to make a cogent case for the state's needs in Washington, develop projects that support long-term growth, and balance the state budget."]

[Request #S09-3-3249]

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## ECONOMIC POLICY

**Print Money and Cut the Payroll Tax. By John H. Makin, American Enterprise Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) December 2008. 6 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.28990/pub\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/publications/pubID.28990/pub_detail.asp)

["The tendency to announce huge headline numbers for fiscal stimulus or financial rescue packages has become widespread and is probably counterproductive. Exaggerated numbers, not accompanied by prompt action, only reinforce negative sentiments about an uncontrollable collapse in financial markets and economic activity.... Fortunately, late in 2008, we are not entering the third year of a global depression, as was the case after the election of FDR in November 1932. But we are at a critical point at which insufficient action -- either rooted in denial that a crisis exists or in wasted time resulting from poorly conceived measures with misleadingly large numbers attached to them -- could land us in a global depression. So, too, could political bickering over the steps that need to be undertaken."]  
[Request #S09-3-3161]

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## IMMIGRATION

**Immigrants and the Current Economic Crisis: Research Evidence, Policy Challenges, and Implications. By Demetrios G. Papademetriou and Aaron Terrazas, Migration Policy Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) January 2009. 35 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/lmi\\_recessionJan09.pdf](http://www.migrationpolicy.org/pubs/lmi_recessionJan09.pdf)

["Despite the worst U.S. economy in decades and a slowdown in the growth of the nation's foreign-born population, there is no hard evidence of a return migration tied to the recession. Anecdotal evidence suggests that in the past two years more immigrants than usual -- legal and illegal -- have left the United States for their countries of origin. But no data exists to verify such a trend. 'Substantial return migration of unauthorized immigrants is unlikely unless there's a protracted and severe worsening of the U.S. economy,' said Papademetriou. Instead of leaving the country, unauthorized immigrants seem to be more likely than natives or legal immigrants to move from state to state in search of work." San Jose Mercury News (January 14, 2009) 1.]  
[Request #S09-3-3276]

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## INFRASTRUCTURE

**Paying for Infrastructure: California's Choices. By Ellen Hanak, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) January 2009. 28 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/atissue/AI\\_109EHAI.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/atissue/AI_109EHAI.pdf)

["California may need a half-trillion dollars to expand and upgrade transportation systems, schools, water delivery and other infrastructure during the next 20 years but the state's system for financing public works is 'seriously flawed,' says a new report.... 'California needs a long-term solution. There's an opportunity here for the state to rise to the challenge and improve the way we finance the investments in our future.' Lowering the vote threshold on local school bonds from two-thirds to 55 percent resulted in a dramatic increase of voter passage and the report suggests, among other steps, that the same change could occur on other local government bond issues as well. Another step proposed in the report is to return to reliance on user fees, such as gasoline taxes." Sacramento Bee (January 21, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3284]

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## EDUCATION

### HIGHER EDUCATION

**Trends in College Spending: Where Does the Money Come From? Where Does It Go? By Jane V. Wellman, Delta Cost Project, and others. (The Project, Washington, DC) January 2009.**

["As states cut back on higher-education funding, students are paying higher fees to make up for the lost money. At the same time, the cutbacks are eroding the quality of the education those students receive.... Researchers examined revenue and spending at nearly 2,000 colleges and universities from 2002 to 2006. In that period, proportional spending on classroom instruction declined at all levels. Students are paying a greater proportion of the cost of an education than ever before. Nationally, that number increased by five percentage points -- to 31 percent -- at community colleges and by 10 percentage points -- to about 50 percent -- at most four-year schools." Contra Costa Times (January 14, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3278]

Report. 48 p.

[http://www.deltacostproject.org/analyses/delta\\_reports.asp](http://www.deltacostproject.org/analyses/delta_reports.asp)

Executive Summary. 2 p.

[http://www.deltacostproject.org/resources/pdf/trends\\_in\\_spending-summary.pdf](http://www.deltacostproject.org/resources/pdf/trends_in_spending-summary.pdf)

California data. 1 p.

<http://www.deltacostproject.org/data/state/ca.asp>

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**California at the Edge of a Cliff: The Failure to Invest in Public Higher Education is Crushing the Economy and Crippling Our Kids' Future. By Thomas G. Mortenson, Pell Institute for the Study of Opportunity in Higher Education. (California Faculty Association, Sacramento, California) January 2009.**

["Once regarded as a national leader in higher education, California is quickly falling in the ranks as fewer young people graduate high school and enroll in college. In its investment in public higher education and college degree attainment, the state ranks near the bottom among all 50 states. California ranked 49th in the country for its number of adults with at least a high school diploma, 46th for the number of 19-year-olds enrolled in college and 31st for college enrollment among students in low-income families. And over the last three decades, the state's investment in public higher education has fallen 40 percent -- dropping from 11th in the nation to 22nd despite having the country's largest public higher education system." Long Beach Press-Telegram (January 7, 2009) 1.][Request #S09-3-3252]

Report. 42 p.

[http://www.calfac.org/allpdf/Calattheedge/Mortenson%20Rept\\_highrez.pdf](http://www.calfac.org/allpdf/Calattheedge/Mortenson%20Rept_highrez.pdf)

Executive Summary. 2 p.

<http://www.calfac.org/allpdf/Calattheedge/ExecSummary.pdf>

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## **EMPLOYMENT**

### **JOB CREATION**

**California Green Innovation Index: 2009. By Doug Henton, Collaborative Economics, and others. (Next 10, Palo Alto, California) January 2009.**

["Energy efficiency and clean technology can help jump-start the U.S. economy.... Among the findings: Green-collar jobs are growing faster than statewide employment. Clean-tech investment in the state hit a record last year, despite steep stock-market declines. California leads the nation in patent registrations for green technology. Efficiency measures pioneered here over the last three decades have created 1.5 million jobs and allowed California businesses to generate many more goods and services per unit of energy consumed than other states.... The report contains the first detailed analysis of the number of 'green' jobs in California." Los Angeles Times (January 26, 2009) 1.][Request #S09-3-3301]

Report. 85 p.

<http://www.next10.org/environment/greenInnovation09.html>

Index at a Glance. 2 p.

[http://www.next10.org/pdf/Next10\\_At\\_A\\_Glance.pdf](http://www.next10.org/pdf/Next10_At_A_Glance.pdf)

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**Assistance for Hard-Pressed Families is One of the Best Ways to Preserve and Create Jobs. By Chad Stone, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. AND: The Job Impact of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan. By Christina Romer, Council of Economic Advisors, and Jared Bernstein, Office of the Vice-President. (The Center, Washington, DC) January 2009.**

[Temporary programs to protect people who are the most vulnerable in a deep recession will have a powerful impact on job creation relative to their cost, based on an analysis of the job creation effects of the proposed Obama economic recovery plan by Christina Romer, who will be chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, and Jared Bernstein, who will be Chief Economist in the Office of the Vice President. Their analysis also finds that substantial job creation will result from fiscal relief to states facing large budget shortfalls. These findings are consistent with a Center on Budget and Policy Priorities analysis issued on the importance for job creation of including such measures in an economic recovery package."]

[Request #S09-3-3293]

Assistance for Hard-Pressed Families. 5 p.

<http://www.cbpp.org/1-9-09bud.pdf>

Job Impact of Plan. 14 p.

[http://otrans.3cdn.net/ee40602f9a7d8172b8\\_ozm6bt5oi.pdf](http://otrans.3cdn.net/ee40602f9a7d8172b8_ozm6bt5oi.pdf)

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## **LOW-WAGE WORKERS**

**Moving from Jobs to Careers: Engaging Low-Wage Workers in Career Advancement. By Betsy L. Tessler and others, MDRC. (MDRC, New York, New York) December 2008. 81 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.mdrc.org/publications/505/full.pdf>

[“The Work Advancement and Support Center (WASC) demonstration presents a new approach to helping low-wage and dislocated workers take strategic steps to advance -- by increasing their wages or work hours, upgrading their skills, or finding better jobs. At the same time, these workers are encouraged to increase and stabilize their income in the short term by making the most of available work supports, such as food stamps, public health insurance, subsidized child care, and tax credits for eligible low-income families.... This report presents preliminary information on the effectiveness of strategies that were used to attract people to the WASC program, engage them in services, and keep them engaged over time.”]

[Request #S09-3-3229]

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**Entry-Level and Next-Step Jobs in the Low-Skill Job Market. By Gregory Acs and Pamela J. Loprest, the Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) November 2008. 6 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411801\\_low-skill\\_job\\_market.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411801_low-skill_job_market.pdf)

["Americans often perceive low-wage, low-skill jobs as 'McJobs' -- easily filled positions requiring little in the way of education, experience, or training. In reality, low-skill jobs are not 'no skill' jobs, and the labor market for noncollege jobs -- jobs that do not require a college degree -- is vast and diverse. In this brief, we broaden our understanding of the diversity of this labor market. We distinguish between jobs that have very low requirements -- entry-level jobs -- and those with somewhat higher skill or education requirements -- 'next-step' jobs. We then explore the differences between entry-level and next-step jobs in compensation, activities and tasks performed on the job, the types of employers filling entry-level versus next-step jobs, and how employers fill these jobs."]

[Request #S09-3-3165]

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## WOMEN

**Lifetime Losses: The Career Wage Gap. By Jessica Arons, Center for American Progress Action Fund. (The Fund, Washington, DC) December 2008 19 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/2008/pdf/equal\\_pay.pdf](http://www.americanprogressaction.org/issues/2008/pdf/equal_pay.pdf)

["Most women in this country are likely to lose substantial amounts of income due to something termed the 'career wage gap.' The gender wage gap is the annual difference in median wages between men and women who are employed full-time. This study looks at how the current annual gender wage gap accumulates over a 40-year period and provides us an estimate for lost wages over a lifetime of work.... Women in all occupations suffer from the career wage gap, but the gap ranges widely from one occupation to the next, with the widest gap in finance and management and the smallest gap in construction and maintenance.... The gap exceeds \$300,000 in 15 states, \$400,000 in 22 states, and \$500,000 in 11 states."]

[Request #S09-3-3263]

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## **ENERGY**

### **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**Clean Energy, Bright Future: Rebuilding America through Green Infrastructure.** By Rob McCulloch, Environment America Research & Policy Center. (Environment California, Los Angeles, California) January 2009. 36 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.environmentcalifornia.org/uploads/h7/8\\_/h78\\_c2ACC166g69RLma--Q/CA---Clean-Energy-Bright-Future.pdf](http://www.environmentcalifornia.org/uploads/h7/8_/h78_c2ACC166g69RLma--Q/CA---Clean-Energy-Bright-Future.pdf)

["These proposals, when fully implemented over the next decade, would reduce annual global warming pollution by nearly 10 percent below current levels and reduce oil consumption equivalent to taking one million cars off the road each year. These proposals would begin to transition America to a clean energy economy and put more than three million people to work quickly in ready-to-go projects. This is nearly as many jobs as Obama has called for creating with the entire stimulus package."]

[Request #S09-3-3274]

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## **ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES**

### **CLIMATE CHANGE**

**Abrupt Climate Change.** By Peter U. Clark, Oregon State University, and others. (U.S. Climate Change Science Program, Washington, DC) 2008. 477 p.

Full text at: <http://www.climatescience.gov/Library/sap/sap3-4/final-report/default.htmfinalreport>

["The United States faces the possibility of of much more rapid climate change by the end of the century than previous studies have suggested. Factors such as ice loss in the Arctic and prolonged drought in the Southwest, suggests that earlier projections have underestimated the climatic shifts that could take place by 2100. .... One of the most worrisome findings is that global sea levels could rise as much as 4 feet by 2100." Los Angeles Times (December 26, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3266]

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**"Tackling Regional Climate Change By Leaf Albedo Bio-geoengineering." By Andy Ridgwell and others. IN: Current Biology, vol. 19, no. 2 (January 27, 2009) pp. 146-150.**

Full text at: [Tackling Regional Climate Change](#)

["Farmers could help produce cooler temperatures and limit global warming if they grow crop varieties that reflect more sunlight into space. This strategy could cool much of Europe, North America and parts of North Asia by up to one degree Celsius during the summer growing season. It would also translate into a 20 percent reduction in a predicted five degree Celsius temperature rise for the region by the end of the century.... Previous research has shown that wheat, maize, barley and sorghum reflect solar energy differently, depending on either how waxy a plant's surface is, how the leaves are arranged or how hairy they are. The findings also raise the possibility farmers could receive carbon credits to encourage them to grow climate-friendly varieties." Reuters (January 16, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3273]

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## **GREEN HOUSE GASES**

**Shakey Science: Inconvient Truths Ignored by EPA in its Proposal to Regulate Carbon Dioxide Emissions. By Patrick J. Michaels, Cato Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) December 2008. 186 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.cato.org/pubs/articles/michaels\\_ANPR\\_EPA.pdf](http://www.cato.org/pubs/articles/michaels_ANPR_EPA.pdf)

["The paper details scientific findings on global warming that are generally not known to those involved in ongoing policy debates. A recent EPA call for public commentary on a proposed rulemaking on carbon dioxide emissions provided a remarkable opportunity to comprehensively analyze recent science that is often ignored in the push for carbon dioxide regulation. These comments on the 'Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking' are primarily based upon the completeness or complexity of the science upon which the EPA based its determination of whether to make an 'endangerment finding' triggering regulation of greenhouse gas emissions under the Clean Air Act."]

[Request #S09-3-3271]

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

**Preparing for Disasters. By Richard Callahan, University of Southern California, and others. (IBM Center for the Business of Government, Washington, DC) 2008.**

["This report contains two essays reflecting different perspectives on preparing for and working in large-scale emergencies. The first essay, 'Keys to Effectively Partner in Temporary Networks' examines the roles of non-governmental aid organizations in large-scale emergencies and is informed by interviews with aid workers during the Asian Tsunami and Hurricane Katrina. The second essay, 'Emergency Management Networks in California,' examines how the State of California has developed three sets of emergency response networks and tools for preparing and responding to emergencies. Together, these two essays provide useful insights for both nonprofit and public managers in preparing for potential future disasters."]  
[Request #S09-3-3290]

Report. 62 p.

<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/OBrienReport.pdf>

Insight Brief. 2 p.

<http://www.businessofgovernment.org/pdfs/ObrienBrief.pdf>

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### PROPERTY TAXES

**“What Policy Makers Should Know About Property Taxes.” By Ronald C. Fisher. IN: Land Lines, vol. 21, no. 1 (January 2009) p. 1-7**

Full text at: [http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/dl/1551\\_776\\_Article%202.pdf](http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/dl/1551_776_Article%202.pdf)

["Property taxes are relatively visible and thus contribute to government accountability. Property tax revenues have been responsive to economic growth and perhaps the most stable of all tax bases. Property taxes often are economically efficient compared to alternatives, especially if they serve as local benefit charges. Finally, property taxes may add to overall tax progressivity compared to the alternatives; importantly, property taxes are in most instances more progressive than sales taxes.... If taxpayers or public officials object to property taxes on distributional, efficiency, or administrative grounds, the relevant questions to explore further are: how do property taxes compare to the alternatives; how can targeted adjustments be used to alter property taxes for selected taxpayers; and how important is it for local governments to maintain fiscal independence."]  
[Request #S09-3-3211]

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## REDISTRICTING

**New Population Estimates Show Slight Changes For 2008 Congressional Apportionment: But Point to Major Changes for 2010.** By Kimball Brace, Election Data Services. (The Services, Manassas, Virginia) December 2008. 15 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.electiondataservices.com/images/File/NR\\_Appor08wTables.pdf](http://www.electiondataservices.com/images/File/NR_Appor08wTables.pdf)

["New Census Bureau population estimates show new changes are likely for four more states in their congressional representation compared to last year's population release. Trends contained in the new data point towards new twists in population growth over the next two years and lead to a variety of potential scenarios by the time apportionment happens in 2010. The 2008 population estimates shift two more congressional seats between four states than what was reported in last year's study of the 2007 estimates. The new 2008 estimates show that eight congressional seats in 14 states have already changed at this point in the decade."]

[Request #S09-3-3243]

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## STATE BUDGET

**California's Cash Flow Crisis.** By Jason Dickerson, California Legislative Analyst's Office. (The Office, Sacramento, California) January 14, 2009. 24 p.

Full text at: [http://www.lao.ca.gov/2009/stadm/cash\\_flow/cash\\_flow\\_011409.pdf](http://www.lao.ca.gov/2009/stadm/cash_flow/cash_flow_011409.pdf)

["The office confirmed that California could run short of cash as soon as February 1 unless lawmakers and Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger immediately cut spending and raise revenues.... Schools and creditors have first claim on the state's revenues, while state worker salaries and benefits, Medi-Cal claims and court-ordered payments are among those with secondary priority.... The LAO recommended that lawmakers allow internal borrowing from several state funds to add \$2 billion to the state's cash cushion. It also recommended that lawmakers defer some payments to local governments and schools to preserve cash." Sacramento Bee (January 15, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3279]

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**Are California's Fiscal Constraints Institutional or Political? By Bruce E. Cain, University of California Berkeley, and George A. Mackenzie, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) December 2008. 30 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=865>

["California's 2008 budget went into effect a record 85 days after its statutory deadline. This brought renewed criticism of the requirement that the budget pass with a legislative supermajority rather than a simple majority. The authors explore this and other constraints on the state's budget process and find that California has placed more such restrictions on itself than any other state. Dating back to Proposition 13, these restrictions have generally not restrained revenues and expenditures as their authors may have hoped. Instead, state and local officials -- and voters -- have found ways to raise revenues and spend money by circumventing constraints."]

[Request #S09-3-3244]

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**It's about Trust: A State Budget Process that Restores Public Confidence. By California Forward. (California Forward, Sacramento, California) January 2009. 20 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.caforward.org/CA\\_Forward\\_Revised.pdf](http://www.caforward.org/CA_Forward_Revised.pdf)

["As California's fiscal crisis deepens, and the confidence of Californians in the their government sinks even lower, California Forward has released five reforms for a new budget system that could result in smarter fiscal decisions and greater public trust. The reform proposals are based on the best management practices from state and local governments around the nation and on conversations with thousands of Californians."]

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## HEALTH

## BIRTH CONTROL

**State of Connecticut, et al. v. U.S. Department of Health Services, et al. U.S. District Court, District of Connecticut. Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief. January 15, 2009.**

["California and six other states sued the federal government over a new rule that expands protections for doctors and other health care workers who refuse to participate in abortions and other medical procedures because of religious or moral objections. They claim the federal rule, issued by the Bush administration last month, would trump state laws protecting women's access to birth control, reproductive health services and emergency contraception. California Attorney General Jerry Brown said state law already allows health care providers and workers to refuse to dispense contraceptives or perform abortions if they notify their employer in writing." San Francisco Chronicle (January 16, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-3-3275]

Complaint. 40 p.

[http://ag.ca.gov/cms\\_attachments/press/pdfs/n1650\\_complaint.pdf](http://ag.ca.gov/cms_attachments/press/pdfs/n1650_complaint.pdf)

Press Release. 1 p.

<http://caag.state.ca.us/newsalerts/release.php?id=1650>

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## CHILDREN

**Prospects for Reducing Uninsured Rates among Children: How Much Can Premium Assistance Programs Help? AND: Setting Income Thresholds in Medicaid/SCHIP: Which Children Should Be Eligible? By Genevieve M. Kenney and others, the Urban Institute (The Institute, Washington, DC) January 2009.**

["With the reauthorization of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) under consideration in early 2009, an important question is the extent to which uninsured children could be covered under employer-sponsored insurance through premium assistance programs, which use public funding under Medicaid and SCHIP to subsidize employer-sponsored insurance (ESI). Premium assistance programs may not make a substantial dent in the uninsured problem facing children. The fact that so few uninsured children have parents with ESI coverage highlights the importance of increasing take-up in Medicaid and SCHIP among eligible children."] [Request #S09-3-3282]

Reducing Uninsured. 7 p.

[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411823\\_reducing\\_uninsured.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411823_reducing_uninsured.pdf)

Setting Income Thresholds. 7 p.

[http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411817\\_setting\\_income\\_thresholds.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411817_setting_income_thresholds.pdf)

## HOSPITALS

**Mortality in California Hospitals: 2006.** By the Healthcare Information Division, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development. (The Office, Sacramento, California) November 2008.

["California patients now can find out whether they are more or less likely to die in their local hospital -- compared with the state average -- when being treated for certain conditions. Using data from 2006 and 2007, the Office released in-hospital death rates for three medical conditions -- acute stroke, gastrointestinal bleeding and hip fracture -- as well as five surgical procedures. The report, which required acute-care hospitals to participate, rated facilities as better than, worse than or on par with the state average for the eight categories, adjusting for whether the hospital treats a greater number of very sick, high-risk patients." San Francisco Chronicle (January 22, 2009) 1.] [Request #S09-3-3285]

Report. 4 p.

[http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Products/Research\\_Briefs/Brief1\\_rev.pdf](http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Products/Research_Briefs/Brief1_rev.pdf)

Mortality and quality ratings. 28 p.

[http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Products/PatDischargeData/AHRQ/IQI/IQI\\_MORT\\_JULY\\_2007.pdf](http://www.oshpd.ca.gov/HID/Products/PatDischargeData/AHRQ/IQI/IQI_MORT_JULY_2007.pdf)

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## HOUSING

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**Rethinking Federal Housing Policy: How to Make Housing Plentiful and Affordable.** By Edward L. Glaeser, Harvard University, and Joseph Gyourko, University of Pennsylvania. (American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC) November 2008. 220 p.

Full text at: [http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.971/book\\_detail.asp](http://www.aei.org/books/bookID.971/book_detail.asp)

["Policymakers must recognize that conditions differ across housing markets, so housing policies need to reflect those differences. The poor and the middle class do not struggle with the same affordability issues, so housing policy needs to address each problem differently. Ironically, current subsidies for construction of low-income housing only tie impoverished Americans to areas where they have limited job prospects. These supply subsidies also crowd out private-sector construction and benefit politically-connected developers. Mortgage interest deductions, which are intended to make housing more affordable for the middle class, simply allow families who can already afford a house to purchase a bigger one."]

[Request #S09-3-3160]

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**“Inclusionary Housing Incentives, and Land Value Recapture.” By Nico Calavita and Alan Mallach. IN: Land Lines, vol. 21, no. 1 (January 2009) p. 1-7**

Full text at: [http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/dl/1552\\_777\\_Article%203.pdf](http://www.lincolninst.edu/pubs/dl/1552_777_Article%203.pdf)

["We are not proposing that communities do away with existing inclusionary housing (IH) systems, but rather that there be a two-tiered approach. The first would impose modest inclusionary requirements within an existing zoning framework, incorporating those incentives that can be offered without undue cost to the public. The second would be associated with significant upzonings of either specific parcels or larger areas grounded in the principle of land value recapture.... By grounding IH in the practice of rezoning, we believe it is possible to better integrate inclusionary housing into good planning practices and begin to recapture for the public good some part of the unearned increment in land values resulting from the exercise of public land use regulatory powers."]

[Request #S09-3-3212]

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## **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE**

**Policy Challenge: How to Expand Safety Net. By Christine Vestal, Stateline.org. (Stateline, Washington, DC) January 2009. Various pagings**

Full text at: <http://www.stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=365575>

["Welfare reform instituted in the 1990s has made it nearly impossible for people without a job or prospects of one to receive public assistance. Welfare, or cash assistance -- typically the first thing people think of when they hit hard times -- now represents less than 2 percent of the nation's safety net, and the money available does not increase as the poverty rate climbs. Instead of cash, state welfare workers can offer families in financial trouble a complex array of targeted aid programs such as children's health insurance, nutrition programs for women and infants, work training and job placement services, subsidized child care, housing vouchers, substance abuse and mental health care, and home energy assistance -- but many of these programs require reams of applications that can take weeks or months to process."]

[Request #S09-3-3261]

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**2009-10 Budget Analysis Series: Social Services. By the California Legislative Analyst's Office. (The Office, Sacramento, California) January 22, 2009. 44 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis\\_2009/ss/ss\\_anl09.pdf](http://www.lao.ca.gov/analysis_2009/ss/ss_anl09.pdf)

["At a cost of approximately \$10.2 billion in 2008-09, California's major social services provide a wide array of benefits to its citizens. The Governor proposes \$3 billion in budget reductions for social services programs in 2009-10, mostly in grant payments to the aged, blind and disabled or low-income families. We present alternative approaches to reducing costs which tend to have less savings and less adverse impacts on recipients and clients. We also present approaches to drawing down more federal funds pursuant to recently enacted federal legislation."]  
[Request #S09-3-3291]

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