

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

California -- One Hundred Years Ago

March 1910 “When the Pacific Light and Power Company completes the present \$40,000,000 plans for the rebuilding of the great Redondo Beach power plant, Southern California will have the greatest plant of the kind west of Chicago and the fourth largest in the United States.... In operation less than three years, the tremendous growth of this section of the State has caused the machinery to run at far beyond its rated capacity. The original plant was rated with a production of 15,000 K.W.. The new plant will more than double the capacity of the old one.... It was because of sea water for condensing purposes that the plant was built here in the first place, together with the closeness of the oil tank steamers.” Los Angeles Times (March 27, 1910) p. V21.

1910 “By consulting a map, one can sometimes get an idea for a novel and agreeable outing. The district east of Redondo looks like a promising field for exploration. It is named Los Palos Verdes. The indented coast line is marked with the names of many headlands from Malaga Cove round to Point Firmin. But as regards human settlements, the map is a blank. There is not even a village in all the twenty-odd miles of coast between Redondo and San Pedro. But the hills should be looking their best and greenest these spring days; and a rocky coast is always interesting.” Los Angeles Times (May 15, 1910) p. IM617.

Contents This Week

CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT

[Examining the DARE program](#)

[Sexual victimization in juvenile facilities](#)

[Survey of parole supervision](#)

[Business leaders for prison reform](#)

CULTURE AND SOCIETY

[Media in the lives of teen-agers](#)

DEMOGRAPHY

[Millennials are optimistic, despite recession and war](#)

ECONOMY

[Choosing a fiscal future](#)

[Entertainment industry to grow](#)

[National broadband plan](#)

[Broadband adoption in the U.S.](#)

[Broadband in low-income communities](#)

EDUCATION

[Expanded learning time schools](#)

[Private public schools](#)

[Strategies for school leaders](#)

[Labor trends for school administrators](#)

EMPLOYMENT

[E-Verify misses a lot of illegal workers](#)

[Immigration and wages](#)

[Unionization across the states](#)

ENERGY

[Prospects for energy efficiency](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

[Bee colony collapse](#)

[Blueprint for Bay's recovery](#)

[Agreement reached on Klamath dams](#)

[Authority sues for more water](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

[Effect of open primaries](#)

[Design-build contracting](#)

[Change needed for infrastructure financing](#)

[Immigration and support for public services](#)

[Flaws in argument against internet sales tax](#)

HEALTH

[Dirty air costs hospitals](#)

[Diabetes from air pollution](#)

[High cost of food-borne illnesses](#)

[Children are hungrier for snacks](#)

HOUSING

[Collateral damage of foreclosures](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

[The plight of children after immigration enforcement](#)

[Mental health services for foster youth](#)

[Hunger in America](#)

[Training for effective parenting](#)

[Rebuilding the social safety net](#)

TRANSPORTATION

[Cellphone laws not reducing crashes](#)

[A guide to transportation decision-making](#)

[The performance of state highway systems](#)

[Economic impact of metro extension](#)

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

- 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) 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

CRIME PREVENTION

Lessons from the Battle over D.A.R.E.: The Complicated Relationship between Research and Practice. By Greg Berman and Aubrey Fox, Center for Court Innovation. (The Center, New York, New York) 2009. 16 p.

Full text at: <http://www.courtinnovation.org/uploads/documents/DARE.pdf>

["Since its inception in Los Angeles in 1983, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) has become one of the most well-known and widespread crime prevention programs in the country. D.A.R.E.'s model is relatively straightforward. Police officers are trained to lead educational sessions in local schools that are designed to help students resist peer pressure and live drug-free lives.... An examination of the controversy over D.A.R.E. has thrived despite research showing less-than-inspiring results. To its critics, D.A.R.E. is a cautionary tale of how criminal justice programs can live on despite evidence of failure. To its defenders, D.A.R.E. is a case study of resilience in the face of adversity. This paper unpacks the complicated relationship between research and practice, drawing lessons for future programming."]

[Request #S10-5-4563]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

JUVENILE OFFENDERS

Sexual Victimization in Juvenile Facilities Reported by Youth, 2008-09. By Allen J. Beck and others, Bureau of Justice Statistics, U.S. Department of Justice. (The Bureau, Washington, DC) January 2010. 49 p.

Full text at: <http://bjs.ojp.usdoj.gov/content/pub/pdf/svjfry09.pdf>

["A stunning new Justice Department special report underscores how widespread rape is in youth correctional facilities. It found that almost one youth in eight reported being sexually assaulted while behind bars in the last year. That means that a child in custody is about twice as likely to be raped as an adult behind bars, based on similar surveys of adult prisoners.... Surprisingly, the new survey suggests that the biggest predators are not other inmates but prison staff -- and female staff members offend as much as the males do. More than 10 percent of boys in juvenile correctional facilities said that they had had sex with staff, most of whom were women. Among girls, almost 5 percent said that they had engaged in sexual activity with staff, most of whom were men." New York Times (January 27, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-5-4561]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PAROLE

An Evolving Field: Findings from the 2008 Parole Practices Survey. By Jesse Jannetta and others, the Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) December 2009. 72 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/411999_parole_practices.pdf

["Parole supervision has been a somewhat overlooked field in recent years, even as the challenges of prisoner reentry have attracted increasing attention. Parole supervision can and should play an important role in facilitating successful reentry, yet parole agencies must systematically adopt the practices and policies that have been demonstrated to work. To examine the current state of parole practice, the Urban Institute conducted a survey of parole supervision field offices. The findings of the survey are summarized in this report, and suggest that the principles of effective supervision are beginning to take root."]

[Request #S10-5-4564]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PRISONS

Right-Sizing Prisons: Business Leaders Make the Case for Corrections Reform. By the Pew Center on the States. (The Center, Washington, DC) January 2010. 8 p.

Full text at:

http://www.pewcenteronthestates.org/uploadedFiles/Business%20Leaders_QA_Brief_web.pdf

["You don't normally see the business community leading efforts to reform state policies on public safety issues, yet in several states around the country, business leaders are doing just that. With states facing the worst fiscal crisis in a generation and spending one in every 15 state discretionary dollars on corrections, business leaders are adding their voices to calls for more cost-effective ways to protect public safety and hold offenders accountable, while also providing the education and infrastructure they need for a thriving economy. Pew's Public Safety Performance Project recently spoke with business leaders from five states who have been at the forefront of these efforts. They discussed why and how they are working with policy makers to develop strategies that can yield less crime at a lower cost."]

[Request #S10-5-4559]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

CULTURE AND SOCIETY

MEDIA

Generation M2: Media in the Lives of 8- to 18-Year-Olds. By the Kaiser Family Foundation. (The Foundation, Menlo Park, California) January 2010. 85 p.

Full text at: <http://www.kff.org/entmedia/upload/8010.pdf>

["A new report found that 'entertainment media' use among children and teens is up dramatically from five years ago.... Kids today spend an average of 7 hours, 38 minutes a day consuming what the report calls 'entertainment media.' But it gets worse. If you consider that kids are multi-tasking, it's actually closer to 11 hours. That's nearly every minute of every day when kids aren't in school or sleeping.... The study found that kids who are heavy media users get lower grades. There was no cause and effect stated, but Kaiser found that 47 percent of heavy media users 'say they usually get fair or poor grades (mostly Cs or lower),' compared with 23 percent of light users. It also found that black and Hispanic youth spend far more time with media than white youth." San Jose Mercury News (January 24, 2010) 1.] [Request #S10-5-4565]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

DEMOGRAPHY

YOUNG ADULTS

Millennials: A Portrait of Generation Next: Confident, Connected and Open to Change. By Andrew Kohut and others, Pew Research Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2010. 149 p.

Full text at: <http://pewsocialtrends.org/assets/pdf/millennials-confident-connected-open-to-change.pdf>

["18-to-29-year-olds -- millennials -- remain optimistic, despite a job-killing recession, two wars and the threat of terrorism. By a 2-1 margin, they helped elect President Obama. But they have somewhat soured on him. The Jan. 14-27 survey also showed that 48% of millennials believe Obama hasn't changed the way things work in Washington, 5 points higher than 'Generation Xers' age 30-45.... Majorities of millennials want above all else to have good marriages and be good parents and they respect their elders. Millennials also are more likely to have gay friends and be tolerant of gay partners raising children than other generations. They also are history's first always-connected generation, one that treats multi-tasking handheld gadgets almost like a body part." USA Today (March 2, 2010) 1.] [Request #S10-5-4609]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECONOMY

ECONOMIC POLICY

Choosing the Nation's Fiscal Future. By the Committee on the Fiscal Future of the United States; National Research Council and National Academy of Public Administration. (National Academies Press) January 2010.

[“A mismatch between the federal government's revenues and spending, now and in the foreseeable future, requires heavy borrowing, leading to a large and increasing federal debt. That increasing debt raises a serious challenge to all of the goals that various people expect their government to pursue. It also raises questions about the nation's future wealth and whether too much debt could lead to higher interest rates and even to loss of confidence in the nation's long-term ability and commitment to honor its obligations.... In light of these projections, Choosing the Nation's Fiscal Future assesses the options and possibilities for a sustainable federal budget. This comprehensive book considers a range of policy changes that could help put the budget on a sustainable path.”][Request #S10-5-4514]

Book. 268 p.

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12808

Executive Summary. 31 p.

http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record_id=12808&type=pdfxsum

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY

Entertainment and the Media in Los Angeles. By Jack Kyser and others, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. (The Corporation, Los Angeles, California) January 2010. 65 p.

Full text at: <http://www.laedc.org/reports/Entertainment-2010.pdf>

[“The report predicts a modest increase in industry employment in 2010. The report also forecasts another strong year at the box office, no foreseeable labor issues, and a boost in production from California’s film incentive program.... Run-away production remains a significant threat and changing technology, distribution, exhibition and marketing models are noted. The media industry will continue to struggle, reflecting a slow rebound in advertising and changes in the way consumers access information. The study recommends a renewed focus on entertainment as a serious business because it is a high-wage, high-multiplier activity. The study cited efforts by the cities of Los Angeles and Santa Clarita to become more 'film-friendly.’” LAEDC Press Release (January 20, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-5-4571]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

INFORMATION INFRASTRUCTURE

Connecting America: The National Broadband Plan. By the Staff of the Federal Communications Commission. (The Commission, Washington, DC) March 2010. 376 p.

Full text at: <http://www.broadband.gov/plan/>

["Declaring expansion of broadband Internet access the nation's next great infrastructure challenge, federal regulators unveiled an ambitious, decade-long project to make super high-speed connections available in every corner of the country. The goal is to transform the nation's Internet infrastructure and make high-speed access affordable to everyone. The agency proposes to use wireless connections as a cheaper and quicker alternative to laying wires or fiber optic cables to unserved areas. One of the plan's main objectives is to make the United States home to 'the fastest and most extensive wireless networks of any nation'.... The plan, which for the most part the FCC would implement, is expected to face opposition from broadcasters, who fear they would be forced to give up some of their airwaves." Los Angeles Times (March 16, 2010) 1.]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Broadband Adoption and Use in America. By John B. Horrigan, Pew Internet & American Life Project. (U.S. Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC) February 2010. 52 p.

Full text at: http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DOC-296442A1.pdf

["Nearly two-thirds (65 percent) of American adults use high-speed Internet connections to go online from home. The main dividing lines for access are along socioeconomic dimensions such as income and education. African-Americans and Hispanics trail the average in broadband access, although gaps have narrowed since early 2009. Some 42 percent of Americans with disabilities have broadband at home. Senior citizens (those over the age of 65) continue to trail the national average in broadband adoption with a 35 percent broadband-at-home penetration rate. There are three primary reasons why the 35 percent of non-adopting Americans do not have broadband: cost, lack of digital literacy and broadband is not sufficiently relevant for them to purchase it."]

[Request #S10-5-4569]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Broadband Adoption in Low-Income Communities. By Dharma Dailey and others, Social Science Research Council. (The Council, Brooklyn, New York) March 2010. 103 p.

Full text at:

http://www.ssrc.org/workspace/images/crm/new_publication_3/%7B1eb76f62-c720-df11-9d32-001cc477ec70%7D.pdf

["The social function of the Internet has changed dramatically in recent years. What was, until recently, a supplement to other channels of information and communication has become increasingly a basic requirement of social and economic inclusion. Educational systems, employers, and government agencies at all levels have shifted services online -- and are pushing rapidly to do more. Price remains only one factor shaping the fragile equilibrium of home broadband adoption, and library and community organizations fill the gap by providing critical training and support services while under severe economic pressures.... This study is one of the only large-scale qualitative investigations of barriers to adoption in the US... and identifies a range of factors that make broadband services hard to acquire and even harder to maintain in such communities."].

[Request #S10-5-4587]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL REFORM

Expanded Time, Enriching Experiences: Expanded Learning Time Schools and Community Organization Partnerships. By Kathleen Traphagen and Christine Johnson-Staub, Child and Family Policy Consulting. (Center for American Progress, Washington, DC) February 17, 2010. 6 p.

Full text at: http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/02/expanded_time.html

["Expanded learning time, or ELT, is gaining traction among educators and policymakers as a potent school improvement strategy. Over the past several years many high-performing charter schools and charter school networks across the country have used their autonomy to create longer school days and years for the express purpose of improving student outcomes.... We chose to study four standard district public schools in Massachusetts and one public charter school in New Jersey. We focused on Massachusetts because it is the only state where ELT is a statewide, publicly funded initiative."]

[Request #S10-5-4577]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

America's Private Public Schools. By Michael J. Petrilli and Janie Scull, Thomas B. Fordham Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2010. 19 p.

Full text at: http://edexcellence.net/doc/201002_PrivatePublicSchool_final.pdf

["More than 1.7 million American children attend 'private public schools' where low-income pupils make up less than 5 percent of the student body. In some metropolitan areas, as many as one in six public-school students -- and one in four white youngsters -- attends such schools. Nationwide, more children attend 'private public schools' than attend charter schools. By serving only well-off children, these schools are arguably more private than many private schools.... The metro areas with the largest shares of students in 'private public schools' include Boston (16%), New York (13%), Phoenix (11%), San Francisco (10%) and Denver (9%). In some metro areas, a high percentage of white students in public schools attend 'private public schools': New York (27%), San Francisco (21%), Boston (20%), Philadelphia (14%), Denver (14%) and Los Angeles (13%)."]
[Request #S10-5-4574]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION

Cages of Their Own Design: Five Strategies to Help Education Leaders Break Free. By Frederick M. Hess. American Enterprise Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) January 2010. 6 p.

Full text at: <http://www.aei.org/docLib/01-Edu-Hess-Jan-2010-g.pdf>

["The education profession is notorious for its resistance to change. School leaders often claim that collective bargaining agreements, state and federal regulations, and budget concerns prevent them from pursuing effective school reform. The culture of the K-12 leadership environment is one that often seeks consensus over progress and collegiality over accountability. But breakthrough leadership is possible in schools. This Outlook offers five strategies to help reform-minded educators step boldly out of self-defeating mind-sets into the turbulence of change.... Geniality is a good thing, but there is a time for consensus and a time for conflict. Education leaders intent on radically improving schools and systems need to accept and be prepared for a good bit of turbulence."]
[Request #S10-5-4580]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

School-Site Administrators: A California County and Regional Perspective on Labor Market Trends. By Melissa Eiler White and others, WestEd. (Institute of Education Sciences, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC) January 2010. 44 p.

Full text at: <http://ies.ed.gov/ncee/edlabs/projects/project.asp?ProjectID=234>

["School leadership makes a difference. In California, leadership challenges may be even greater because of the large number of students needing extra support (such as English language learner students and students from low-income households) and some of the highest student-administrator ratios in the country.... This study explores the differences among California's counties and regions in their needs for new school-site administrators in the coming decade, as driven by a combination of projected administrator retirements and projected student enrollment changes. The projected need for new school-site administrators, based solely on these combined factors, ranges from 9 percent to 71 percent of counties' 2007/08 administrator workforce, with the highest need counties generally in the Central Valley and Inland Empire regions."]
[Request #S10-5-4619]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

EMPLOYMENT

IMMIGRATION

Findings of the E-Verify Program Evaluation. By Westat. Prepared for the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. (The Department, Washington, DC) December 2009. 338 p.

Full text at: [Findings of E-verify](#)

["E-Verify fails to catch 54 percent of the illegal workers run through the system because it can't detect identity fraud. Started as a pilot program in 1997, E-Verify is used by more than 180,000 employers nationwide. It allows employers to run a worker's information against Homeland Security and Social Security databases to make sure the person is allowed to work in the United States. Critics say the report shows the need to find more effective ways to stop employers who willingly violate immigration laws. Immigration officials note the report's finding that E-Verify's overall accuracy rate for legal and illegal workers is 96 percent. Only 6 percent of the names run through E-Verify databases involve illegal workers. Fifty-four percent of those illegal workers are not cleared to work." Inland Valley Daily Bulletin (February 25, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4582]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

Immigration and Wages: Methodological Advancements Confirm Modest Gains for Native Workers. By Heidi Shierholz, Economic Policy Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 4, 2010. 29 p.

Full text at: http://epi.3cdn.net/7de74ee0cd834d87d4_a3m6ba9j0.pdf

["In the ongoing debate on immigration, there is broad agreement among academic economists that it has a small but positive impact on the wages of native-born workers overall. The real debate among researchers is whether a large influx of a specific type of worker (say, workers with a particular level of education or training) has the potential to have a negative impact on the wages of existing workers of that same type.... An analysis of the four states with the highest immigration over this period -- California, Florida, New York, and Texas -- revealed some interesting departures from the national average. In these states, like at the national level, the overall relative effect of immigration was positive on native workers. However, some subgroups in these states fared worse -- particularly male workers with less than a high school degree."]

[Request #S10-5-4568]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

LABOR UNIONS

The Unions of the States. By John Schmitt, Center for Economic and Policy Research. (The Center, Washington, DC) February 2010. 23 p.

Full text at: <http://www.cepr.net/documents/publications/unions-states-2010-02.pdf>

["This report reviews unionization rates, the size and composition of the unionized workforce, and the wage and benefit advantage for union workers in each of the fifty states and the District of Columbia, using the most recent data available and focusing on the period 2003-2009.... Unionization rates vary substantially across the states.... Across all the states unionization is strongly associated with increases in overall compensation, measured here by hourly wages and health and pension benefit coverage. In the typical state, unionization is associated with about a 15 percent increase in hourly wages (roughly \$2.50 per hour), a 19-percentage-point increase in the likelihood of having employer-provided health insurance, and a 24-percentage-point increase in the likelihood of having employer-sponsored retirement plans."]

[Request #S10-5-4584]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENERGY

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Real Prospects for Energy Efficiency in the United States. By America's Energy Future Energy Efficiency Technologies Subcommittee, National Research Council. (National Academies Press, Washington, DC) 2010.

["Energy efficiency technologies that exist today or that are likely to be developed in the near future could save considerable money as well as energy. Fully adopting these technologies could lower projected U.S. energy use 17 percent to 20 percent by 2020, and 25 percent to 31 percent by 2030.... Nearly 70 percent of electricity consumption in the United States occurs in buildings. The energy savings from attaining full deployment of cost-effective, energy-efficient technologies in buildings alone could eliminate the need to add new electricity generation capacity through 2030. New power generation facilities would be needed only to address imbalances in regional energy supplies, replace obsolete facilities, or to introduce more environmentally friendly sources of electricity."][Request #S10-5-4586]

Book. 300 p.

http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12621toc

Summary. 29 p.

http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record_id=12621&type=pdfxsum

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

AGRICULTURE

Honey Bee Colony Collapse Disorder. By Renée Johnson, Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. (The Service, Washington, DC) January 7, 2010. 20 p.

Full text at: <http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/RL33938.pdf>

["Starting in late 2006, commercial migratory beekeepers along the East Coast of the United States began reporting sharp declines in their honey bee colonies. Because of the severity and unusual circumstances of these colony declines, scientists named this phenomenon colony collapse disorder (CCD). Honey bees are the most economically valuable pollinators of agricultural crops worldwide.... Based on the available research over the past few years on the numerous possible causes of CCD, USDA concluded in its 2007-2008 progress report (released in June 2009) that 'it now seems clear that no single factor alone is responsible for the malady.' This has led researchers to further examine the hypothesis that CCD may be 'a syndrome caused by many different factors, working in combination or synergistically.'"][Request #S10-5-4604]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Draft Recovery Plan for Tidal Marsh Ecosystems of Northern and Central California. By the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. (The Service, Sacramento, California) January 2010. 636 p.

Full text at: http://ecos.fws.gov/docs/recovery_plan/TMRP_Intro_1.pdf

[“The federal government released the latest plan to offset the damage and establish a healthier ecosystem for the plants and animals relying on the marsh areas. Whether the draft recovery plan is put into practice will depend on funding and popular will, because it has no teeth and no dedicated money.... The plan addresses endangered species in all of Central and Northern California's tidal marshes, from Humboldt Bay to Morro Bay. Along California's steep and rocky coast, however, the bulk of the marshes are inside the Golden Gate. The plan's boundaries extend up to Suisun Bay near Antioch. Restoring imperiled plants and animals to healthy populations involves acquiring and restoring tidal marshes and addressing invasive weeds and predators, along with continued monitoring and research.” Oakland Tribune (February 11, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4622]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WATER POLICY

Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement for the Sustainability of Public and Trust Resources and Affected Communities. AND: Klamath Hydroelectric Agreement. By the U.S. Department of the Interior and others. (The Department, Washington, DC) February 18, 2010. 371 p.

Full text at: http://www.doi.gov/news/doinews/2010_02_18_news.cfm

[“What supporters are calling the largest river and salmon restoration effort in American history took a critical step forward, when formal agreements were signed to remove four dams and revise how water is shared in the Klamath River basin in southern Oregon and Northern California. The dams, which have provided hydroelectric power and water for farm irrigation for decades, have caused severe depletions in salmon populations in the 250-mile river, hurting Indian tribes in the area and helping force shutdowns of some West Coast commercial fishing.... The agreements would remove the four dams by 2020 if a series of federal studies and Congressional approval and appropriations follow suit; the interior secretary is to make a final decision on removal by March 2012.” New York Times (February 18, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4612]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

WATER SUPPLY

Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority v. U.S. Department of the Interior, et al. U.S. District Court, Eastern District of California. Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief. February 11, 2010. 13 p.

Full text at:

http://www.tccanal.com/site_images/small_photo/79_~TCCA%20AofO%20COMPLAINT.pdf

["Northern California farmers have filed a lawsuit that may escalate the state's ongoing water crisis. The farmers say the San Joaquin Valley communities hardest hit by drought and new protections for endangered species in the Delta are nevertheless illegally getting water that belongs to the northerners.... At issue are guarantees made before California's two major water projects were built to deliver water through the Delta. Those guarantees, known as 'area of origin' laws, say that water-rich areas of the state would not end up water poor when the projects started shipping water elsewhere. The Authority says its farmers are entitled to 100 percent of their contracted water supplies before any water can be sent from the Delta to the Westlands Water District and smaller San Joaquin districts." Contra Costa Times (February 18, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-5-4605]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

GENERAL GOVERNMENT

ELECTIONS

Open Primaries. By Eric McGhee, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) February 2010. 18 p.

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=904>

["Paralytic party partisanship in Sacramento can't be cured by an open primary system alone, but it could commence the treatment.... McGhee analyzed the arguments for and against Prop. 14 on the June ballot. The measure would create an open primary system -- called a 'top-two' primary -- that would replace party nominating elections, except for president.... The goal is to force candidates to appeal to a wider range of voters than they currently do in party primaries dominated by ideologues. The idea is to elect more pragmatic moderates, especially to the frequently gridlocked Legislature.... McGhee examined top-two state primary systems in Washington and Louisiana. And he reviewed California's brief experiment with another form of open primary -- a 'blanket ballot' system -- in the 1998 and 2000 elections." Los Angeles Times (February 11, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-5-4558]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

Faster, Cheaper, Better? How Counties Use Design-Build Contracting. By the California Senate Local Government Committee. (The Committee, Sacramento, California) January 20, 2010. 212 p.

Full text at: <http://sinet2.sen.ca.gov/locgov/FasterCheaperBetter1455-S.pdf>

["Broad support exists -- especially among counties -- to repeal the sunset provision clause and make permanent the state law that allows counties to use the design-build contracting method.... No consensus exists over how to define the criteria and assign weights for the best-value selection procedures. Most of the Legislature's debate over the future of counties' design-build law will need to focus on controversies over these criteria and weights.... Because some counties and labor groups disagree about the counties' faithful observance of state laws that govern the counties' use of design-build contracts, legislators may wish to consider creating a forum to investigate allegations."]

[Request #S10-5-4620]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCING

Building California: Infrastructure Choices and Strategy. By the Little Hoover Commission. (The Commission, Sacramento, California) January 2010. 114 p.

Full text at: <http://www.lhc.ca.gov/studies/199/report199.pdf>

["The Commission issued recommendations urging the governor and the Legislature to rethink the state's growing reliance on bonds to fund infrastructure projects and to instead take a more comprehensive and innovative approach to infrastructure planning and development. The Commission concludes that California must think harder and spend smarter on the roads, bridges, levees, schools, prisons and canals it builds. And it must take better care of its assets so that they continue to serve the Californians of tomorrow. The Commission recommends creation of a statewide infrastructure strategic plan and process that assesses needs, establishes priorities, and integrates multiple state goals into the planning and delivery of infrastructure." Little Hoover Commission press release (January 29, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-5-4601]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PUBLIC POLICY

"Concern over Immigration and Support for Public Services." By Eric McGhee and Max Neiman. IN: The California Journal of Politics & Policy, vol. 1, no. 1 (December 2009) pp. 1-26

Full text at: <http://www.bepress.com/cjpp/vol2/iss1/2/?sending=10879>

["This paper presents data and analysis suggesting that immigration as an issue has ramified on to a broader policy agenda than 'just' immigration. We show that, controlling for a wide range of political and demographic variables, those who say that immigration is the most important problem facing the state of California are more likely to want a smaller government that provides fewer services. However, we also find that this link weakens as the number of people concerned about immigration grows. The results suggest that public concern over immigration can be, within some range, a potent means of rallying voters against government. This potential, however, weakens as the proportion of individuals concerned about immigration rises beyond a certain level."]

[Request #S10-5-4530]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

STATE TAXES

Amazon's Arguments Against Collecting Sales Taxes Do Not Withstand Scrutiny. By Michael Mazerov, Center on Budget and Policy Priorities. (The Center, Washington, DC) November 16, 2009. 13 p.

Full text at: <http://www.cbpp.org/files/11-16-09sfp.pdf>

["The Internet retailer Amazon.com has offered two primary justifications for opposing efforts of a growing number of states to require the company and other online retailers to charge sales tax. Amazon officials have argued that collecting sales taxes would be administratively burdensome. They have also claimed that the company obtains no meaningful benefits from states in which it maintains no facilities and therefore should not have to collect taxes for those states. Amazon's actual sales tax collection practices and other statements by company officials substantially undermine these arguments, however. What actually seems to be driving Amazon's opposition is simply a desire to maximize the significant competitive advantage it gains over its rivals when they must add the typical 5 percent to 10 percent tax to their prices but Amazon does not."]

[Request #S10-5-4352]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH

AIR POLLUTION

The Impact of Air Quality on Hospital Spending. By John A. Romley and others, RAND Corporation. (RAND, Santa Monica, California) 2010. 78 p.

[“California's dirty air led to nearly \$200 million in hospital spending over a three-year period -- including \$9 million in Sacramento County -- because of asthma, pneumonia and other pollution-triggered ailments.... ‘California's failure to meet air pollution standards causes a large amount of expensive hospital care,’ said Romley. Medicare and Medi-Cal paid two-thirds of the costs associated with poor air quality. Commercial insurers and other private sources footed the rest of the bill.... Not surprisingly, more than two-fifths of the expenses were concentrated in traffic-choked Los Angeles County, with the rest mostly concentrated along the state's inner valleys, from Kern to Sacramento counties, where illness-causing particulates are more likely to linger.” Sacramento Bee (March 2, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-5-4600]

Report: www.rand.org/pubs/technical_reports/2010/RAND_TR777.pdf

Brief: www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/2010/RAND_RB9501.pdf

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

DIABETES

"Research and Outreach Can Lessen the Overall Burden of Diabetes in Farmworkers." By Lucia L. Kaiser and others. IN: California Agriculture, vol. 64, no. 1 (January/March 2010) pp. 17-21.

Full text at: <http://ucce.ucdavis.edu/files/repositoryfiles/ca6401p17-73583.pdf>

["More than 1 million California farmworkers face a higher risk of diabetes as well as respiratory diseases related to poor air quality. Scientists offer details of their research on the potential health effects of particulates in ambient air inhaled by laboratory animals in the San Joaquin Valley. They also reviewed factors such as the effect of pesticide exposure on diabetes rates among California farmworkers. The articles note the Central Valley has the highest recorded levels of particulate matter in the country, resulting in increased rates of asthma and other respiratory illnesses. The recent research points to possible environmental links between pesticide exposure and the risk of diabetes."]

[Request #S10-5-4535]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

FOOD SAFETY

Health-Related Costs from Foodborne Illness in the United States. By Robert L. Scharff, Ohio State University. (Produce Safety Project, Washington, DC) March 3, 2010. 28 p.

Full text at: www.producesafetyproject.org/admin/assets/files/Health-Related-Foodborne-Illness-Costs-Report.pdf-1.pdf

[“The health-related costs of food-borne illnesses total \$152 billion a year, including the costs of medical bills, lost wages and lost productivity. That total is more than four times that of earlier estimates calculated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.... Some of the pathogens, such as norovirus or salmonella, are responsible for making a million or more Americans sick each year; others, such as botulism, sicken far fewer people. Yet in most cases, researchers still can't pinpoint why or how people get ill from what they eat. Costs varied significantly by state and were influenced by regional differences in diet and health, varying prices for medical care and regulators' ability to quickly respond and curtail food contamination outbreaks.” Los Angeles Times (March 3, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4607]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HEALTH

OBESITY

“Trends In Snacking Among U.S. Children.” By Carmen Piernas and Barry M. Popkin. IN: Health Affairs, vol. 29, no. 3 (March 2010) pp. 398-404.

Full text at: <http://content.healthaffairs.org/cgi/content/abstract/29/3/398>

[“From 1977 to 2006, American children have added 168 snack calories per day to their diets. Those non-meal noshes now account for more than a quarter of their average daily caloric intake.... U.S. children are consuming more fatty, sugary and salty foods and less of the dairy, protein and produce that predominate at mealtime.... Very active kids could burn snack calories through growth and physical activity, but children who are inactive, whose growth has slowed or whose diet is otherwise high in fat, will pack more of those calories not as muscle but as fat. Overall, snacks have become an integral part of American children's mobile and highly programmed lives.” Los Angeles Times (March 2, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4603]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HOUSING

REAL ESTATE LOANS

The Pervasive External Effects of Residential Foreclosures. By Robert W. Wassmer, California State University, Sacramento. (The University, Sacramento, California) February 2010. 16 p.

Full text at: <http://www.csus.edu/indiv/w/wassmerr/ResForeclosure.pdf>

["Wassmer analyzed \$9 billion in sales prices from 36,822 home sales in Sacramento, Yolo, Yuba, Sutter, Placer and El Dorado counties between January 2008 and June 2009. Almost half were homes sold by banks. The other half were sold by regular folks. He concluded that the foreclosed homes cost this one region of America \$2.7 billion in price cuts and lost equity over just 18 months. The repos sold for \$659 million less simply because they were bank-owned and differed from normal sales. They took \$1 billion more in price cuts because they were near other repos. Both reductions then stripped \$1 billion from sale prices of nearby homes never in foreclosure danger. Collectively, these foreclosures cost local governments \$27.1 million in property taxes. Reassessments will likely take more." Sacramento Bee (February 12, 2010) 1.]
[Request #S10-5-4589]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HUMAN SERVICES

CHILDREN

Facing Our Future: Children in the Aftermath of Immigration Enforcement. By Ajay Chaudry and others, the Urban Institute. (The Institute, Washington, DC) February 2010. 96 p.

Full text at: http://www.urban.org/UploadedPDF/412020_FacingOurFuture_final.pdf

["This report examines the consequences of parental arrest, detention, and deportation on 190 children in 85 families in six locations, providing in-depth details on parent-child separations, economic hardships, and children's well-being. The contentious immigration debates around the country mostly revolve around illegal immigration. Less visible have been the 5.5 million children with unauthorized parents, almost three-quarters of whom are U.S.-born citizens. Over several years, Immigration and Customs Enforcement intensified enforcement activities through large-scale worksite arrests, home arrests, and arrests by local law enforcement. The report provides recommendations for stakeholders to mitigate the harmful effects of immigration enforcement on children."]
[Request #S10-5-4591]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

FOSTER CARE

Proposition 63: Is the Mental Health Services Act Reaching California's Transition Age Foster Youth? By Melanie Delgado, Children's Advocacy Institute, University of San Diego School of Law. (The Institute, San Diego, California) January 2010. 159 p.

Full text at:

http://www.cachildlaw.org/Misc/Proposition_63_Report_FINAL_Master.pdf

["The Transition Age Youth population is a distinct population with extraordinary needs. These youth have extraordinary mental health needs as they separate from parents and family. They are vulnerable because they are moving through a period in their lives wrought with changes and challenges, physical, emotional, financial, psychological and social.... California and her counties must use a portion of the Community Services and Support funding to address specifically the unique needs of the Transition Age Foster Youth population. Additionally, the state must mandate the use of Prevention and Early Intervention funding to screen youth for mental health issues that would qualify youth for CSS funding prior to their aging out of the foster care system."]

[Request #S10-5-4593]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HUNGER

Hunger in America 2010. By James Mabli and others, Mathematica Policy Research. (Feeding America, Chicago, Illinois) January 2010. 429 p.

Full text at: <http://feedingamerica.org/faces-of-hunger/hunger-in-america-2010/hunger-report-2010.aspx>

["Hunger in America 2010 is the largest, most comprehensive study of domestic emergency food assistance ever conducted. The study provides comprehensive and statistically valid data on the national charitable response to hunger and the people served by food pantries, soup kitchens and shelters in the Feeding America network."]

[Request #S10-5-4592]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PARENTS

Supporting Parents of Young Children in the Child Welfare System. By Katherine A. Beckmann and others, National Center for Children in Poverty. (The Center, New York, New York) February 2010. 24 p.

Full text at: http://www.nccp.org/publications/pdf/text_920.pdf

["This report explores the challenges and opportunities of improving mandated parent training for parents of young children in the child welfare system. Drawing on lessons from research and practice, it calls on states, courts and communities to use more intentional, cost effective, and strategic approaches to required parent training.... While parent education is only one component of a comprehensive service plan to help parents better parent, it is a point of potential leverage to improve the child welfare system by providing more effective prevention services, such as parenting education, and spending scarce resources more efficiently. This report explores the research, proposes criteria for effective programs, and discusses strategies that can be used at the local, state and national levels to change policy and practice."]

[Request #S10-5-4594]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

SOCIAL SECURITY

Freedom from Fear: Using the Social Security Act to Rebuild America's Social Safety Net. By Steven Attewell, University of California, Santa Barbara. (New America Foundation, Washington, DC) January 11, 2009. 12 p.

Full text at:

<http://growth.newamerica.net/sites/newamerica.net/files/policydocs/FreedomFromFear.pdf>

["76 years ago, a small group of experts and intellectuals gathered in the offices of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and hammered out America's first plan for a system of comprehensive social security.... Our neglect of the Social Security system, or at least those elements not involved with old-age pensions, have bequeathed us a society that is more disjointed, more willing to tolerate the suffering of others, and less trusting in the ability of the democratic process to ensure the common good.... As citizens once more recognize that they share in the benefits as well as the costs of the Social Security system, they may come to recognize the legitimate purpose of government, which is to provide a reliable safety net for all of us."]

[Request #S10-5-4595]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

TRANSPORTATION

DRIVERS

Hand-Held Cellphone Laws and Collision Claim Frequencies. By the Highway Loss Data Institute. (The Institute, Arlington, Virginia) December 2009.

["Think your commute is safer now that California requires drivers to use hands-free cellphones? Think again. A new study found that rates of crashes before and after the landmark law took effect in 2008 have not significantly changed. It also found that the trend followed that of neighboring states that do not have bans on hand-held phones. 'The laws aren't reducing crashes, even though we know that such laws have reduced hand-held phone use, and several studies have established that phoning while driving increases crash risk,' said Adrian Lund, president of the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety. 'If crash risk increases with phone use and fewer drivers use phones where it's illegal to do so, we would expect to see a decrease in crashes. But we aren't seeing it. ... We're currently gathering data to figure out this mismatch.'" Los Angeles Times (January 29, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-5-4616]

Bulletin. 5 p.

http://www.iihs.org/research/topics/pdf/HLDI_Cellphone_Bulletin_Dec09.pdf

Status Report. 8 p.

<http://www.iihs.org/externaldata/srdata/docs/sr4502.pdf>

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

FEDERAL AGENCIES

A Guide to Transportation Decisionmaking. By the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration. (Federal Highway Administration, Washington, DC) December 2009. 36 p.

Full text at: <http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/planning/decisionmaking/decisionmaking.pdf>

["Have you ever wondered how decisions are made about the transportation projects that affect your life? How do government officials decide where to put a bus stop, road, or bridge? How are these and other transportation projects planned? We hope this guide will help you understand how transportation decisions are made at the local, State, and national levels.... This Guide discusses only the federally required process for transportation decision-making. The Federal role is to provide funds and standards for State and local decisions. States, Metropolitan Planning Organizations, and transit operators make transportation investment decisions."]

[Request #S10-5-4471]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

HIGHWAYS

18th Annual Report on the Performance of State Highway Systems (1984-2007/8). By David T. Hartgen, Reason Foundation, and others. (The Foundation, Los Angeles, California) December 2009. 112 p.

Full text at: http://reason.org/files/highway/18th_annual_highway_report.pdf

["The report tracks the performance of state-owned roads of the United States from 1984 to 2007, with some recent information (fatalities, bridge condition and travel) for 2008. Eleven indicators make up each state's overall rating and cover highway expenditures, pavement and bridge condition, urban congestion, fatality rates and narrow lanes. The overall condition of the state-owned highway system continued to generally improve from 2006 to 2007, but several key indicators of performance worsened. Five of seven key condition indicators improved, but the percentage of deficient bridges worsened for the first time in 25 years. And after several years of improvement, the proportion of urban interstates in poor condition also worsened between 2006 and 2007."]

[Request #S10-5-4472]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)

PUBLIC TRANSIT

Economic Impact Study: Metro Goldline Foothill Extension Phase 2A. By Gregory Freeman and others, Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation. (The Corporation, Los Angeles, California) January 2010. 10 p.

Full text at:

http://www.laecd.org/reports/consulting/2010_MetroGoldLineFoothillExtension.pdf

["The metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Phase 2A will create 6,900 jobs, about 2,600 of which will be in construction. This represents 8 percent of the construction jobs lost over the past two years, and more than 2 percent of current industry employment.... The Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension project will likely spur further development and economic activity for many years. The combination of efficient transit and appropriate zoning has been a catalyst for investment and long term economic development around stations in other cities."]

[Request #S10-5-4573]

[\[Back to Top\]](#)