

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU  
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Studies in the News**

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**California -- One Hundred Years Ago**

**March 1911** “Mrs. Gwendolyn Overton Wilkinson can talk as well as write. Her speech for suffrage yesterday was the first platform effort of her life. Mrs. Wilkinson insisted that reason and not personal will or personal feelings are to dominate the campaign which women have entered. ‘The question of women suffrage’ she said ‘is probably the most abstractly ethical one before the world today and should be argued on its abstract merits.’... Since her proposition that women can talk went unchallenged, she suggested that all women talk as often and as long as possible about suffrage from now until October 10 for the education of the ignorant and for the conversion of the stubborn or the indifferent.” Los Angeles Times (March 26, 1911) p. I8.

**October 1911** “Since the women of California have been corralled by politics and no longer may roam at will over the free hills, now every right-minded, every conscientious, ever patriotic woman must get into harness and go to work. It is no longer a question of ‘I want to vote’ or ‘I don’t want to vote.’ It is simply and emphatically ‘I must vote.’... There are no longer two sides to the question. There is no middle ground. The pleas that all men do not vote is no adequate excuse for any woman to fail to use her right of franchise.... The eyes of the world are on California. It lies with women to decide whether we shall be an example or a warning to the other states which are considering the enfranchisement of women.” Los Angeles Times (October 14, 1911) p. II4.

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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.
- *Studies in the News* is also available as an RSS feed at <http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/>.

The following studies are currently on hand:

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

### EX-OFFENDERS

**Reaching a Higher Ground: Increasing Employment Opportunities for People with Prior Convictions.** By Sarah Lawrence, Berkeley Center for Criminal Justice. (The Center, Berkeley, California) November 2010. 76 p.

Full text at: [http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Final\\_EO\\_Master\\_Complete.pdf](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Final_EO_Master_Complete.pdf)

["The majority of incarcerated individuals have fewer marketable skills and less education than the general population. Research has validated the effectiveness of certain types of programs such as adult basic education, secondary education, and vocational training. Key principles of effective programs include skill building and cognitive development at an individual level, 'multi-modal' approaches that address multiple needs of individuals, and programs being implemented as designed and led by properly trained staff.... The basic concepts of safety, community, equity, and responsibility should guide endeavors to increase employment opportunities for people with prior convictions. Reform efforts must allow for and respond to failures, highlight and build on successes, create momentum, and demonstrate the value to society of getting back to work."] [\[Back to Top\]](#)

## LEGISLATION

**State Cyberbullying Laws: A Brief Review of State Cyberbullying Laws and Policies. By Sameer Hinduja and Justin W. Patchin, Cyberbullying Research Center. (The Center, Jupiter, Florida) January 2011. 12 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.cyberbullying.us/Bullying\\_and\\_Cyberbullying\\_Laws.pdf](http://www.cyberbullying.us/Bullying_and_Cyberbullying_Laws.pdf)

["The Cyberbullying Research Center is dedicated to providing up-to-date information about the nature, extent, causes, and consequences of cyberbullying among adolescents. Cyberbullying can be defined as 'Willful and repeated harm inflicted through the use of computers, cell phones, and other electronic devices.' It is also known as 'cyber bullying,' 'electronic bullying,' 'e-bullying,' 'sms bullying,' 'mobile bullying,' 'online bullying,' 'digital bullying,' or 'Internet bullying.'" ]  
[Request #S11-4-5499]

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## PRISONER REENTRY

**The Elected Official's Toolkit for Jail Reentry. By Jesse Jannetta, Urban Institute Justice Policy Center, and others. (The Institute, Washington, DC) January 2011. 34 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412287-Elected-Officials-Reentry-Toolkit.pdf>

["Nine million individuals are released from local jails each year, many struggling with mental illness, homelessness, and substance abuse. Jail reentry initiatives work to address these needs, thereby reducing both recidivism and criminal justice costs. The Elected Official's Toolkit for Jail Reentry provides information and resources for local elected officials interested in launching or expanding a jail reentry initiative. The Toolkit includes an overview of jail reentry, first steps for developing a context-appropriate jail reentry initiative, essential facts and data to engage stakeholders, sample legislation, profiles of elected officials who have championed jail reentry, and a guide to additional resources."]  
[Request #S11-4-5496]

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## SENTENCING

**The State of Sentencing 2010: Developments in Policy and Practice.** By Nicole D. Porter, the Sentencing Project. (The Project, Washington, DC) February 2011. 26 p.

Full text at:

<http://sentencingproject.org/doc/publications/publications/Final%20State%20of%20the%20Sentencing%202010.pdf>

["During 2010, state legislatures in at least 23 states and the District of Columbia adopted 35 criminal justice policies that may contribute to reductions in the prison population and eliminate barriers to reentry while promoting effective approaches to public safety. This report provides an overview of recent policy reforms in the areas of sentencing, probation and parole, drug policy, the prison census count, collateral consequences, and juvenile justice.... State policymakers enacted policy reforms for various reasons, including controlling state budgets and managing prison capacity. However, many lawmakers are also interested in reform because of their awareness that large-scale incarceration has produced diminishing returns for public safety."][Request #S11-4-5535]

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## DEMOGRAPHY

### IMMIGRANTS

**The Earnings and Social Security Contributions of Documented and Undocumented Mexican Immigrants.** By Gary Burtless and Audrey Singer, the Brookings Institution. (The Institution, Washington, DC) December 2010. 38 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/1207\\_immigrant\\_earnings\\_burtless\\_singer/1207\\_immigrant\\_earnings\\_burtless\\_singer.pdf](http://www.brookings.edu/~media/Files/rc/papers/2010/1207_immigrant_earnings_burtless_singer/1207_immigrant_earnings_burtless_singer.pdf)

["We analyze the social security coverage of jobs held by legal and other-than-legal Mexican immigrants who work in the United States. Our analysis suggests that about half the Mexican-born migrants residing in the United States who are wage earners and heads of household earn their incomes in jobs that are not covered by social security. Since workers in uncovered jobs tend to earn below-average wages, their earnings account for less than half the wages earned by Mexican immigrants.... In the absence of special legislation, only a small percentage of undocumented workers are likely to be granted permanent residency status in the future. Thus, the social-security-covered wages of most of the undocumented workers who earn them will never result in an increased claim for social security benefits."]

[Request #S11-4-5536]

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## ECONOMY

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

**The Next Decade: Industries and Occupations for the Los Angeles Workforce.**  
**By Gregory Freeman and others, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. (The Corporation, Los Angeles, California) February 2011. 234 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.laedc.org/reports/consulting/2011\\_TheNextDecade.pdf](http://www.laedc.org/reports/consulting/2011_TheNextDecade.pdf)

["We identify fifteen export-oriented industry clusters that are the key drivers of the regional economy, and six population-serving industry clusters which, while not traditionally considered targets for development, are significant employment generators.... Most industry sectors will follow this general contour of post-recession recovery followed by moderation. However, there are differences among industries. Recovery strength in many cases is determined by the magnitude of the industry's decline during the recession. Broadly, Los Angeles County's economic growth over the forecast period will be powered by the post-recession recovery, led in large part by service-providing industries such as professional and business services, educational and health services, and leisure and hospitality, as well as by construction."]

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### REMITTANCES

**Migrants' Remittances and Related Economic Flows.** By Jonathan A. Schwabish and Robert Shackleton, Congressional Budget Office. (The Office, Washington, DC) February 2011. 28 p.

Full text at: [http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12053/02-24-Remittances\\_chartbook.pdf](http://www.cbo.gov/ftpdocs/120xx/doc12053/02-24-Remittances_chartbook.pdf)

["As one of the most important destinations of global migration, the United States is the largest national source of remittances. The opportunity to send or bring remittances home is one of the important motivations for migration, and policies that affect migration to the United States could affect outflows of remittances. In turn, the flow of remittances can affect economic growth, labor markets, poverty rates, and future migration rates in the United States as well as in recipient countries.... In 2009, such remittances from the United States to other countries totaled more than \$48 billion, nearly 30 percent more in inflation-adjusted terms than they were in 2000. People in Mexico receive more of the remittances sent from the United States than do residents of any other country."]

[Request #S11-4-5538]

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## EDUCATION

### COMMUNITY COLLEGES

**The Road Less Traveled: Realizing the Potential of Career Technical Education in the California Community Colleges.** By Nancy Shulock and others, Institute for Higher Education Leadership & Policy. (The Institute, Sacramento, California) February 2011. 32 p.

Full text at: [http://www.csus.edu/ihelp/PDFs/R\\_Road\\_Less\\_Traveled\\_02\\_11.pdf](http://www.csus.edu/ihelp/PDFs/R_Road_Less_Traveled_02_11.pdf)

["To meet the growing market for jobs demanding post-high-school education, the state's community colleges must sharpen their focus to encourage more students to get vocational certificates and associate degrees in technical subjects.... The report raised significant questions about the low completion rate in career technical education, a core mission of community colleges. It found that while 30 percent of course enrollments are in vocational courses, only 3 percent of degree-seeking students entering in 2003-04 got a certificate and only 5 percent got a vocational associate degree within six years." Educated Guess (March 1, 2011) 1.]  
[Request #S11-4-5541]

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### HIGHER EDUCATION

**Spotlight on Speech Codes 2011: The State of Free Speech on Our Nation's Campuses.** By the Foundation for Individual Rights in Education. (The Foundation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania) January 2011. 36 p.

Full text at:

<http://thefire.org/public/pdfs/312bde37d07b913b47b63e275a5713f4.pdf?direct>

["Most of the four-year universities it surveyed have speech codes that substantially limit students' freedom of speech, including dozens of colleges in California. Of the 390 schools reviewed, 67 percent got a red light, 27 percent got a yellow light and 3 percent got a green light. Another 3 percent got no rating because they were private institutions that flatly stated they hold certain values above a commitment to free speech, such as Pepperdine University in Malibu. Of the 33 California universities the organization rated, 64 percent got a red light, including San Diego State University, UC Santa Cruz and Claremont McKenna College. About 36 percent got a yellow light, including UC Berkeley, Occidental College and San Jose State University. No California college received a green light." California Watch (January 6, 2011) 1.]  
[Request #S11-4-5525]

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## TEACHERS

**Principals' Approaches to Developing Teacher Quality: Constraints and Opportunities in Hiring, Assigning, Evaluating, and Developing Teachers. By Morgaen L. Donaldson, University of Connecticut. (Center for American Progress, Washington, DC) February 2011. 52 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/principals\\_report.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/principals_report.html)

["Principals arguably play the most important role in ensuring that excellent teaching occurs in their school. How principals hire teachers, assign them to specific positions, evaluate them, and provide growth opportunities for them likely have major ramifications regarding teacher quality. For this reason, New York City, Washington D.C., and numerous other districts have undertaken large reforms to enable principals to hire higher-quality teacher candidates and use teacher evaluations to fire poorly performing instructors and identify and reward exceptional ones.... Despite interest from practitioners, grant-makers, and policymakers, there has been little research regarding how principals attempt to raise teacher quality at their school site. This report provides key findings from a study of 30 principals working in charter and conventional schools in two northeastern states."]

[Request #S11-4-5540]

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**Teacher Employment and Collective Bargaining Laws in California: Structuring School District Discretion over Teacher Employment. By William S. Koski and Aaron Tang, Stanford University. (Policy Analysis for California Education, Stanford, California) February 2011. 16 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.stanford.edu/group/pace/PUBLICATIONS/PB/PACE\\_BRIEF\\_FEB\\_2011.pdf](http://www.stanford.edu/group/pace/PUBLICATIONS/PB/PACE_BRIEF_FEB_2011.pdf)

["There can be no doubt that teacher collective bargaining agreements constrain administrative discretion over teacher employment practices and certain educational policy decisions, but those agreements are not reached in a vacuum. State teacher employment and collective bargaining laws structure the negotiations and agreements that are reached between school districts and local collective bargaining units. In California, those laws tend to constrain administrative discretion more than in the other large and diverse states we analyzed.... The policy implications of our conclusion, that California law is relatively restrictive of administrative decisionmaking, are less clear.... For that reason, we would urge caution and a resistance to knee-jerk responses based on preconceived notions of labor or management."][Request #S11-4-5544]

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## EMPLOYMENT

### EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

**San Francisco's Paid Sick Leave Ordinance: Outcomes for Employers and Employees.** By Robert Drago and Vicky Lovell, Institute for Women's Policy Research. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2011. 44 p.

Full text at: <http://www.iwpr.org/publications/pubs/San-Fran-PSD>

["The voter-approved law, the only one of its kind in California, gives workers one hour of paid sick leave for every 30 hours on the job. Workers can accrue up to five days at any given time at companies with less than 10 employees and nine days at any given time at those with more than 10. Surveys of 700 employers and 1,200 employees found that two-thirds of employers support the San Francisco law, and only 1 in 7 employers complained that it affected their profitability. The typical worker covered by the law used only three days per year to stay home sick or to care for children or relatives. One quarter of employees queried took no time off for illness." Los Angeles Times (February 10, 2011) 1.]

[Request #S11-4-5546]

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### JOB CREATION

**The Myth of Green Energy Jobs: The European Experience.** By Kenneth P. Green, American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2011. 7 p.

Full text at: <http://www.aei.org/docLib/EEO-2011-02-No-2-g.pdf>

["With \$2.3 billion in Recovery Act tax credits allocated for green manufacturers, President Barack Obama and other Democratic politicians have high hopes for green technology. But their expectations clash with both economic theory and practical experience in Europe. Green programs in Spain destroyed 2.2 jobs for every green job created, while the capital needed for one green job in Italy could create almost five jobs in the general economy. Wind and solar power have raised household energy prices by 7.5 percent in Germany, and Denmark has the highest electricity prices in the European Union. Central planners in the United States trying to promote green industry will fare no better at creating jobs or stimulating the economy."]

[Request #S11-4-5548]

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## UNEMPLOYMENT PROGRAMS

**Rebuilding the Unemployment Insurance System: A Deficit-Neutral Plan that Limits Tax Increases and Maintains Benefits. By Michael Leachman and others, Center for Budget and Policy Priorities. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2011. 21 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.cbpp.org/files/2-9-11sfp.pdf>

["The systems for financing unemployment insurance (UI) in many states are broken and, without major reforms, they will remain broken through this decade and beyond, requiring years of high federal taxes on employers and threatening the system's role as a key economic stabilizer during recessions. By enacting the plan outlined in this paper, however, federal policymakers would give states a framework to restore the long-term health of their UI systems, avoid significant tax increases on employers while the economy remains weak, and prevent damaging cuts in UI eligibility and benefits for jobless workers -- all without increasing the federal deficit."]

[Request #S11-4-5547]

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## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

### CLIMATE CHANGE

**The Last Drop: Climate Change and the Southwest Water Crisis. By Frank Ackerman and Elizabeth A. Stanton, Stockholm Environment Institute-U.S. Center. (The Center, Somerville, Massachusetts) February 2011. 36 p.**

Full text at: [http://sei-us.org/Publications\\_PDF/SEI-WesternWater-0211.pdf](http://sei-us.org/Publications_PDF/SEI-WesternWater-0211.pdf)

["The report is an extended analysis of water demand and future supplies that estimates that the cumulative shortfall over the next century in the Southwest, without the adoption of adaptation strategies, will be 1.815 billion acre feet. Add that extra climate-change impact, based on mild and moderate projections, and the next century's total shortfall would increase by another 282 million acre feet to 439 million acre-feet. The total annual volume from the Colorado River is estimated at 15 million acre feet. The replacement cost of the water, would be \$2.3 trillion to \$4 trillion over the next century; by 2050 the annual costs would be \$7 billion to \$15 billion in 2009 dollars, the equivalent of 0.3 to 0.6 percent of the Southwest's 2009 gross domestic product." New York Times (February 11, 2011) 1.]

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## INVASIVE SPECIES

**Managing Coastal Aquatic Invasive Species in California: Existing Policies and Policy Gaps. By Adrianna A. Muir, California Research Bureau, California State Library. (The Bureau, Sacramento, California) January 2011. 154 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/11/11-001.pdf>

["Coastal Aquatic Invasive Species (CAIS) increasingly threaten California's coastal estuarine and marine habitats. With no natural predators, these non-native species become abundant, resulting in costly, negative impacts on infrastructure, human health, and natural ecosystems. The Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee, requested that the California Research Bureau craft a framework for understanding the challenges that coastal aquatic invasive species create for California. The resulting report highlights the CAIS policy and management challenges facing California. The report focuses on opportunities for improvement over six general policy categories (Authority, Prevention, Research, Control, Implementation, and Coordination) and addresses the vectors, or pathways, through which invasive species are introduced."]

[Request #S11-4-5551]

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## PARKS & RECREATION

**A Vision for Excellence for California's State Parks. By the Park Excellence Project Task Force. (California State Parks Foundation, San Francisco, California) February 2011. 36 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.calparks.org/takeaction/parkexcellence/>

["California's state park system is at a crossroads. As a system, California's state parks have persisted even in the face of challenging and shifting political, social, and environmental priorities. Yet, after more than a century of leading the way in preserving and protecting precious resources, today's pressures -- including proposals for wholesale shutdowns, current and indefinite closures, a \$1.2 billion deferred maintenance backlog, and more -- are the most challenging the system has ever seen.... The following five strategies and subsequent recommended actions provide a roadmap for action by the community of partners and stakeholders to the state park system, the Department, and the public at large: Make Parks Relevant; Increase Access for All, Defend Park Lands and Resources, Broaden Leadership for Parks; and Strengthen and Diversify Funding."]

[Request #S11-4-5550]

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## WATER POLICY

**Managing California's Water: From Conflict to Reconciliation.** By Ellen Hanak, Public Policy Institute of California, and others. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) February 2011. 503 p.

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=944>

["In this book, we explore solutions for the modern era, when water management must become more balanced and flexible to support both economic prosperity and environmental sustainability. We start by reviewing the history of how California has adapted to changes and conflicts in water management in the past -- slowly, controversially, and imperfectly -- but with remarkable success. We then lay out a variety of promising principles and directions for improving water management in California for contemporary and anticipated future conditions. The reforms we recommend will not satisfy or improve conditions for everyone, and many will seem unrealistic in the near term, but we believe they form a basis for a robust, sustainable trajectory for California."]

[Request #S11-4-5552]

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### GOVERNMENT FINANCE

**Social Impact Bonds: A Promising New Financing Model to Accelerate Social Innovation and Improve Government Performance.** By Jeffrey B. Liebman, Harvard University. (Center for American Progress, Washington, DC) February 2011. 36 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/social\\_impact\\_bonds.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2011/02/social_impact_bonds.html)

["The social impact bond model uses private financing to overcome existing barriers to performance-based pay for social service providers. Today, most providers would be hard-pressed to come up with sufficient capital to provide services up front and only receive payments after performance targets were met. And most social service providers would be unable to absorb the risk of failing to meet performance targets. But in a social impact bond scheme, private investors provide the up-front capital and absorb most of the risk. The private investors also perform an important form of quality control. That's because service providers must convince the private investors that their program model and management team are likely to achieve the performance targets. The investors also have strong incentives to rigorously monitor and improve program performance."]

[Request #S11-4-5559]

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## PENSION FUNDS

**Public Pensions for Retirement Security. By the Little Hoover Commission. (The Commission, Sacramento, California) February 2011. 106 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.lhc.ca.gov/studies/204/report204.html>

["California's state and local governments should roll back pensions for existing employees, dump guaranteed retirement payouts and put more of the burden for pension benefits on workers. Government pension funds are in such dire financial straits that they'll never right themselves without cutting into benefits for those working now..... 'In another five years, when pension contributions from government are expected to jump 40 to 80 percent and remain at those levels for decades in order to keep retirement plans solvent, there will be no debate about the magnitude of the problem,' the report says.... CalPERS says investment earnings account for 64 cents of every dollar it takes in, while employers kick in 21 cents and employees pay 15 cents. The commission recommends the employer/employee share be split equally." Sacramento Bee (February 25, 2011) A1.]

[Request #S11-4-5556]

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**The Origins and Severity of the Public Pension Crisis. By Dean Baker, Center for Economic and Policy Research. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2011. 18 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/pensions-2011-02.pdf>

["There has been considerable attention given in recent months to the shortfalls faced by state and local pension funds. Using the current methodology of assessing pension obligations, the shortfalls sum to nearly \$1 trillion.... Many political figures have argued the need to drastically reduce the generosity of public sector pensions, and possibly to default on pension obligations already incurred.... Most states face pension shortfalls that are manageable, especially if the stock market does not face another sudden reversal. The major reason that shortfalls exist at all was the downturn in the stock market following the collapse of the housing bubble, not inadequate contributions to pension funds."]

[Request #S11-4-5558]

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## STATE BUDGETS

**States' Revenue Estimating: Cracks in the Crystal Ball. By the Pew Center on the States and the Nelson A. Rockefeller Institute of Government. (The Institute, Albany, New York) March 2011. 56 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government\\_finance/2011-03-01-States\\_Revenue\\_Estimating\\_Report.pdf](http://www.rockinst.org/pdf/government_finance/2011-03-01-States_Revenue_Estimating_Report.pdf)

["The report sheds new light on an understudied aspect of the budget gaps that nearly all states have faced during the Great Recession: revenue estimating errors. The authors partnered to undertake this analysis of 23 years of data on personal income, sales and corporate income tax estimates and collections. The results reveal that the states regularly misestimate revenue and that those errors are significantly greater in times of fiscal crisis. The troubling, long-term trend is that overestimates have gotten larger during each of the past three economic downturns, and more states have made them. This report discusses the causes of this trend and describes practices some states have adopted to achieve greater precision."]

[Request #S11-4-5557]

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## HEALTH

### HOSPITALS

**Critical Roles: California's Allied Health Workforce. By the California Hospital Association. (The Association, Sacramento, California) February 2011. 12 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.calhospital.org/sites/chadocuments.org/files/file-attachments/FINAL.Critical\\_Roles.Feb\\_.9.2011.pdf](http://www.calhospital.org/sites/chadocuments.org/files/file-attachments/FINAL.Critical_Roles.Feb_.9.2011.pdf)

["Looming retirements within the health care industry could pose significant challenges to hospitals, particularly in so-called allied health fields. Serious shortages for clinical laboratory scientists, physical therapists, pharmacists, radiological technicians and other professions could result if priority is not given to health science education and work force development.... Policymakers need to address funding gaps that could limit the ability of colleges and other educational facilities to produce skilled health care workers. In addition to making more money available, the hospital association's report also urged that health science curricula be better aligned with the needs of the health care industry." Sacramento Bee

(February 10, 2011) 1.]

[Request #S11-4-5524]

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## INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**The Connected Patient: Charting the Vital Signs of Remote Health Monitoring. By Jane Sarasohn-Kahn, THINK-Health. (California HealthCare Foundation, Oakland, California) February 2011. 26 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.chcf.org/~media/Files/PDF/T/PDF%20TheConnectedPatient.pdf>

["Remote health monitoring technologies -- devices that gather a patient's health data and relay it to a care provider -- have been the subject of much study in recent years. Proponents have lauded their potential to reduce health care costs and improve patients' quality of life, while skeptics pointed to the lack of persuasive clinical evidence supporting such claims.... This report describes the range of technologies that can enable remote health monitoring, along with the evidence for and against their efficacy and the forces that are driving and impeding broader adoption. The analysis concludes that even if all the remaining issues are favorably settled, widespread use will require a fundamental shift in the way health care services are structured and paid for."]

[Request #S11-4-5564]

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## NUTRITION

**Claiming Health: Front-of-Package Labeling of Children's Food. By Juliet Sims and others, the Prevention Institute. (The Institute, Oakland, California) January 2011. 10 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.preventioninstitute.org/component/jlibrary/article/download/id-589/127.html>

["Since the 1995 introduction of the American Heart Association's heart-healthy symbol, front-of-package labels -- symbols that denote healthier products -- have become increasingly common and are now a widely used food marketing tool. Some food and beverage manufacturers have promoted front-of-package labels as an innovative approach to healthier choices, but serious concerns exist over the potential for these symbols to confuse or mislead consumers, and encourage the purchase of unhealthful items. To investigate these concerns, Prevention Institute examined whether the front-of-package labels on grocery store products marketed to children did promote foods that were healthful. After reviewing fifty-eight children's food products containing front-of package labels, we found that 84% were unhealthy, as they did not meet one or more nutrient criteria."]

[Request #S11-4-5488]

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## **PUBLIC HEALTH**

**All Over the Map: A 10-Year Review of State Outbreak Reporting.** By **Caroline Smith DeWaal and others**, Center for Science in the Public Interest. (The Center, Washington, DC) January 2011. 76 p.

Full text at: <http://cspinet.org/new/pdf/alloverthemap.pdf>

["The compilation of outbreak data helps to quantify the problem of food borne illness in America -- and helps with the design and implementation of strategies to minimize it. Despite the critical importance of outbreak detection and reporting to this effort, great variability exists among the states on outbreak surveillance and reporting.... The percentage of solved outbreaks -- those with both an indentified food and an identified pathogen -- has declined over the 10-period, from a high of 44 percent in 2001 to 34 percent in 2007. In some years, nearly 70 percent of outbreaks are not solved, meaning that at least one essential data point (food or pathogen) is missing.... These findings suggest that many states lack adequate funding for public health services, leading to health departments that are overburdened and understaffed."]

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## **HUMAN SERVICES**

### **EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT**

**State-level Indicators for Social-emotional Development: Building Better Systems.** By **Elizabeth A. Isakson and others**, Columbia University. (National Center for Children in Poverty, New York, New York) February 2011. 24 p.

Full text at: [http://nccp.org/publications/pdf/text\\_997.pdf](http://nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_997.pdf)

["The ability to track and assess social-emotional development of young children in a community poses a special challenge to policymakers.... Currently, multi-level data on social-emotional development for young children is not easily available. The challenge to quantify social-emotional wellness at a population level stems in part from the lack of universally accepted indicators and infrastructure for collecting information in this domain of child development. This report addresses the process of creating a system of indicators for social-emotional wellness, examines recent state experiences in this area, and describes a framework for moving forward in the development of social-emotional indicators for state policymakers."]

[Request #S11-4-5563]

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## ELDERLY

**Holding On: Older Californians with Disabilities Rely on Public Services to Remain Independent. By Kathryn G. Kietzman and others, UCLA Center for Health Policy Research. (The Center, Los Angeles, California) January 2011. 8 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.healthpolicy.ucla.edu/pubs/files/holdingonpn1-31-11.pdf>

["This policy note provides the first findings from a study that is following a group of California seniors who depend on fragile arrangements of paid and unpaid help to maintain their independence. The analysis finds that the disability needs of these older adults are often unstable, with both their physical and mental health status sometimes changing day to day. Many of these older adults with disabilities have nowhere else to turn for assistance if their public services are cut. Interviews with people in this group have shown that they are commonly in poor physical and/or psychological condition and are just barely managing to live safely in their homes. At the same time, all of them share the common goal of remaining in their homes and maintaining their independence. Public services serve as a crucial link in the support networks of these individuals."]

[Request #S11-4-5518]

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## POVERTY

**The Uphill Battle to Scale an Innovative Antipoverty Approach: The Experience of the Family Independence Initiative. By Maurice Lim Miller, the Family Independence Initiative. (New America Foundation, Washington, DC) February 2011. 10 p.**

Full text at:

<http://assets.newamerica.net/sites/newamerica.net/files/policydocs/MillerUphillBattleFINAL2-21.pdf>

["This paper outlines a new model for breaking the cycle of poverty, which shows promising results in three separate demonstration projects. As Miller looks to grow his idea, he has found that this approach -- which puts the target families and individuals in the driver's seat of their own progress, does not require professional social service workers, and relies more on the assets of the families themselves -- is not only a tough sell to public and private funders, but has faced direct opposition from incumbent service providers. In this essay, Miller explores a range of barriers and roadblocks to growing or scaling social innovations."]

[Request #S11-4-5560]

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## YOUTH

**Struggling to Survive: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer/Questioning Homeless Youth on the Streets of California. By Shahera Hyatt, California Homeless Youth Project. (The Project, Sacramento, California) March 2011. 8 p.**

Full text at:

<http://cahomelessyouth.library.ca.gov/docs/pdf/StrugglingToSurviveFinal.pdf>

["Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer/questioning (LGBTQ) individuals represent between five and ten percent of the general youth population, yet they make up 15 to 25 percent of the homeless youth population.... The purpose of this issue brief is to highlight the challenges faced by LGBTQ homeless youth in California based on an in-depth review of existing research on this population, including a recently released report from the Hollywood Homeless Youth Partnership, as well as a series of interviews conducted with LGBTQ homeless youth and service providers throughout the state. These narratives support the existing research and highlight the policy recommendations found in the literature. The unique and challenging circumstances faced by these youth strongly suggest the need for targeted state policy attention and intervention."]

[Request #S11-4-5562]

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## TRANSPORTATION

### AUTOMOBILES

**Plug-in Electric Vehicles: A Practical Plan for Progress. By the Transport Electrification Panel, School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University. (The University, Bloomington, Indiana) February 2011. 82 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/pubs/TEP\\_combined.pdf](http://www.indiana.edu/~spea/pubs/TEP_combined.pdf)

["This report examines public policies toward PEVs, taking into account the promise and limitations of PEVs, recent improvements in battery technology, market dynamics, and the proliferation of policies around the world that promote the use of PEVs. Our focus is primarily near term (i.e., 2011-25), recognizing that the transportation electrification process will evolve in stages based on the learning that occurs in the years and decades ahead..... Some government support for the introduction of PEVs into the marketplace is warranted because firms are unable to capture all the benefits that their research and development efforts produce. Suppliers and manufacturers are likely to underinvest in innovative initiatives. Private underinvestment in R&D is the primary justification for public policy designed to stimulate private R&D."][Request #S11-4-5565]

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**Broadband Electricity and the Free-Market Path to Electric Cars. By Peter W. Huber, Manhattan Institute for Policy Research. (The Institute, New York, New York) March 2011. 24 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.manhattan-institute.org/pdf/eper\\_07.pdf](http://www.manhattan-institute.org/pdf/eper_07.pdf)

["New investment in an infrastructure needed to power electric cars will be especially risky. Without a significant stake in the upside, utilities have good reason to let buyers of electric cars take the lead before rolling out a new battery-charging grid infrastructure.... The free-market path to getting grid electricity to our wheels hinges on giving every company that already owns, or cares to invest in, any part of the electron pipeline -- electric utilities certainly included -- the freedom and flexibility to invest new capital, set prices, recover costs, and earn profits commensurate with the risks, while working closely with car companies, car owners, municipalities, employers, mall owners, parking garages, individual homeowners, and others."]

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## **HIGH-SPEED RAIL**

**High-Speed Rail Investment Background Data. By John Neff, American Public Transportation Association. (The Association, Washington, DC) February 2011. 44 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.apta.com/resources/reportsandpublications/Documents/APTA\\_HSR\\_Investment\\_Paper.pdf](http://www.apta.com/resources/reportsandpublications/Documents/APTA_HSR_Investment_Paper.pdf)

["APTA has proposed \$50 billion in high-speed rail funding as part of the authorization of a new surface transportation law to replace SAFETEA-LU, which expired on October 31, 2009. The APTA proposal calls for the creation of 'a separate High-Speed and Intercity Passenger Rail title which authorizes no less than \$50 billion during the next six years to facilitate the development of a transformational domestic High-Speed and Intercity Rail system. New funding for a High-Speed and Intercity Passenger rail program must come from sources other than the Highway Trust Fund."]

[Request #S11-4-5567]

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## TRANSPORTATION PLANNING

**Recent Lessons from the Stimulus: Transportation Funding and Job Creation.**  
**By Smart Growth America. (Smart Growth America, Washington, DC)**  
**February 2011. 16 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org/documents/lessons-from-the-stimulus.pdf>

["Choices about spending priorities come down to determining the right balance of repair and expansion. Many of the reasons to increase investment in our existing roads and bridges have been articulated elsewhere, including the short-term and long-term costs of neglecting repair, which substantially increases costs. The situation with public transportation investments is similar. The question is the right balance between modes in an era of growing demands and shrinking budgets. The findings in this report add an additional reason to increase investment in repair of all kinds, and in public transportation capacity: each type of investment creates far more jobs."]

[Request #S11-4-5570]

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**Strengthening Connections Between Transportation Investments and Economic Growth.** By Douglas Holtz-Eakin, American Action Forum, and Martin Wachs, RAND Corporation. (Bipartisan Policy Center, Washington, DC) January 2011. 36 p.

Full text at:  
<http://www.bipartisanpolicy.org/sites/default/files/NTPP%20Strengthening%20Connections%20Paper.pdf>

["Transportation infrastructure investment programs are not all equally effective at creating jobs or economic growth. Poorly targeted transportation dollars represent a wasted opportunity that the country can ill afford given its current fiscal predicament. On the other hand, accelerating the return of robust and sustained economic expansion will be imperative and can be advanced by the sound investment of scarce resources.... This paper analyzes three key issues related to transportation investment, jobs, and economic growth: 1) The need to focus on returns from public investments; 2) Job creation and public investment in the current policy context; and 3) The 'multiplier' as a method for estimating job impacts."]

[Request #S11-4-5569]

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**Transportation Mega-Projects and Risk. By Robert W. Poole, Jr. and Peter Samuel, Reason Foundation. (The Foundation, Los Angeles, California)  
February 2011. 18 p.**

Full text at: [http://reason.org/files/transportation\\_mega\\_projects\\_risk\\_big\\_dig.pdf](http://reason.org/files/transportation_mega_projects_risk_big_dig.pdf)

["There are several important lessons to be drawn here. The first is that having to persuade investors to part with capital for such mega-projects will typically produce a far higher degree of scrutiny of the project's underlying feasibility than is all too often the case for conventionally done megaprojects. The second is that even when such scrutiny is overtaken by events and a concession project does badly, it is investors who are at risk, rather than taxpayers. Third, despite financial difficulties, the project remains in service, meeting transportation needs. In extreme cases the original company may go bankrupt and the assets get purchased by new owners (with approval of the government agency that is a party to the concession). By purchasing the asset at a fraction of the original cost, the new owners hope to operate it in a financially sustainable manner.']

[Request #S11-4-5571]

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