

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

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**California -- One Hundred Years Ago**

**February 1908.** “Pasadena’s tourist season is coming on with a rush. Nearly a hundred arrivals from the East and North registered at the three big hotels yesterday. Almost as many arrived the day before and other parties are scheduled for the next week, which will swell the grand total far beyond the rosiest limit attained last year. Two auto parties from Santa Barbara, guests of Mrs. J. Hobart Moore, wife of the Diamond Match Company magnate, have arrived.” *Los Angeles Times* (February 2, 1908) I8.

**1908.** Four new bridges of vast importance in the unification of the various sections of Los Angeles are underway or in contemplation by the city authorities. More than half a million dollars have been provided for these great improvements, some of them already underway. The most important of these big undertakings is what is known as the Buena Vista-street bridge... In addition, three other structures are underway – The Macy-street bridge, over the Arroyo de Los Posos, the Main-street bridge and the Seventh-street bridge.... Aside from the Owens River and good roads projects, the new bridge movement is one of the greatest to be undertaken in the present time of big things.” *Los Angeles Times* (August 16, 1908) pg II1.

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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 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 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 (916-654-0206; [cslsirc@library.ca.gov](mailto:cslsirc@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**

### **GUNS & GUN CONTROL**

**Paula Fiscal, et al. v. City and County of San Francisco, et al. California Court of Appeal, First Appellate District. A115018. January 9, 2008. 25 p.**

<http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/A115018.PDF>

["San Francisco's ban on handguns, blocked by a legal challenge since voters approved it in November 2005, suffered a possibly fatal blow when a state appeals court ruled that local governments have no authority under California law to prevent people from owning pistols...., The court said the city ordinance would interfere with an elaborate system of gun regulation enacted by the Legislature. State laws allow law-abiding Californians to possess handguns in their homes and businesses. In addition, the court said, a law banning the sale of the cheap handguns and setting safety standards for legal firearms, implicitly prohibited local governments from outlawing all handguns." San Francisco Chronicle (January 10, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1657]

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## **IDENTITY THEFT**

**2007 Annual Study: U.S. Cost of a Data Breach: Understanding Financial Impact, Customer Turnover, and Preventive Solutions. By Ponemon Institute, LLC. (The Institute, Traverse City, Michigan) November 2007. 26 p.**

<http://www.vontu.com/uploadedfiles/global/Ponemon-Cost-of-a-Data-Breach-2007.pdf>

["Regulations in more than 35 U.S. states require that individuals be notified if their confidential or personal data has been lost, stolen, or compromised. When a regulatory breach occurs, organizations must attempt to minimize downstream brand consequences and put solutions in place to prevent a recurrence. Although the specific conditions for notification vary by state, organizations may not be required to notify individuals when the breached data is protected by encryption or the breach was stopped before information was wrongfully acquired. This study examines the costs incurred by 35 organizations after experiencing a data breach."]

[Request #S08-3-1668]

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## JUVENILE JUSTICE

**When I Die, They'll Send Me Home: Youth Sentenced to Life without Parole in California. By Christine Back and Elizabeth Calvin, Human Rights Watch. (Human Rights Watch, New York, New York) January 2008.**

["Nearly all the world's inmates who were juveniles sentenced to life terms are in the United States, about 2,380. Statistics obtained from the Department of Corrections showed nearly half of the California youth sentenced to life without parole for involvement in a murder did not actually kill the victim. Many were convicted of felony murder, or for aiding and abetting the murder, because they acted as lookouts or were participating in another felony when the murder took place. California has the worst record in the nation for racial disparity in the imposition of life without parole for juveniles. African-American youths are serving the sentence at a rate that is 18 times higher than the rate for white youths. The rate for Latino youths is five times higher." San Jose Mercury News (January 15, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1659]

Report. 104 p.

<http://hrw.org/reports/2008/us0108/us0108webwcover.pdf>

Summary and Recommendations. 12 p.

<http://hrw.org/reports/2008/us0108/us0108sumandreccs.pdf>

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

**Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department: 24th Semiannual Report. By Merrick J. Bobb and Staff and the Police Assessment Resource Center. (The County, Los Angeles, California) December 2007. 53 p.**

<http://lacounty.gov/mbobb24.pdf>

["The Department failed to thoroughly investigate half of its recent use-of-force cases. Investigators didn't interview several deputies who fired weapons at

suspects. Instead, the investigators relied on previous interviews of the deputies by homicide detectives.... The report found some things to commend, however. It said the Office of Independent Review, which monitors sheriff's internal affairs investigations, had provided useful oversight and improved the thoroughness of the investigations. It also noted that the department's internal affairs process has become a model for agencies across the country." Los Angeles Times (December 20, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1540]

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## PRISONERS

**Prisoners in 2006. By William J. Sabol and others, Bureau of Justice Statistics. (Office of Justice Programs, Washington, DC) December 2007. 26 p.**

<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/pdf/p06.pdf>

["During 2006, the prison population grew at a faster rate than in the previous 5 years. The 2.8% increase in the number of prisoners under State or Federal jurisdiction was larger than the average annual growth rate of 1.9% from 2000 through 2005. It was also larger than the average increase of 2% per year that occurred in the 3 years prior to 2006. However, the 2006 growth rate was less than the annual growth rates of between 3.4% and 8.7% that occurred during the 1990s."]

[Request #S08-3-1496]

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## DEMOGRAPHY

### CALIFORNIA

**California County Population Estimates and Components of Change by Year: July 1, 2000 - 2007. By the California Department of Finance, Demographic Research Unit. (The Department, Sacramento, California) December 2007. 19 p.**

["California's population continued to grow modestly in the last fiscal year despite a significant exodus of residents to other states. The annual study showed that 89,000 more people moved out of California than moved here from elsewhere in the United States. California's population did grow in fiscal 2007 -- but the growth rested on births and the arrival of more than 200,000 immigrants from other countries. While the state lost many residents during the economic downturn of the 1990s, people had been steadily moving to California from other states since 1999. But once the housing bubble burst, the trend reversed." Los Angeles Times (December 20, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1629]

Report. Various pagings.

[http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/Estimates/E2/E-2\\_2000-07.php](http://www.dof.ca.gov/HTML/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/Estimates/E2/E-2_2000-07.php)

Press Release. 19 p.

<http://www.dof.ca.gov/html/DEMOGRAP/ReportsPapers/Estimates/E2/documents/E-2%20Press%20Release%20Jul07.doc>

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## IMMIGRATION

**Immigrants in the United States, 2007: A Profile of America's Foreign-Born Population. By Steven A. Camarota, Center for Immigration Studies. (The Center, Washington, DC) November 2007. 44 p.**

<http://www.cis.org/articles/2007/back1007.pdf>

["Immigration over the past seven years was the highest for any seven-year period in American history, bringing 10.3 million new immigrants, more than half of them without legal status, according to an analysis of census data. A large proportion of recent immigrants, both legal and illegal, are low-skilled workers and about one-third of those have not completed high school, giving them significantly less education than Americans born in the United States. The survey focuses on public costs associated with the new generation of immigrant workers." New York Times (November 29, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1669]

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## ECONOMY

### CITIES

**Best Performing Cities 2007: Where America's Jobs are Created and Sustained. By Ross DeVol and others, Milken Institute. (The Institute, Santa Monica, California) September 2007. 61 p.**

[http://www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/best\\_prfrmng\\_cities.pdf](http://www.milkeninstitute.org/pdf/best_prfrmng_cities.pdf)

["We see some cities caught in dramatic location shifts of human capital, while others feel the pressures of international competition and changes in consumer behavior. Certain trends, such as rising energy prices, are still being played out and have hurt development in some metros but bolstered energy-related businesses in others. Volatility in the housing market is putting a drag on the building boom that elevated some cities in last year's index."]

[Request #S08-3-1626]

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## DEFENSE CUTS & CONVERSIONS

**Military Base Realignments And Closures: Estimated Costs Have Increased and Estimated Savings Have Decreased. Statement of Brian J. Leporer, U.S. Government Accountability Office. Testimony Before the Subcommittee on Readiness, Committee on Armed Services, House of Representatives. (The Office, Washington, DC) December 12, 2007. 28 p.**

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08341t.pdf>

["Our analysis indicates that nearly two-thirds of the \$10 billion cost increase is due to increased projected military construction costs, while inflation, environmental restoration costs, and other costs, such as operations and maintenance, account for the remaining one-third of the cost increase. Based on our work to date, DOD's annual recurring savings estimate may be overstated by about 46 percent due to the inclusion of \$1.85 billion in military personnel entitlements -- such as salaries and housing allowances -- for military personnel that DOD plans to shift to other positions but does not plan to eliminate. While DOD disagrees with us, we do not believe that transferring personnel to other locations produces tangible dollar savings."]

[Request #S08-3-1624]

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## INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

**The State of Connectivity: Building Innovation through Broadband. By the California Broadband Task Force. (The Task Force, Sacramento, California) January 2008.**

["California is better positioned than most states on broadband availability and adoption, yet the state lags behind key foreign competitors. Specifically, the CBTF found: 1) 96% of California residences have access to broadband, 2) 1.4 million mostly rural Californians lack broadband access at any speed, 3) Barely more than half of Californians have adopted broadband at home, 4) Only half of Californians have access to broadband at speeds greater than 10 Mbps, including both upstream and downstream speeds, and 5) Broadband infrastructure is deployed unevenly throughout the state, from state-of-the-art to nonexistent."]

[Request #S08-3-1667]

Report. 84 p.

[http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF\\_FINAL\\_Report.pdf](http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/CBTF_FINAL_Report.pdf)

Executive Summary. 2 p.

[http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/exec\\_summary.pdf](http://www.calink.ca.gov/pdf/exec_summary.pdf)

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## URBAN AREAS

**The Mortgage Crisis: Economic and Fiscal Implications for Metro Areas. By Global Insight. Prepared for The U.S. Conference of Mayors and The Council for the New American City. (The Conference, Washington, DC) November 26, 2007. 17 p.**

[http://usmayors.org/uscm/news/press\\_releases/documents/mortgagereport\\_112707.pdf](http://usmayors.org/uscm/news/press_releases/documents/mortgagereport_112707.pdf)

["The lending crisis will cost the national economy \$166 billion and 524,000 potential jobs. In addition, homeowners across the country will lose \$1.2 trillion in property values in 2008. The mayors' report did not forecast a recession, but it said 128 metropolitan areas - including the San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont metropolitan statistical area - would see GMP growth fall into the 'sluggish' category of below 2 percent." San Francisco Chronicle (November 27, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1357]

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## EDUCATION

### DIVERSITY

**California State University: It Needs to Strengthen Its Oversight and Establish Stricter Policies for Compensating Current and Former Employees. Letter Report 2007-102.1. By the California State Auditor, Bureau of State Audits. (The Bureau, Sacramento, California) November 2007. 119 p.**

<http://www.bsa.ca.gov/pdfs/reports/2007-102.1.pdf>

["Hiring procedures were inconsistent from campus to campus and even between departments, with some considering the gender and ethnic composition of search committees and others forbidding it. The report recommends that CSU officials issue systemwide guidance on the hiring process for professors, including the use of affirmative action plans to help search committees include women and minorities if possible. In addition, the guidelines should include a requirement that searches compare the proportion of women and minorities in the total applicant pool to the proportion in the labor pool." San Francisco Chronicle (December 12, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1628]

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## PRESCHOOL

**Who Is Ahead and Who Is Behind? Gaps in School Readiness and Student Achievement in the Early Grades for California's Children. By Jill S. Cannon and Lynn A. Karoly, RAND Corporation. (RAND, Santa Monica, California) 2007. 134 p.**

[http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical\\_reports/2007/RAND\\_TR537.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2007/RAND_TR537.pdf)

["Many California students -- even on that very first day of class -- are already well behind their peers academically. Research shows that the achievement gap in second- and third- grade classrooms can be traced back to those same students when they entered kindergarten. This phenomenon is now being called the 'readiness gap.' The study found that 45 to 49 percent of first-graders and 33 to 57 percent of kindergartners from 17 California school districts with the most students in those achievement gap categories did not meet reading standards for their age level at the end of the school year. The second part of the study concluded that getting kids into educational-based preschool programs could narrow the gap, but California's current preschool programs are not fully meeting the needs of their students." The Merced Sun-Star (November 12, 2007) A1.]

[Request #S08-3-1370]

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## TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

**U.S. Licensing Activity Survey: FY 2006. By Christine, Burke, University of California, and others. (Association of University Technology Managers, Northbrook, Illinois) 2007. 43p.**

[http://autm.net/events/file/AUTM\\_06\\_US%20LSS\\_FNL.pdf](http://autm.net/events/file/AUTM_06_US%20LSS_FNL.pdf)

["The number of universities earning more than \$10-million annually from their licensing of inventions inched up in the 2006 fiscal year. Universities created a record number of start-up companies -- approaching 500 -- based on inventions of their researchers. New York University earned the most of any single institution identified in the survey, collecting more than \$157-million in revenue. The 10-campus University of California system led in overall revenue with income of \$193.5-million." Chronicle of Higher Education (December 4, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1493]

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## **ENERGY**

### **ENERGY CONSERVATION**

**Does Energy Efficiency Save Energy? By Jeff Rubin and Benjamin Tal, CIBC World Markets. (CIBC World Markets, Toronto, Ontario) November 27, 2007. 4 p.**

[http://research.cibcwm.com/economic\\_public/download/snov07.pdf](http://research.cibcwm.com/economic_public/download/snov07.pdf)

["In what the study calls 'the efficiency paradox,' consumers have taken money saved from greater energy efficiency and spent it on more and bigger appliances and vehicles, consuming even more energy in the process. While seemingly perverse, improvements in energy efficiency result in more of the good being consumed -- not less,' said Rubin. The study concludes that stricter energy efficiency regulations aren't the answer to concerns over climate change and the depletion of oil supplies. 'The problem is, energy efficiency is not the final objective,' Rubin said. 'Reducing energy consumption must be the final objective to both the challenges of conventional oil depletion and to greenhouse gas emissions.'" Reuters (November 29, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1359]

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### **RENEWABLE ENERGY**

**Integration of Renewable Resources. By Clyde Loutan and David Hawkins, California Independent System Operator. (The Operator, Sacramento, California) November 2007. 231 p.**

<http://www.caiso.com/1ca5/1ca5a7a026270.pdf>

["The report is an analytic approach to maintaining reliable and high-quality electric service under the 20 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS), the conclusions of the related engineering studies, and the recommendations for achieving successful implementation. It is important to note what this study does not address the more challenging higher RPS targets. Higher targets are expected to present significantly greater operating challenges that cannot be evaluated by a simple straight line extrapolation from this study's conclusions. The good news is that this study shows the feasibility of maintaining reliable electric service with the expected level of intermittent renewable resources associated with the current 20 percent RPS, provided that existing generation remains available to provide back-up generation and essential reliability services."]

[Request #S08-3-1577]

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## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

### ENVIRONMENTAL REGULATION

**Incomplete Environmental Regulation, Imperfect Competition, and Emissions Leakage.** By Meredith Fowlie, Ford School of Public Policy and Department of Economics, University of Michigan. (University of California Energy Institute, Berkeley, California) December 2007. 55 p.

<http://www.ucei.berkeley.edu/PDF/csemwp175.pdf>

["For political, jurisdictional and technical reasons, environmental regulation of industrial pollution is often incomplete: regulations apply to only a subset of facilities contributing to a pollution problem. Policymakers are increasingly concerned about the emissions leakage that may occur if unregulated production can be easily substituted for production at regulated firms.... The model is used to simulate greenhouse gas emissions from California's electricity sector under a source-based cap-and-trade program. Incomplete regulation that exempts out-of-state producers achieves approximately a third of the emissions reductions achieved under complete regulation at almost three times the cost per ton of emissions abated."]

[Request #S08-3-1584]

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### FLOODS

**A California Challenge: Flooding in the Central Valley.** By Gerald E. Galloway and others, Independent Review Panel. A Report to the California Department of Water Resources. (The Department, Sacramento, California) October 15, 2007. 65 p.

<http://www.water.ca.gov/news/newsreleases/2008/101507challenge.pdf>

["The current flood control system of the Central Valley is incapable of dealing with the threat of severe flood events, placing its urban centers at considerable risk while incurring significant environmental costs. The Panel recommends that California officials at the state and local levels develop and rapidly act on a comprehensive approach to floodrisk reduction that includes integration with other basin water management activities and, of great importance, with land-use planning. The state should continue to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency's levee policy and assist them in accelerating completion and adoption of updated flood maps."]

[Request #S08-3-1663]

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## GROWTH MANAGEMENT

**The Northern California Megaregion. By Gabriel Metcalf and Egon Terplan, San Francisco Planning and Urban Research Association. (The Association, San Francisco, California) December 2007. 24 p.**

[http://www.spur.org/documents/110107\\_article\\_01.shtml](http://www.spur.org/documents/110107_article_01.shtml)

["This giant entity, as populous as Southern California, is knit together with interests shared by its residents and businesses, superior economic prowess and political muscle that harkens back to an earlier century....'The existing cities of Northern California have been unwilling to grow,' Metcalf said. 'That doesn't mean that the area stops growing. It's pushed out.'... All those long commutes make it much harder to curb the region's greenhouse gas emissions, and a continued lack of affordable housing in the Bay Area's urban core will only exacerbate the problem, he said. One of the solutions is to focus on 'smart growth.' 'There's overwhelming evidence that people are willing to relocate to higher-density housing. I've never heard of a smart-growth project not selling out.'" Contra Costa Times (January 13, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1656]

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## WATER

**California's Central Valley Project: Reimbursement of Capital Construction Costs for the San Luis Unit. By the U.S. Government Accountability Office. GAO-08-307R. (The Office, Washington, DC) November 7, 2007. 23 p.**

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d08307r.pdf>

["Forty years after it started farming the west San Joaquin Valley, the nation's largest irrigation district -- and one of the richest -- has repaid only 15 percent of what it owes taxpayers for a massive water delivery project... The Westlands Water District and several smaller irrigation districts, still owes \$372 million, the bulk of the \$449 million owed by the districts. The debt, which dates to the late 1960s, carries no interest.... The report was commissioned to help lawmakers evaluate a proposal that would turn ownership of pieces of the Central Valley Project over to the water district and forgive the debt. In exchange, Westlands would develop its own drainage disposal plan and relieve the federal government of its obligation to drain irrigation water from the region." Contra Costa Times (January 18, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1673]

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### ACCOUNTABILITY

**The State Of State Disclosure: An Evaluation of Online Public Information about Economic Development Subsidies, Procurement Contracts and Lobbying Activities. By Philip Mattera and others, Good Jobs First. (Good Jobs First, Washington, DC) November 2007. 26 p.**

<http://www.goodjobsfirst.org/pdf/statedisclosure.pdf>

["A report ranks states on how well Internet users can access information about lobbying efforts, contracting and subsidies within their states. California ranks down with Louisiana and Mississippi. California fares well in the lobbying department: It is easy to see who is lobbying whom, and how much interest groups are spending to influence public policy. The state does provide solid information about the contracts it awards, but it requires the user to have spreadsheet skills to adequately search it. It's in the subsidy area where California fails. No information about tax breaks such as those in enterprise zones or conservation easements is available on the Internet." The Stockton Record (November 23, 2007)1.]

[Request #S08-3-1302]

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### BUDGETING

**Fiscal Challenges: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Budget Policy. By Elizabeth Garrett and others. (Cambridge University Press, New York, New York) January 2008. 472 p.**

["Fiscal Challenges: An Interdisciplinary Approach to Budget Policy brings together leading experts from a range of disciplines to explore the problems of budget policy. The authors, including top economists, political scientists, historians, psychologists, and legal scholars, together provide a unique, multidisciplinary introduction to the subject. In addition to in-depth analysis of congressional budget procedures and the economics of federal deficits and debt, Fiscal Challenges explores important recent developments in budget policy at the state level and in the European Union." Publisher's Announcement.] Note: Fiscal Challenges... is available for loan.

[Request #S08-3-1671]

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### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

**Information Searches That Solve Problems: How People Use The Internet, Libraries, And Government Agencies When They Need Help. By Leigh Estabrook, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and others. (Pew Internet and American Life Project, Washington, DC) December 30, 2007. 43 p.**

[http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew\\_UI\\_LibrariesReport.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/pdfs/Pew_UI_LibrariesReport.pdf)

["Young adults are the heaviest users of public libraries despite the ease with which they can access a wealth of information over the Internet. That's especially true for those who had questions related to health conditions, job training, government benefits and other problems. Twenty-one percent of Americans with such questions aged 18-30 have turned to public libraries, compared with about 12 percent among the general adult population with those problems to solve.... The study also found library usage lower among those without Internet access or only dial-up access, especially when their income also is lower, even though for them, the library might be their only source of high-speed Internet terminals. But when they have a problem to solve, they turn to libraries as heavily." Associated Press (December 30, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1633]

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## PUBLIC OPINION

**Californians and Their Government: PPIC Statewide Survey. By Mark Baldassarre and others, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) December 2007. 42 p.**

[http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/survey/S\\_1207MBS.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/survey/S_1207MBS.pdf)

["The subprime mortgage crisis and signs of a worsening economy are taking a toll on Californians, who have lost the optimism with which they began the year. Schwarzenegger's approval rating among residents improved from 50 percent to 57 percent since the last poll was taken in September. In the same period, the Legislature saw its approval numbers rise from 34 percent to 41 percent. Amid growing concerns about the weakening housing market, 52 percent of California residents worry their own financial circumstances will be hurt. Renters (62 percent) are more likely than homeowners (46 percent) to be concerned. The economic worries are reflected in the top three issues that residents listed: immigration, jobs and the economy, and health care." Oakland Tribune (December 14, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1572]

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## STATE BUDGET

**Overview of the Governor's Budget: 2008-2009. By Michael Cohen, Legislative Analyst's Office. (The Office, Sacramento, California) January 14, 2008.**

["The governor is proposing to issue \$3.3 billion in bonds, delay payment on debt worth \$1.5 billion and shift \$2 billion of tax revenue that would otherwise be counted in the 2009-10 fiscal year to the coming fiscal year, which begins July 1. ... The legislative analyst's report also took issue with the governor's proposal for a constitutional amendment to potentially expand his powers to make mid-year spending cuts, arguing that the Legislature should maintain the

power to control the state's purse strings... An emergency proclamation the governor signed last week forces the Legislature to cut spending immediately. If legislators fail to act on the budget within 45 days, they will be required by law to stop all other legislative business until they do so." Los Angeles Times (January 15, 2008) A1.]

[Request #S08-3-1678]

Overview. 24 p.

[http://www.lao.ca.gov/2008/budget\\_overview/08-09\\_budget\\_ov.pdf](http://www.lao.ca.gov/2008/budget_overview/08-09_budget_ov.pdf)

Governor's Budget. Various pagings.

<http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/>

Fiscal Emergency Proclamation. 1 p.

<http://gov.ca.gov/index.php?/print-version/proclamation/8471/>

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## VOTERS & VOTING

**New Experiments in Minority Voter Mobilization: A Report on the California Votes Initiative. By Melissa R. Michelson, California State University, East Bay, and others. (The James Irvine Foundation, San Francisco, California) September 2007. 44 p.**

[http://www.irvine.org/assets/pdf/pubs/evaluation/CA\\_Vote\\_FINAL\\_Sep19.pdf](http://www.irvine.org/assets/pdf/pubs/evaluation/CA_Vote_FINAL_Sep19.pdf)

[" Results from two elections indicate a strong correlation between the level of personal connection made through outreach and the likelihood that the members of a community with historically low voter participation will vote.... Face-to-face canvassing close to Election Day works best. Volunteer phone-banking produces variable but often substantial effects. Robotic phone calls are ineffective, even when from a trusted source. And direct mail, whether in the form of postcards, handwritten notes, or voter guides, has relatively weak effects. The evaluation also discerned promising new insights meriting further study in future elections."]

[Request #S08-3-1168]

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## VOTERS & VOTING

**Getting it Straight for 2008: What We Know About Vote by Mail Elections, and How to Conduct Them Well. By Derek Cressman, Common Cause Education Fund. (Common Cause, Washington, DC) January 2008. 14 p.**

<http://www.commoncause.org/atf/cf/%7Bfb3c17e2-cdd1-4df6-92be-bd4429893665%7D/WHAT%20WE%20KNOW%20ABOUT%20VOTE%20BY%20MAIL.PDF>

["Vote by mail elections can increase turnout by four to five percentage points

in general elections and significantly more in local or off-year elections. Rather than sparking participation among citizens who never vote, it appears that the added convenience of voting by mail serves primarily to retain higher participation among those voters who tend to vote in general elections by making it easier for them to vote in traditionally lower-interest local, special, or nonpartisan elections. Among the other benefits of mail balloting are a reduction in logistical problems associated with in-person voting on Election Day.... There are also some potential problems with voting by mail, but these can be mitigated or eliminated by using recommended practices."]  
[Request #S08-3-1581]

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## HEALTH

### CHILDREN

**Three Independent Evaluations of Healthy Kids Programs Find Dramatic Gains in Well-Being of Children and Families. By Christopher Trenholm, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc., and others. (Mathematica, Princeton, New Jersey) November 2007. 4 p.**

<http://www.mathematica-mpr.com/publications/pdfs/CHlthreeindep.pdf>

["An evaluation of three of the state's county-based Healthy Kids insurance programs concludes there have been 'consistent and dramatic gains in the well-being of children and families' in the three different settings. Among children enrolled in Healthy Kids for at least a year, their access to care improved significantly; they saw the specialist they needed more frequently both for preventive checkups and sick-child visits; unmet medical needs declined; and the proportion of parents who reported being 'very confident' that their children could obtain needed care rose sharply." The Stockton Record (November 20, 2007) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1390]

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### DEATH AND DYING

**End-of-Life Care: Key Components Provided by Programs in Four States. By the U.S. Government Accountability Office. GAO-08-66. (The Office, Washington, DC) December 2007. 27 p.**

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d0866.pdf>

["The programs incorporate key components of end-of-life care when delivering services to individuals nearing the end of life. These programs use care management, either through a case manager or an interdisciplinary care team of health care professionals, to ensure continuity of care and the delivery of appropriate services. The programs also provide supportive services, such as personal care services or meal delivery, to assist individuals in their homes. Pain and symptom management is provided to treat pain and other symptoms of an individual who is seriously ill. They provide family and caregiver support

through services that alleviate demands on the caregiver and by providing bereavement support for family members. They foster communication with individuals and family members to plan care that reflects each individual's choices."]

[Request #S08-3-1661]

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## HEALTH CARE

**Community Health Centers Tackle Rising Demands and Expectations. By Robert E. Hurley, Center for Studying Health System Change. (The Center, Washington, DC) December 2007. 4 p.**

<http://www.hschange.org/CONTENT/958/958.pdf>

["Despite significant federal funding increases, community health centers (CHCs) -- the backbone of the nation's safety net -- are struggling to meet rising demand for care, particularly for specialty medical, dental and mental health services.... Much of the recent federal investment has gone to build health centers in additional communities, while support for existing CHCs has not kept pace with operating expense increases and patient growth. At the same time, recruiting and retaining staff members in a competitive labor market has grown more difficult, and CHCs are facing other demands, including increased quality reporting expectations, addressing racial and ethnic disparities, and preparing for public health emergencies."]

[Request #S08-3-1538]

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## HEALTH CARE

**"National Health Spending In 2006: A Year of Change for Prescription Drugs." By Aaron Catlin and others. IN: Health Affairs, vol. 27, no. 1 (January/February 2008) pp. 14-29**

<http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/reprint/27/1/14>

["The nation's healthcare bill climbed above \$2 trillion in 2006, averaging a record \$7,026 per person. Costs increased 6.7%, only slightly more than the 6.5% rate in 2005. But it was still well above the overall rate of inflation. Most of those costs are incurred by the sickest patients. For example, about 10% of the population accounts for more than 60% of healthcare costs." Los Angeles Times (January 8, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1666]

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## HUMAN SERVICES

### CHILD CARE

**Child Care and Early Education: 2007 Legislative Action. By Kelli Kelty and Caroline Smith, National Conference of State Legislatures. (The Conference, Denver, Colorado) December 2007. 20 p.**

[http://www.ncsl.org/print/cyf/2007\\_highlights\\_summaries.pdf](http://www.ncsl.org/print/cyf/2007_highlights_summaries.pdf)

["Thirty-nine states enacted substantial legislation that affects child development and early education in the 2007 legislative session. Bills addressed prekindergarten programs and school readiness, child care, quality initiatives, early intervention, and task forces and governance.... This summary is divided into two sections -- legislative highlights and enacted legislation. The first section is further divided by subject area, including child development, prekindergarten, child care, early intervention, facilities, and task forces and governance. The second section contains summaries of enacted legislation from the 2007 legislative session by state."]

[Request #S08-3-1677]

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### FOSTER CARE

**Midwest Evaluation of the Adult Functioning of Former Foster Youth. By Mark E. Courtney, Chapin Hall Center for Children, University of Chicago, and others. (The Center, Chicago, Illinois) 2007. Various pagings.**

[http://www.chapinhall.org/article\\_abstract.aspx?ar=1355&L2=61&L3=130](http://www.chapinhall.org/article_abstract.aspx?ar=1355&L2=61&L3=130)

["The study follows a sample of young people in Iowa, Wisconsin, and Illinois as they make the transition from foster care to early adulthood... Data indicate that young adults who have aged out of the child welfare system are faring poorly as a group compared with their peers. Foster youth in Iowa and Wisconsin are generally discharged from care at age 18, or age 19 at the latest. By contrast, foster youth in Illinois can remain in care until they are 21. Thus, the study presents a unique opportunity to compare the outcomes of young people who aged out of care in states with different policies."]

[Request #S08-3-1623]

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## HUNGER

**A Status Report on Hunger and Homelessness in America's Cities: A 23-City Survey. By the U.S. Conference of Mayors. (The Conference, Washington, DC) December 2007. 72 p.**

<http://usmayors.org/HHSurvey2007/hhsurvey07.pdf>

["The major causes of hunger are poverty, unemployment and high housing costs. The hunger crisis is exacerbated by the recent spike in foreclosures, the increased cost of living in general, and increased cost of food. Sixteen cities (80 percent) reported that requests for emergency food assistance increased during the last year. Among fifteen cities that provided data, the median increase was 10 percent.... The most common cause of homelessness among households with children is the lack of affordable housing. Among households with children, other common causes of homelessness are poverty and domestic violence. Among single individuals, the most common causes are mental illness and substance abuse."]

[Request #S08-3-1660]

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## TRANSPORTATION

### DRIVERS

**Drivers' Lane Changing Behavior While Conversing On a Cell Phone in a Variable Density Simulated Highway Environment. By David L. Strayer and others, University of Utah. (The Author, Salt Lake City, Utah) January 2008. 12 p.**

<http://www.psych.utah.edu/AppliedCognitionLab/LC.pdf>

["Motorists yakking away, even with hands-free devices, crawl about 2 mph slower on commuter-clogged roads than people not on the phone and they don't keep up with the flow of traffic.... Overall, cell phone drivers took about 3 percent longer to drive the same highly traffic-clogged route than people who were not on the phone. About one in 10 drivers is on the phone so it really adds up, said Strayer, whose earlier studies have found slower reaction times from drivers on the phones and compared those reaction times to people legally drunk. Combine those factors and distracted drivers are adding an extra 5 to 10 percent of time to your commute." San Diego Union-Tribune (January 3, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1664]

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## **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION**

**Transportation for Tomorrow: Report of the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. By the National Surface Transportation Policy and Revenue Study Commission. (The Commission, Washington, DC)  
December 2007. Various pagings.**

[http://www.transportationfortomorrow.org/final\\_report/](http://www.transportationfortomorrow.org/final_report/)

["The commission was assembled by Congress in 2005 to come up with a vision for how to preserve and enhance the nation's roads, highways, railroads and transit systems.... The panel's recommendations call for reforming and restructuring the way the federal government selects, funds and constructs projects.... But such improvements will be costly. The nation spends about \$85 billion a year on transportation at the federal, state and local levels, but needs to spend about \$225 billion, the committee concluded. To foot the bill, the committee is suggesting an increase in the federal gas tax. The tax of 18.4 cents per gallon hasn't been raised since 1983, despite an increasing number of cars and drivers and the resulting huge increase in congestion." San Francisco Chronicle (January 15, 2008) 1.]

[Request #S08-3-1662]

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