

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

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**California -- One Hundred Years Ago**

**May 1909** “With plans for several new markets completed and actual work on none of these projects begun, there is still an opportunity for various architects in Los Angeles to inject their ideas of an ideal market place. The construction of a building to house the produce trade for a city growing as rapidly as Los Angeles is a serious one and cannot be carried out without a great outlay of capital. The least possible amount that an adequate market can be constructed for, covering five and ten acres, would, according to estimates already made, be no less than \$150,000.” *Los Angeles Times* (May 15, 1909) pg. III.

**1909** “An event of importance, as showing the rehabilitation of San Francisco on the lines which prevailed before the great fire of April 1906, was the reopening today in the downtown district of the White House. This pioneer retail dry goods establishment of the city has relinquished its temporary quarters on Van Ness avenue and has taken possession of a handsome new building on the block it formerly occupied for about half a century. Large crowds thronged the new structure and many automobiles and carriages lined the sidewalks.” *Los Angeles Times* (March 16, 1909) pg. I5.

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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

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM

**Minor Crimes, Massive Waste: The Terrible Toll of America's Broken Misdemeanor Court.** By Robert C. Boruchowitz and others, Seattle University School of Law. (National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Washington, DC) April 2009.

["Treating petty, nonviolent misdemeanors as infractions rather than crimes would save millions of dollars and better protect defendants' rights without hurting public safety.... Researchers reviewed statistics and visited misdemeanor courts in Arizona, Florida, Illinois, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington state. They reported that cases per public defender ranged from 360 a year in Benton County, Wash., and 380 in Seattle, both set limits, to 2,403 in Chicago, 2,502 in Utah and 18,720 in New Orleans.... Uncounted millions of dollars were wasted in criminal prosecution for such offenses as feeding the homeless in parks, jumping turnstiles at subway stations or sleeping in a cardboard box." Associated Press (April 29, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-14-3639]

Report. 64 p.

[http://www.nacdl.org/public.nsf/defenseupdates/misdemeanor/\\$FILE/Report.pdf](http://www.nacdl.org/public.nsf/defenseupdates/misdemeanor/$FILE/Report.pdf)

Executive Summary. 3 p.

[http://www.nacdl.org/public.nsf/defenseupdates/misdemeanor/\\$FILE/Executive\\_Summary.pdf](http://www.nacdl.org/public.nsf/defenseupdates/misdemeanor/$FILE/Executive_Summary.pdf)

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## CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

**Hispanics and the Criminal Justice System: Low Confidence, High Exposure.** By Mark Hugo Lopez and Gretchen Livingston, Pew Hispanic Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) April 7, 2009. 23 p.

Full text at: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/106.pdf>

["At a time when Latinos are interacting more than ever with police, courts and prisons, their confidence in the U.S. criminal justice system is closer to the low levels expressed by blacks than to the high levels expressed by whites, according to a pair of nationwide surveys. Six-in-ten (61%) Hispanics say they have a great deal or a fair amount of confidence that the police in their local communities will do a good job enforcing the law, compared with 78% of whites and 55% of blacks.... The report also finds that more than half (56%) of Latinos say they or an immediate family member had contact with the criminal justice system in the previous five years."]

[Request #S09-14-3559]

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## DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE

**Preventing First-Time DWI Offenses: First-Time DWI Offenders in California, New York, and Florida: An Analysis of Past Criminality and Associated Criminal Justice Interventions.** By Laura Caldwell-Aden and others, 1 Source Consulting/MarynConsulting. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, DC) March 2009. 140 p.

Full text at: [http://www.trb.org/news/blurbs\\_detail.asp?id=10340](http://www.trb.org/news/blurbs_detail.asp?id=10340)

["A person arrested for the first time for driving while impaired (DWI) may have driven many times impaired before getting caught. This report details a study that determined if there were common prior offenses among first-time DWI offenders. Statistical analyses reveal that between one-quarter to almost one-half of first-time DWI offenders in California, Florida, and New York were arrested for criminal or traffic offenses, prior to their arrest for DWI.... Criminal justice programs and strategies implemented by pretrial services agencies, the courts, and corrections agencies, as well as motor vehicle agency programming, were identified as potential areas in which to focus DWI prevention efforts among assault, drug, theft, and traffic offenders."]

[Request #S09-14-3640]

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## GUNS & GUN CONTROL

**Russell Allen Nordyke, et al. v. May V. King, et al. U.S. Court of Appeals, Ninth Circuit. 07-15763. April 20, 2009. Various pagings.**

Full text at: <http://www.ca9.uscourts.gov/datastore/opinions/2009/04/20/0715763.pdf>

["A court ruled that private citizens can challenge state and local gun laws by invoking the constitutional right to bear arms -- the first such ruling in the nation -- but upheld a ban on firearms at gun shows at the Alameda County Fairgrounds. The ruling followed last year's landmark Supreme Court decision that the Constitution's Second Amendment protects an individual's right to possess guns for self-defense. The case was a challenge by gun show promoters to a 1999 ordinance that banned firearms on all Alameda County property. The court could have decided the case with its conclusion that the ban was a reasonable safety measure, without addressing the Second Amendment, but opted for a broader ruling.... The judges concluded, however, that the Supreme Court's reference to exclusion of guns from 'sensitive places' allows a county to ban firearms from its property." San Francisco Chronicle (April 20, 2009) 1.]  
[Request #S09-14-3637]

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## DEMOGRAPHY

### CALIFORNIA

**The New Homegrown Majority in California: Recognizing the New Reality of Growing Commitment to the Golden State. By Dowell Myers and others, USC School of Policy, Planning and Development (The School, Los Angeles, California) April 2009. 23 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.usc.edu/schools/sppd/private/documents/news/HomegrownMajority.pdf>

["The image of California as a land of migrants is being shattered by demographic data indicating a newer generation of Californians that is homegrown and willing to stay in the state. The study found that today's teens and young adults will be the first generation in California history whose majority will be California-born when they assume positions of leadership in middle age. The arrival of out-of-staters has slowed substantially since 1990, but the state's holding power of its grown children has remained steady or increased. More than 70 percent of the state's teens and young adults (ages 15-24) were born and raised in California. The percentage of the state's middle age residents (45-54) who are California natives is much lower -- 37.4 percent today." Los Angeles Times (April 26, 2009) 1.]  
[Request #S09-14-3633]

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## ECONOMY

### BUSINESS INCENTIVES

**PTC, ITC, or Cash Grant? An Analysis of the Choice Facing Renewable Power Projects in the United States.** By Mark Bolinger, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and others. (The Laboratory, Berkeley, California) March 2009. 21 p.

Full text at: <http://www.lbl.gov/publicinfo/newscenter/tab1/2009/march/03-23-09/lbnl-1642e.pdf>

["Renewable power technologies are inherently capital-intensive, often with relatively high construction costs and low operating costs. For this reason, renewable power technologies are typically more sensitive to the availability and cost of financing.... The purpose of this report is to both quantitatively and qualitatively analyze, from the project developer/owner perspective, the choice between the Production Tax Credit and the Investment Tax Credit (or equivalent cash grant) for a number of different renewable power technologies. Because the two credits are structured differently, and apply in different ways to different technologies, the choice between the two lends itself to quantitative financial analysis of the conditions under which either the PTC or the ITC would, at least in theory, provide greater financial value."]  
[Request #S09-14-3519]

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## FINANCE

**The Global Financial Crisis: Analysis and Policy Implications.** By Dick K. Nanto, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. (The Service, Washington, DC) April 3, 2009. 109 p.

Full text at: <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL34742.pdf>

["The role for Congress in this financial crisis is multifaceted. While the recent focus has been on combating the recession, the ultimate issue perhaps is how to ensure the smooth and efficient functioning of financial markets to promote the general well-being of the country while protecting taxpayer interests and facilitating business operations without creating a moral hazard. In addition to preventing future crises through legislative, oversight, and domestic regulatory functions, Congress plays a key role in generating policy options and informing the public through hearings and other means. On the regulatory side, the largest questions seem to be how U.S. regulations should be changed and, if changed, how closely those changes are to be harmonized with international recommendations."]  
[Request #S09-14-3675]

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## INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

**Smart Grid, Smart Broadband, Smart Infrastructure: Melding Federal Stimulus Programs to Ensure More Bang for the Buck.** By Peter Swire, Center for American Progress. (The Center, Washington, DC) April 2009.

["With a bit of imagination and coordination among multiple federal programs and agencies, the economic stimulus funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 could be used far more efficiently to achieve a diverse set of closely related goals. One section of the act provides billions of federal dollars to fund a 'smart grid' for electricity. A different part of the act provides billions in funding to upgrade broadband networks for unserved and underserved areas around the country.... So here's a simple and powerful idea -- construction of the electricity grid and the broadband network should go hand in hand. And here is an even more powerful idea -- we should combine these efforts with other parts of the Recovery Act, such as health care information technology, education reform, weatherization initiatives, and future policy initiatives to create a nationwide smart infrastructure."][Request #S09-14-3563]

Report. 16 p.

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/04/pdf/smart\\_infrastructure.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/04/pdf/smart_infrastructure.pdf)

Executive Summary. 4 p.

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/04/pdf/smart\\_infrastructure\\_execsum.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/04/pdf/smart_infrastructure_execsum.pdf)

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## INTERNATIONAL TRADE

**International Trade Trends & Impacts: The Southern California Region: 2008 Results and 2009 Outlook.** By Jack Kyser and others, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. (The Corporation, Los Angeles, California) May 2009. 63 p.

Full text at: <http://www.laedc.org/reports/Trade-2009.pdf>

["Container traffic at the twin ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach will plunge by double digits this year, dragged down by the worldwide recession that is reducing demand for such products as automobiles, televisions and heavy machinery. Among the effects will be a 9.3 percent loss in employment related to international trade in this area. That will comprise 46,000 job losses in the five-county region of Los Angeles, Orange, Ventura, Riverside and San Bernardino. 'That doesn't capture all the losses because the independent truck drivers are not reported by the state employment department,' Kyser said. The forecast for 2010 is brighter. The twin ports are expected to handle 12.6 million containers next year, up 1.8 percent over 2009." Long Beach Press-Telegram (May 13, 2009) 1.][Request #S09-14-3673]

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## EDUCATION

### EDUCATIONAL REFORM

**Stimulating Excellence: Unleashing the Power of Innovation in Education. By the Center for American Progress and Frederick M. Hess, American Enterprise Institute. (The Center, Washington, DC) May 2009.**

["Two of the organizations that spearheaded this report often find themselves on opposite sides of many issues: The Center for American Progress and American Enterprise Institute's Frederick M. Hess are widely regarded as embracing distinctive philosophical approaches to government, and they often champion different approaches to addressing our country's challenges. When it comes to the crucial role of entrepreneurial problem-solvers in tackling the challenges of American education, however, we find much common ground. We may disagree on some questions, but we are of the same mind about the vital import of increasing dynamic, quality-conscious problem-solving in education. More specifically, we agree about many changes to policy and practice at the federal, state, and local levels that are essential to clearing obstacles that hinder entrepreneurial innovation."] [Request #S09-14-3665]

Report. 44 p.

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/05/pdf/education\\_entrepreneurs.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/05/pdf/education_entrepreneurs.pdf)

Executive Summary. 10 p.

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/05/pdf/education\\_entrepreneurs\\_execsumm.pdf](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2009/05/pdf/education_entrepreneurs_execsumm.pdf)

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### SECONDARY EDUCATION

**Postsecondary Preparation and Remediation: Examining the Effect of the Early Assessment Program at California State University. By Jessica S. Howell, California State University, Sacramento, and others. (The Authors, Sacramento, California) April 2009. 40 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.csus.edu/indiv/h/howellj/papers/Howell\\_EAPdraftpdf.pdf](http://www.csus.edu/indiv/h/howellj/papers/Howell_EAPdraftpdf.pdf)

["A 5-year-old program to test high school juniors to determine if they're ready for college is reducing the number of Sacramento State freshmen who need to take remedial math and English. Freshmen enrollment in remedial math fell 4 percent, and the number taking remedial English dropped 6 percent after California's public high schools started testing juniors with the 'Early Assessment Program.' It gives high school juniors the option to take 15 extra questions when they take the mandatory California Standards Test in the spring. Their answers on those questions determine whether they are ready for college-level math and English. If they're not, they can get prepared their senior year by taking more classes, seeking

tutoring, studying harder or working on special online units designed to catch them up." Sacramento Bee (April 24, 2009) 1.] [Request #S09-14-3668]

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## TEACHERS

**Building a High-Quality Education Workforce: A Governor's Guide to Human Capital Development.** By Tabitha Grossman, National Governor's Association Center for Best Practices. (The Center, Washington, DC) May 2009. 40 p.

Full text at: <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0905BUILDINGEDUWORKFORCE.PDF>

["Research on effective teaching and school leadership points to three areas of concern in the education workforce: how teachers and principals are recruited into the profession, how teachers and principals are trained and licensed, and how to retain effective teachers and principals once they enter the profession. These three problems serve as the basis for each of the guide's three strategies for states.... The guide includes recommendations for state action on each strategy. It includes examples of both cost-neutral strategies and strategies that require new and sustainable investments to provide states with a range of options as they consider improving the education workforce."] [Request #S09-14-3669]

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## WORKFORCE PREPARATION

**A Developmental Perspective on College & Workplace Readiness.** By Laura Lippman and others, Child Trends. (Child Trends, Washington, DC) April 2009.

["This report provides a developmental perspective on what competencies young people need to be ready for college, the workplace, and the transition to adulthood. National hand-wringing about the lack of preparedness of high school graduates for college and the workplace has catalyzed researchers, educators, and policymakers to define the skills and competencies students need in order to be successful. These prescriptions tend to focus either on college readiness or on workplace readiness. At the same time but on a separate track, youth development research has identified the assets that youth need in order to make a successful transition to adulthood. Presumably, these three groups of competencies should overlap."] [Request #S09-14-3664]

Report. 49 p.

[http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child\\_Trends-2008\\_09\\_15\\_FR\\_ReadinessReport.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2008_09_15_FR_ReadinessReport.pdf)

Research Brief. 6 p.

[http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child\\_Trends-2009\\_04\\_28\\_RB\\_WorkReady.pdf](http://www.childtrends.org/Files//Child_Trends-2009_04_28_RB_WorkReady.pdf)

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## EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

**Employers' Perspectives on San Francisco's Paid Sick Leave Policy. By Shelley Waters Boots and others, Center on Labor, Human Services, and Population, Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) March 2009. 22 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411868\\_sanfrancisco\\_sick\\_leave.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411868_sanfrancisco_sick_leave.pdf)

["This report summarizes strategies San Francisco employers used to implement the nation's first law requiring paid sick days for all employees. Although employers faced three new policies that affected staff wages and benefits, they were able to implement the paid sick leave requirement with minimal impacts to their business. The report details employer responses to the law in their operations, staffing, employee benefit packages, and reporting requirements. By assessing employers' perspectives on the operational challenges of the law, the study provides lessons to inform future research and policymaking.... In March 2008, the District of Columbia became the second locality to pass a mandate on employers guaranteeing paid sick leave to workers. The bill is modeled after the San Francisco ordinance, but it differs on several details."]

[Request #S09-14-3642]

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**Paid Leave in the States: A Critical Support for Low-wage Workers and Their Families. By Sarah Fass, National Center for Children in Poverty. (The Center, New York, New York) March 2009. 12 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_864.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_864.pdf)

["A handful of states have enacted policies that provide partially paid leave under certain circumstances. This report examines the strengths and limitations of existing state level policies, with a focus on California, which in 2002 became the first state to enact paid family leave. Paid family leave provides a critical support to families who need access to time-off from work for family reasons. This support is particularly important for low-wage workers who are less likely to have access to leave and are most in need of pay when they have to take time-off. Paid family leave has been found to promote healthy child development and family well-being. The long-term goal is clearly a federal paid leave policy. However, in the short-term, it appears that innovation in paid family leave policy will continue to occur at the state level."]

[Request #S09-14-3649]

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## JOB TRAINING

**Job Training That Works: Findings from the Sectoral Employment Impact Study.** By Sheila Maguire, Public/ Private Ventures, and others. (Public/ Private Ventures, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) May 2009. 12 p.

Full text at: [http://www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/294\\_publication.pdf](http://www.ppv.org/ppv/publications/assets/294_publication.pdf)

["A consensus among policymakers and economists about the importance of education to develop workplace skills has led to a focus on early childhood programming, K-12 school reform and access to higher education, but a similar consensus on the importance of workforce development or job training has not emerged. Public policy has increasingly promoted rapid attachment to the labor market, leaving low-income individuals with few opportunities to gain the skills needed for higher-paying jobs. The initial findings from this study provide an alternative to this view and suggest that it is time to recognize the viability of well-implemented, sector-focused training programs to support the advancement of low-skilled workers. The recommendations outlined here suggest ways in which public policy could support such programs."] [Request #S09-14-3643]

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**Strengthening One-Stop Career Centers: Helping More Unemployed Workers Find Jobs and Build Skills.** By Louis S. Jacobson, CNA. (The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC) April 2009.

["Each year, One-Stops provide about 15 million workers with information about the characteristics of available jobs, strategies to land the best possible new jobs, and the benefits and costs of enrolling in training programs.... Unfortunately, One-Stops have been hobbled by sharp reductions in funding and counterproductive federal performance measures and regulations.... This paper proposes introducing new performance measures that would make better use of existing resources.... This paper also recommends increasing One-Stop annual funding from \$4 billion to \$8 billion in two phases.... These investments are estimated to return \$3.90 for every \$1 spent. Not only would they increase labor market efficiency by reducing unemployment, but also they would provide the more highly skilled workforce needed to spur economic growth when the current recession ends."] [Request #S09-14-3645]

Report. 37 p.

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0402\\_jobs\\_skills\\_jacobson/0402\\_jobs\\_skills\\_jacobson.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0402_jobs_skills_jacobson/0402_jobs_skills_jacobson.pdf)

Policy Brief. 8 p.

[http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0402\\_jobs\\_skills\\_jacobson/0402\\_jobs\\_skills\\_brief.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2009/~media/Files/rc/papers/2009/0402_jobs_skills_jacobson/0402_jobs_skills_brief.pdf)

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## ENERGY

### ALTERNATIVE FUELS

**EPA Lifecycle Analysis of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Renewable Fuels. By the Office of Transportation and Air Quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. (The Office, Ann Arbor, Michigan) May 2009. 5 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.epa.gov/OTAQ/renewablefuels/420f09024.pdf>

["As part of proposed revisions to the National Renewable Fuel Standard program, EPA analyzed lifecycle greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from increased renewable fuels use. The regulatory purpose of the lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions analysis is to determine whether renewable fuels meet the GHG thresholds for the different categories of renewable fuel.... EPA's draft results suggest that biofuel-induced land use change can produce significant near-term GHG emissions; however, displacement of petroleum by biofuels over subsequent years can 'pay back' earlier land conversion impacts. Therefore, the time horizon over which emissions are analyzed and the application of a discount rate to value near-term versus longer-term emissions are critical factors."]

[Request #S09-14-3647]

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**The Impact of Ethanol Use on Food Prices and Greenhouse-Gas Emissions. By Ron Gecan and others, Congressional Budget Office. (The Office, Washington, DC) April 2009. 26 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/100xx/doc10057/04-08-Ethanol.pdf>

["Ethanol's effect on future food price inflation is uncertain because the forces determining that impact move in opposite directions. Federal mandates now in place require additional use of ethanol in the future, which would continue to put upward pressure on prices. In contrast, increases in the supply of corn from cultivating more cropland, increasing crop yields, or improving the technology for making ethanol from corn or other feedstocks would tend to lower food prices.... If increases in the production of ethanol led to a large amount of forests or grasslands being converted into new cropland, those changes in land use could more than offset any reduction in greenhouse-gas emissions -- because forests and grasslands naturally absorb more carbon from the atmosphere than cropland absorbs."]

[Request #S09-14-3597]

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## **ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY**

**Electric Utilities Report: 2009. By Doug Cogan and others, RiskMetrics Group. (The Carbon Disclosure Project, London, United Kingdom) March 2009. 60 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.calstrs.com/Newsroom/2009/cdp\\_electric\\_utilities.pdf](http://www.calstrs.com/Newsroom/2009/cdp_electric_utilities.pdf)

["Since 2000 the Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) has, on behalf of institutional investors, challenged the world's largest companies to measure and report their greenhouse gas emissions and other information as to how climate change will affect their businesses.... This report provides details on the level of climate change disclosure offered by this critical sector to investors and other key stakeholders, as well as an analysis of the responding utilities' emissions intensities, generation fuel mixes and investments in emerging technologies and services. While it appears that an increasing number of utilities are addressing these issues in their CDP disclosure, more improvement is needed in key areas, such as reporting on generating capacity and production by fuel type as well as specifics around emissions forecasting and reduction planning."]

[Request #S09-14-3646]

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## **ENERGY POLICY**

**Reforming American Energy: Overcoming Reliance and Ensuring Reliability. By Kenneth Nahigian, Reform Institute. (The Institute, Alexandria, Virginia) April 2009. 53 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.reforminstitute.org/uploads/publications/EnergyReform\\_Final.pdf](http://www.reforminstitute.org/uploads/publications/EnergyReform_Final.pdf)

["Developing a comprehensive energy policy with broad support will require placing all the options on the table and assessing them realistically. Generating more energy from renewable sources within the United States must be a major objective, but that goal cannot be attained overnight, nor should it be pursued exclusive of other objectives with greater impact. The U.S. must devise a way to bridge the gap between our current untenable situation and a brighter future; doing so will require tapping into the resources presently available to us.... The Federal government should seek to incorporate policies that provide regulatory certainty to the business community, allow abundant access to our Nation's domestic energy resources, and allow for the promotion of proven breakthrough technologies."]

[Request #S09-14-3630]

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## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

### CLIMATE CHANGE

**Climate Change in the American Mind: Americans' Climate Change Beliefs, Attitudes, Policy Preferences, and Actions.** By Anthony Leiserowitz, Yale Project on Climate Change, and others. (Center for Climate Change Communication, Fairfax, Virginia) March 2009. 56 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.climatechangecommunication.org/images/files/Climate\\_Change\\_in\\_the\\_American\\_Mind.pdf](http://www.climatechangecommunication.org/images/files/Climate_Change_in_the_American_Mind.pdf)

["Americans strongly supported unilateral action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions: 67% said the United States should reduce its emissions of greenhouse gases, regardless of what other countries do, while only 7 percent said we should act only if other industrialized and developing countries (such as China, India, and Brazil) reduce their emissions.... Seventy-nine percent supported a 45 mpg fuel efficiency standard for cars, trucks, and SUVs, even if that meant a new vehicle cost up to \$1,000 more to buy; 72 percent supported a requirement that electric utilities produce at least 20 percent of their electricity from wind, solar, or other renewable energy sources, even if it cost the average household an extra \$100 a year."] [Request #S09-14-3678]

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### FISHERIES

**Contaminants in Fish from California Lakes and Reservoirs: Technical Report on Year One of a Two-Year Screening Survey.** By Jay Davis, San Francisco Estuary Institute, and others. (California State Water Resources Control Board, Sacramento, California) March 2009. 82 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/swamp/lakes\\_study.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/lakes_study.shtml)

["The most comprehensive survey ever of pollutants in California's lakes and reservoirs has found that only a few of the most popular fishing spots are free of mercury, PCBs and other contaminants. Of 152 lakes tested statewide, 21 were clean while 131 showed one or more pollutants at levels above state health guidelines.... Results of the two-year study of California lakes, rivers, reservoirs and coastal waters will be used to develop cleanup plans in watersheds that feed the lakes and to establish guidelines for consuming fish to protect anglers and their families from health risks.... Methylmercury, the potent form of mercury that taints fish, is the most widespread potential health risk, the study said." San Francisco Chronicle (May 5, 2009) 1.] [Request #S09-14-3679]

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## HABITAT PROTECTION

**Economic Analysis of Critical Habitat Designation for the California Red-Legged Frog: Draft. By Industrial Economics, Incorporated. (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Arlington, Virginia) March 2009. 242 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/documents/CRLF\\_DEA\\_3-3-2009.pdf](http://www.fws.gov/sacramento/es/documents/CRLF_DEA_3-3-2009.pdf)

["On September 16, 2008, the Service published a Proposed Rule revising the designation of critical habitat for the frog.... Baseline impacts associated with consideration of the frog and its habitat are estimated to be \$2.38 billion to \$2.50 billion (\$180 million to \$188 million on an annualized basis).... Development impacts are estimated to be \$1.27 billion to \$1.83 billion. The largest cost expected in the post-designation period results from delayed construction during the section 7 consultation process and indirectly from the CEQA review process.... Agricultural conservation efforts are estimated to be \$464 million to \$667 million. Costs stem from lost agricultural production resulting from the implementation of no-pesticide use areas for 66 pesticide active ingredients in the study area."]

[Request #S09-14-3677]

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## OCEAN RESOURCES

**"Mapping Cumulative Human Impacts to California Current Marine Ecosystems." By Benjamin S. Halpern and others. IN: Conservation Letters, DOI: 10.1111/j.1755-263X.2009.00058.x (April 17, 2009) 11 p.**

Full text at: <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/fulltext/122328644/PDFSTART>

["Climate change, fishing and commercial shipping top the list of threats to the ocean off the West Coast of the United States. 'Every single spot of the ocean along the West Coast,' said Ben Halpern, 'is affected by 10 to 15 different human activities annually.' This important analysis of the geography and magnitude of land-based stressors should help focus attention on the hot-spots where coordinated management of land and ocean activities is needed.... As management and conservation of the oceans turns toward marine protected areas, ecosystem-based management, and ocean zoning to manage human influence, such information will prove invaluable to managers and policymakers, said Halpern." Science Daily (May 15, 2009) 1.]

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

**Coral Construction, Inc. v. City & County of San Francisco. California Supreme Court. S152934. Letter Brief of California Attorney General. April 22, 2009. 11 p.**

Full text at:

[http://ag.ca.gov/cms\\_attachments/press/pdfs/n1720\\_coralconstructionvsf.pdf](http://ag.ca.gov/cms_attachments/press/pdfs/n1720_coralconstructionvsf.pdf)

["Attorney General Jerry Brown has told the California Supreme Court that Proposition 209, the anti-affirmative action measure passed by voters in 1996, violates the U.S. Constitution.... The state high court unanimously ruled in 2000 that Proposition 209 prohibited a San Jose outreach program. That ruling cited a 1997 decision by the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals that found Proposition 209 constitutional. But Brown said the state court's decision was overly broad. His office argued that Proposition 209, a state constitutional amendment, 'closes a door to race- and gender-conscious programs that the 14th Amendment allows. The 14th Amendment allows such remedies in limited circumstances, and therefore, requires that all groups be accorded equal access to the political process to obtain those remedies, without regard to race or gender.'" Los Angeles Times (April 24, 2009) 1.]

[Request #S09-14-3657]

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## COURTS

**Improving Judicial Diversity. By Ciara Torres-Spelliscy and others, Brennan Center for Justice. (The Center, New York, New York) January 2009. 76 p.**

Full text at: [http://brennan.3cdn.net/96d16b62f331bb13ac\\_kfm6bplue.pdf](http://brennan.3cdn.net/96d16b62f331bb13ac_kfm6bplue.pdf)

["The United States is more diverse than ever, but its state judges are not. While we recognize that citizens are entitled to a jury of their peers who will be drawn from a pool that reflects the surrounding community, Americans who enter the courtroom often face a predictable presence on the bench: a white male. This is the case despite increasing diversity within law school populations and within state bars across the country.... So why are state judiciaries consistently less diverse than the communities they serve? Unfortunately, studies show that both merit selection systems and judicial elections are equally challenged when it comes to creating diversity.... Fortunately, there are common-sense ways to increase awareness of openings on the judiciary and encourage diversity on the bench."]

[Request #S09-14-3580]

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## GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**Moving Toward Outcome-Oriented Performance Measurement Systems. By Kathe Callahan, Rutgers University, and Kathryn Kloby, Monmouth University. (IBM Center for The Business of Government, Washington, DC) 2009.**

["Public managers in communities across the country are under increasing pressure by the public to report on the outcomes and results of their programs. With both internal and external demands for information, public managers not only need to provide an accounting of resources expended and services provided, but also report on performance and outcomes.... The report provides examples of outcome-oriented performance measurement systems in place around the country, describes their findings from these case studies, and offers practical recommendations on how to develop useful outcome-oriented measurement systems that other communities -- either sponsored by government or community indicator projects -- can act upon."] [Request #S09-14-3659]

Report. 34 p.

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

Insight Brief. 2 p.

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

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## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Wired for Wireless? Towards Digital Inclusion and Next Generation Government-Led Wireless Networks. By Oscar E. Cruz, Community Partners, and others. (Community Partners, Los Angeles, California) May 2009.**

["There are an increasing number of local jurisdictions becoming involved in one way or another with 'government-led' wireless projects throughout California without the benefit of comprehensive information about best practices and lessons learned from previous efforts, particularly how best to achieve Digital Inclusion as an integral component of these projects instead of regarding it as a 'mitigation' for the opportunity to do business in the jurisdiction.... For local governments and communities currently pursuing technology solutions to their local needs, the Project Team identified eight overarching recommendations. Whether the solutions are government-led or not, these recommendations can enhance the likelihood of successfully deploying information networks and implementing Digital Inclusion programs."] [Request #S09-14-3667]

Report. 80 p.

<http://www.communitypartners.org/images//wireless%20report.screen%20res.pdf>

Executive Summary. 8 p.

<http://www.communitypartners.org/images/executive%20summary.pdf>

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## HEALTH

### FOOD SAFETY

**Stronger Partnerships for Safer Food: An Agenda for Strengthening State and Local Roles in the Nation's Food Safety System.** By Michael R. Taylor and Stephanie D. David, George Washington University. (The University, Washington, DC) April 2009. 110 p.

Full text at: <http://www.rwjf.org/files/research/20090417foodsafetyfinalreport.pdf>

["State and local health and agriculture departments have long been the foundation of the nation's food safety system, with primary responsibility for illness surveillance, response to outbreaks, and regulation of food safety in over one million restaurants and grocery stores. State and local agencies collectively conduct many more inspections, test many more food samples for harmful contamination, and bring many more food safety enforcement actions than the federal food safety agencies. Food safety reform will not be complete -- or successful -- unless the efforts of these agencies are strengthened and integrated more fully into the national food safety system.... The report finds that state and local agencies are hampered by chronic underfunding, wide disparities in capacity and practice in all areas of food safety, and substantial legal, resource, and institutional barriers to collaboration."]

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### HEALTH CARE

**California Health Care Almanac: Health Care Costs 101.** By the California HealthCare Foundation. (The Foundation, Oakland, California) April 2009. 28 p.

Full text at: <http://www.chcf.org/documents/insurance/HealthCareCosts09.pdf>

["Health spending grew 6.1% in 2007, the smallest increase since 1998, extending a five-year decelerating trend. Nevertheless, health spending continues to outpace inflation and is projected to reach \$2.5 trillion this year. Projections indicate that the recession will more than offset the recent moderation in health spending. Health care's share of the GDP is expected to rise rapidly, to 17.6% of GDP this year. Nationally, per-person costs for health care increased 81% between 1997 and 2007. While out-of-pocket costs for consumers continue to rise, over the past 40 years they have declined as a share of overall health spending and are now flat at about 14%."]

[Request #S09-14-3681]

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## HEALTH INSURANCE

**Progressive or Regressive? A Second Look at the Tax Exemption for Employer-Sponsored Health Insurance Premiums. By Cathy Schoen and others, The Commonwealth Fund. (The Fund, New York, New York) May 2009. 8 p.**

Full text at: [Progressive or Regressive](#)

["The major argument for capping the exemption of health insurance benefits from income tax is that doing so will generate significant revenue that can be used to finance an expansion of health coverage. This analysis finds that given the state of insurance markets and current variations in premiums, limiting the current exemption could adversely affect individuals who are already at high risk of losing their health coverage. Evidence suggests that capping the exemption for employment-based health insurance could disproportionately affect workers in small firms, older workers, and wage-earners in industries with high expected claims costs. To avoid putting many families at increased health and financial risk, and to avoid undermining employer-sponsored group coverage, any consideration of a cap would have to be combined with coverage for all, changes in insurance market rules, and shared responsibility for financing."]

[Request #S09-14-3682]

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## MENTAL HEALTH

**“The ‘Millionaires Tax’ and Mental Health Policy In California.” By Saul Feldman. IN: Health Affairs, vol. 28, no. 3 (May/June 2009) pp. 809-815.**

Full text at: <http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/reprint/28/3/809>

["Despite long-standing and widespread opposition to new taxes, in 2004 Californians approved a so-called millionaires tax, levied on those with taxable net income over \$1 million. The proceeds, estimated to be \$700 million to \$1 billion per year, can only be spent on improving mental health services for people with or at risk of a disabling mental disorder. Progress has been made in access to services, prevention programs, supported housing, and integrating mental health with the other human services. Challenges include a complex administrative structure, a paucity of change agents, a less-than-robust oversight and accountability process, and high public expectations."]

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## HOUSING

### AFFORDABLE HOUSING

**Widening Effects of the Corporation for Supportive Housing's System-Change Efforts in Los Angeles, 2005-2008. By Martha R. Burt, Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) March 2009. 75 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411864\\_supportive\\_housing.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411864_supportive_housing.pdf)

["This, the fourth evaluation report for this project, describes extensive developments in Los Angeles during 2007-2008 and how they build on earlier work. The pipeline for permanent supportive housing is expanding, as are activities to improve the health of homeless people, smooth the transition from jail to community, and address the needs of the most vulnerable homeless people. Numerous coordinating and collaborating structures have begun or are expanding as part of these developments. Cautious optimism is in order compared to four years ago, but there is still a long way to go."]  
[Request #S09-14-3653]

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### HOME OWNERSHIP

**Through Boom and Bust: Minorities, Immigrants and Homeownership. By Rakesh Kochhar and Ana Gonzalez-Barrera, Pew Hispanic Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) May 12, 2009. 52 p.**

Full text at: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/109.pdf>

["Minorities in the U.S. increased their levels of homeownership at a faster clip than whites during the recent housing boom and narrowed the ownership gap with the majority despite taking a bigger hit during the subsequent bust. African-Americans, Hispanics and Asians in the U.S. are much more likely to own a home now than at any time in the past.... One of the report's most startling findings, Mr. Kochhar said, was that immigrants were affected less by the recent downturn in homeownership than were native-born minorities. Citizenship plays a big role in homeownership. Immigrants who have acquired U.S. citizenship are nearly twice as likely as noncitizens to be homeowners." Wall Street Journal (May 13, 2009) 1.]  
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## HOMEBUYING

**Department of Real Estate: Opportunities to Improve Consumer Protection. By Greg Jolivette, California Legislative Analyst's Office. (The Office, Sacramento, California) May 12, 2009. 28 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.lao.ca.gov/2009/trns/real\\_estate/real\\_estate\\_051209.pdf](http://www.lao.ca.gov/2009/trns/real_estate/real_estate_051209.pdf)

["In California, there are approximately 533,000 state-licensed real estate agents and brokers.... In this report, we identify a number of deficiencies in the department's Licensing and Education Program and Enforcement and Recovery Program that we have concluded reduce the overall level of protection being provided to real estate consumers. For example, our review finds that there is (1) a mismatch between the educational requirements for entry into the real estate field and the broad range of activities authorized by the license, (2) a lack of focus in the department's enforcement activities on real estate transaction crimes, and (3) an onerous and time-consuming process for taking disciplinary actions against licensees who violate the law. To address these concerns, we offer a series of recommendations for the Legislature's consideration."]

[Request #S09-14-3661]

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## HUMAN SERVICES

### CHILD CARE

**Ten Policies to Improve Access to Quality Child Care for Children in Immigrant Families. By Hannah Matthews, Center for Law and Social Policy. (The Center, Washington, DC) March 2009. 5 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.clasp.org/publications/immigpolicies.pdf>

["With the \$2 billion in funding for the Child Care and Development Block Grant (CCDBG) included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, states can immediately implement policies that will simultaneously improve their economies and improve access to quality child care and child care assistance for children in immigrant families. State policymakers should also consider linkages to other expansions in Head Start, Early Head Start, IDEA, and Title I to connect immigrant families to necessary programs and services. Nearly all (93 percent) of young children in immigrant families are U.S. born citizens; an additional 4 percent are legal noncitizens. Federal law establishes that the child is the primary beneficiary of CCDBG services; therefore, states may only consider the immigration status of the child, and not the parent, when determining eligibility."]

[Request #S09-14-3650]

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## FAMILIES

**"Exposure to Community Violence and the Family: Disruptions in Functioning and Relationships." By Neil J. Vincent. IN: Families in Society, vol. 90, no. 2 (2009) pp. 137-143.**

Full text at: <http://www.familiesinsociety.org/Show.asp?docid=3865>

["Of all the stressors experienced by poor urban African American families, community violence is perhaps the worst. This study examines how exposure to community violence affects the relationships and functioning of these families. Eight problems emerged from an analysis of 38 case records from a crime victim's assistance program, including disruptions in communication and increased family conflict. Female caregivers experienced distress and an inability to meet the psychological needs of their children. Overall, the families experienced heightened safety concerns, isolation, and loss of financial resources while living in violent neighborhoods. Recommendations include using the ecological/transactional and family systems frameworks paired with a nontraditional, community-based approach to provide mental health and supportive services."]

[Request #S09-14-3654]

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## FATHERHOOD

**Strengthening Families Through Stronger Fathers Initiative: Lessons from the First Year of the Evaluation. By Elaine Sorensen and others, Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) March 2009. 59 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411870\\_strengtheningfamilies.pdf](http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411870_strengtheningfamilies.pdf)

["In 2006, New York enacted the Strengthening Families Through Stronger Fathers Initiative, which authorizes the implementation of two innovative approaches to help low-income noncustodial parents (nearly all of whom are fathers) to work and pay their child support in full. The first provision of the legislation authorizes funding for pilot programs in five sites to provide intensive employment and other supportive services to low-income noncustodial parents. The second provision establishes a state refundable earned income tax credit for noncustodial parents with low earnings who pay the full amount of their current child support obligation in a given year and are otherwise eligible for the credit."]

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## PARENTS

**State-based Home Visiting: Strengthening Programs Through State Leadership.**  
**By Kay Johnson, National Center for Children in Poverty. (The Center, New York, New York) February 2009. 28 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_862.pdf](http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_862.pdf)

["Home visiting for families with young children is a longstanding strategy offering information, guidance, risk assessment, and parenting support interventions at home. The typical 'home visiting program' is designed to improve some combination of pregnancy outcomes, parenting skills and early childhood health and development, particularly for families at higher social risk.... States are using two key strategies to improve the effectiveness and cost-effectiveness of home-based services. One strategy is to improve linkages and aim for a more seamless continuum of services. A second strategy is to focus on improving the quality of home visiting services, which might take the form of improved training and supervision for staff, better data collection, enhanced evaluation, or other activities."]

[Request #S09-14-3651]

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