

**CALIFORNIA RESEARCH BUREAU  
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Studies in the News**

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**California -- One Hundred Years Ago**

**November 1910** “Gaining access to the store, either through the transom or through the back door by means of a pass key, thieves looted the millinery store of Mrs. E. Kantrowitz of about \$800 worth of willow ostrich plumes according to a report made by her to the police yesterday morning.... The plumes were of all sizes and colors and some of them were very valuable. The thieves were good judges of plumes, as only the very best were taken. Nothing else about the store was molested.” Los Angeles Times (November 22, 1910) p. II2

**1910** “The tying of the flues of willow plumes – the sweeping artificial ostrich feathers of the present fashion - has become during the last two years a very extensive industry in New York tenements.... ‘Willowing’ consists in tying to every ‘flue’ or flimsy strand of a good ostrich feather, two strands stripped from an inferior ostrich feather. The work is paid by the inch: five or six cents an inch in factories, and four or five cents an inch in homes.... A tenement worker cannot make an eighteen-inch feather in less than one and a half or two days. She is paid seventy-five or ninety cents. The feather sells at retail anywhere from eight and a half to twenty-five dollars.” Los Angeles Times (August 20, 1910) p. III1.

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

*Studies in the News* is a current compilation of items significant to the Legislature and Governor's Office. It is created weekly by the California State Library's

[California Research Bureau](#) to supplement the public policy debate in California. To help share the latest information with state policymakers, these reading lists are now being made accessible through the California State Library's website. This week's list of current articles in various public policy areas is presented below. Prior lists can be viewed from the California State Library's Web site at [www.library.ca.gov/sitn](http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn)

- When available, the URL for the full text of each item is provided.
- California State Employees may contact the State Information & Reference Center (916-654-0261); [csinfo@library.ca.gov](mailto:csinfo@library.ca.gov)) with the SITN issue number and the item number [S#].
- All other interested individuals should contact their local library - the items may be available there, or may be borrowed by your local library on your behalf.
- Studies in the News is also available as an RSS feed at <http://www.library.ca.gov/sitn/crb/>

The following studies are currently on hand:

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE & LAW ENFORCEMENT**

### **CORRECTIONS**

**The Continuing Fiscal Crisis in Corrections: Setting a New Course. By the Vera Institute of Justice. (The Institute, New York, New York) October 2010. 24 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.vera.org/download?file=3072/The-continuing-fiscal-crisis-in-corrections-10-2010-updated.pdf>

["To help legislators and other policy makers understand states' responses both to the fiscal crisis and to unsatisfactory outcomes of earlier policies and investments, we surveyed state corrections officials about their planned appropriations for fiscal year 2011. Staff assessed current spending plans and reviewed state legislative action in 2009 and 2010 to look for new trends in corrections policies. The first half of this report describes the immediate actions states have taken to reduce costs. The second half looks at legislative reforms aimed at reducing corrections spending over the long term. A core lesson underlying all of this activity is that officials are recognizing -- in large part due to 30 years of trial and error, backed up by data -- that it is possible to reduce corrections spending while also enhancing public safety."]

[Request #S10-21-5353]

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## IMMIGRATION

**Where is the Fire? Immigrants and Crime in California. By Barry Krisberg, Berkeley Center for Criminal Justice. (The Center, Berkeley, California) October 2010. 16 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Where\\_is\\_the\\_fire.pdf](http://www.law.berkeley.edu/files/Where_is_the_fire.pdf)

["During precisely the period that California experienced the biggest immigrant population increase in its history, the state also experienced a precipitous drop in crime rates. In fact, in counties closest to the border where you would expect to see the largest increases in crimes, there were huge drops. In San Diego County, its violent crime rate declined by 58 percent between 1991 and 2008, while in Imperial County, the violent crime rate dropped by 53 percent and serious property crime rate by 13 percent.... Contrary to public perceptions, Krisberg also points to how immigrants are vastly underrepresented in California prisons. Noncitizens make up 27 percent of California's population -- but only 11 percent of its prison population. That underrepresentation seems to apply to illegal immigrants as well. " California Watch (October 13, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-21-5346]

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## PRISONER REENTRY

**Criminal Justice Debt: A Barrier to Reentry. By Alicia Bannon and others, Brennan Center for Justice. (The Center, New York, New York) October 2010. 71 p.**

Full text at: [http://brennan.3cdn.net/c610802495d901dac3\\_76m6vqhpy.pdf](http://brennan.3cdn.net/c610802495d901dac3_76m6vqhpy.pdf)

["Many states are imposing new and often onerous 'user fees' on individuals with criminal convictions. Yet far from being easy money, these fees impose severe -- and often hidden -- costs on communities, taxpayers, and indigent people convicted of crimes. They create new paths to prison for those unable to pay their debts and make it harder to find employment and housing as well to meet child support obligations. This report examines practices in the fifteen states with the highest prison populations, which together account for more than 60 percent of all state criminal filings. We focused primarily on the proliferation of 'user fees,' financial obligations imposed not for any traditional criminal justice purpose such as punishment, deterrence, or rehabilitation but rather to fund tight state budgets."]

[Request #S10-21-5344]

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## PRISONERS

**Mothers Behind Bars: A State-by-State Report Card and Analysis of Federal Policies on Conditions of Confinement for Pregnant and Parenting Women and the Effect on Their Children. By Malika Saada Saar, The Rebecca Project for Human Rights, and others. (The Project, Washington, DC) October 2010. 52 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.rebeccaproject.org/images/stories/files/mothersbehindbarsreport-2010.pdf>

["As a record number of women enter prison, many states are failing to provide adequate medical care to pregnant inmates and even shackling some women during delivery. California did better than most states -- receiving an overall B grade on the report card, placing it among the top five states. In the three categories the report examined -- prenatal care, shackling policies and family-based treatment as an alternative to incarceration -- California was given a C, B and A, respectively. Only one state, Pennsylvania, received an overall A-minus. Since the introduction of mandatory sentencing to the federal drug laws in the mid-1980s, the number of women in prison nationwide has risen by 400 percent. In California, the number of incarcerated women in California rose from 1,232 in 1979 to 10,812 in 2009." California Watch (October 28, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-21-5345]

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## CULTURE AND SOCIETY

### PRIVACY

**Cybercasing the Joint: On the Privacy Implications of Geo-Tagging. By Gerald Friedland, International Computer Science Institute, and Robin Sommer, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. (The Institute, Berkeley, California) May 2010. 6 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.icsi.berkeley.edu/pubs/networking/cybercasinghotsec10.pdf>

["This article aims to raise awareness of a rapidly emerging privacy threat that we term cybercasing: leveraging geo-tagged information available online to mount real-world attacks. While users typically realize that sharing locations has some implications for their privacy, we provide evidence that many (i) are unaware of the full scope of the threat they face when doing so, and (ii) often do not even realize when they publish such information. The threat is elevated by recent developments that make systematic search for geo-located data and inference from multiple sources easier than ever before. In this paper, we summarize the state of geo-tagging; estimate the amount of geo-information available on several major sites, including YouTube, Twitter, and Craigslist; and examine its programmatic accessibility through public APIs.][Request #S10-21-5347]

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## DEMOGRAPHY

### LATINOS

**Illegal Immigration Backlash Worries, Divides Latinos.** By Mark Hugo Lopez and others, Pew Hispanic Center. (The Center, Washington, DC) October 28, 2010. 52 p.

Full text at: <http://pewhispanic.org/files/reports/128.pdf>

["A new study shows Latinos have soured considerably on illegal immigration in the last three years. In 2007, 50 percent of Latinos said that the growing number of illegal immigrants was a positive force for the existing Latino population. In a new survey, that number had plummeted to 29 percent. Thirty-one percent said illegal immigration had a negative effect, and 20 percent said it had no effect." Inland Valley Daily Bulletin (November 8, 2010) 1.]

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## ECONOMY

### GREEN ECONOMY

**California in Perspective: A Review of State Energy Policies and Their Impact on High Growth.** By David Cheng and others, Cleantech Group. (Cleantech, San Francisco, California) September 27, 2010. 12 p.

Full text at: <http://cleantech.com/research/upload/California-in-Perspective-A-Review-of-State-Energy-Policies.pdf>

["While California has established clear dominance in the receipt of cleantech venture capital, every state around the country is also seeking to stimulate clean technology growth. On a state-by-state basis, clean energy policies are well represented in every state with 22 states having 11 or more clean energy policies in place.... Obviously, there is more at play than simply clean energy policy. In general, the states that have attracted an outsized amount of venture dollars tend to have the following conditions: Large entrepreneurial base (also a reflection of local population); Proximity to major technical universities and/or labs; Access to early-stage capital; and Supportive local and state policies for innovation and small businesses."]

[Request #S10-21-5362]

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## JOB CREATION

**Business Relocation and Homegrown Jobs, 1992–2006. By Jed Kolko, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) September 2010. 9 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R\\_910JKR.pdf](http://www.ppic.org/content/pubs/report/R_910JKR.pdf)

["Relying on the most recent data, this analysis reconfirms that business relocation - the movement of business establishments from one state to another -- accounts for a very small share of California's employment fluctuations. In fact, relocation accounts for a smaller share of job gains and losses in California than in most other states, in part because most California businesses lie far from the border of neighboring states. This report expands on our earlier research with a closer examination of births, deaths, expansions, and contractions of businesses, assessing in particular how much of these gains and losses occur among locally headquartered businesses. Although regional economic development policies often focus on encouraging businesses headquartered elsewhere to relocate, open, or expand local operations, the strong majority of job gains and losses are 'homegrown' in that they take place in locally headquartered businesses."]

[Request #S10-21-5348]

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## REMITTANCES

**Who in the United States Sends and Receives Remittances? An Initial Analysis of the Monetary Transfer Data from the August 2008 CPS Migration Supplement. By Elizabeth M. Grieco and others, U.S. Census Bureau. (The Bureau, Washington, DC) November 8, 2010. 23 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.census.gov/population/www/documentation/twps0087/twps0087.pdf>

["This report presents initial results on the occurrence, frequency and amount of transfers sent and received. This supplement is noteworthy because it was the first time questions on monetary transfers were included in a federally sponsored, nationally representative survey.... Between August 2007 and August 2008, 5 percent of all households reported sending monetary transfers to relatives and friends outside the United States. Foreign-born households were more likely to send money than native households.... Of those households that reported sending monetary transfers to relatives and friends outside the United States and the amount sent, over half (53 percent) sent less than \$1,000, including 34 percent that sent less than \$500.... Half of native households sent \$384 or more, while half of foreign-born households sent \$1,007 or more."]

[Request #S10-21-5356]

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## TECHNOLOGY

**Expanding Underrepresented Minority Participation: America's Science and Technology Talent at the Crossroads. By the Committee on Underrepresented Groups and the Expansion of the Science and Engineering Workforce Pipeline, National Academy of Science. (National Academies Press, Washington, DC) September 2010.**

["National efforts to strengthen U.S. science and engineering must include all Americans, especially minorities, who are the fastest growing groups of the U.S. population but the most underrepresented in science and technology career., Minority participation in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education at all levels should be an urgent national priority, says the report, which offers a comprehensive road map for increasing involvement of underrepresented minorities and improving the quality of their education.... The minds and talents of underrepresented minorities are a great, untapped resource that the nation can no longer afford to squander. Improving STEM education of our diverse citizenry will strengthen the science and engineering work force and boost the U.S. economy." National Academies press release (September 30, 2010) 1.] [Request #S10-21-5349]

Book. 286 p.

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12984](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12984)

Summary. 23 p.

[http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record\\_id=12984&type=pdfxsum](http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record_id=12984&type=pdfxsum)

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## EDUCATION

### IMMIGRANTS

**Robert Martinez, et al. v The Regents of the University of California, et al. California Supreme Court. S167791. November 15, 2010. 28 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/S167791.PDF>

["Illegal immigrants who graduated from state high schools can continue to receive lower, in-state tuition at California's public universities and colleges, the California Supreme Court decided unanimously. The ruling is the first of its kind in the nation. California is one of 10 states that permit undocumented immigrants to receive in-state tuition... Federal law prohibits illegal immigrants from receiving college benefits based on residency and not provided to all citizens.... But state officials insist that there is no conflict with federal law. Under California's nonresident tuition exemption, approved in 2001, public colleges can offer in-state tuition to

those who attended California high schools for at least three years.... An appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court is expected." Los Angeles Times (November 16, 2010) 1.] [Request #S10-21-5383]

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## **SCHOOL FINANCE**

**Pathways for School Finance in California. By Heather Rose and others, Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) November 2010. 41 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=923>

["This report demonstrates how California can improve its school finance system steadily over time as economic and demographic conditions permit. The improvements we suggest here are derived from our analysis of California's current system using the following five principles: 1) Meet resource needs; 2) Structure incentives properly; 3) Allocate funds transparently; 4) Treat similar districts equitably; and 5) Balance state and local authority. California's school finance system violates these principles in many ways. Under the current system, different districts are funded at different rates, a clear violation of horizontal equity. Unlike school finance systems in other large states, California does not adjust revenue to school districts based on regional differences in the cost of hiring employees, failing to recognize a large and obvious cost difference among districts."]

[Request #S10-21-5369]

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**Levers for Change: Pathways for State-to-District Assistance in Underperforming School Districts. By William J. Slotnik, Community Training and Assistance Center. (Center for American Progress, Washington, DC) September 2010. 56 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/09/levers\\_for\\_change.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/09/levers_for_change.html)

["When school districts fail to meet their responsibilities to educate students, state departments of education by law have to step up and become the responsible party. But do these state agencies have the knowledge and capacity to do what the districts have not done? Are they oriented and equipped to get better results?... The most critical lessons are in the effective use of three levers for change. State interventions at the district level have educational, organizational, and political dimensions, but these interventions are largely approached from just a one-dimensional perspective -- educational. Unless the organizational and political dimensions are addressed concurrently with the educational dimension, successful state-to-district interventions will continue to be elusive for the states."]

[Request #S10-21-5279]

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## TEACHERS

**Transforming Teacher Education Through Clinical Practice: A National Strategy to Prepare Effective Teachers. By the Blue Ribbon Panel on Clinical Preparation and Partnerships for Improved Student Learning. (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, Washington, DC) November 2010. 40 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.ncate.org/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=zzeiB1OoqPk%3d&tabid=715>

["The report calls for turning teacher preparation programs 'upside down' by changing from theory and academic courses in pedagogy to clinical practice, with the focus on teacher candidates' experiences in the classroom. 'Teacher education has too often been segmented with subject-matter preparation, theory, and pedagogy taught in isolated intervals and too far removed from clinical practice. But teaching, like medicine, is a profession of practice,' the report concluded. The report calls for higher standards for admitting candidates to teacher programs and for finding the best teacher practitioners to mentor prospective teachers in the classroom. University programs should work much more closely with school districts in designing programs and in evaluating students." Thoughts on Public Education (November 17, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-21-5386]

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## ENERGY

### CARBON SEQUESTRATION

**Report of the Interagency Task Force on Carbon Capture and Storage. By the Interagency Task Force on Carbon Capture and Storage. (Department of Energy, Washington, DC) August 2010. 233 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.fe.doe.gov/programs/sequestration/ccstf/CCSTaskForceReport2010.pdf>

["Carbon capture and storage (CCS) can play an important role in domestic GHG emissions reductions while preserving the option of using abundant domestic fossil energy resources. However, barriers hamper near-term and long-term demonstration and deployment of CCS technology. While the largest of these barriers is the absence of a Federal policy to reduce GHG emissions, the Task Force has outlined specific actions the Federal government could take under existing authority and resources to address these barriers. For widespread cost-effective deployment of CCS, additional action may be needed to address specific barriers, such as long-term liability and stewardship. Timely development of cost-effective CCS could reduce the costs of achieving our Nation's climate change goals."]

[Request #S10-21-5364]

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## ENERGY CONSERVATION

**"Smart Metering: What Potential for Householder Engagement?"** By Sarah Darby. IN: **Building Research & Information**, vol. 35, no. 5 (September 2010) pp. 442-457.

Full text at:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~db=all~content=a926271285~frm=abslink>

["Smart meters to boost energy efficiency in homes do not automatically achieve a significant reduction in energy demand. Previous studies have shown that smart meters encourage homeowners to cut their energy use by 3 to 15 percent, but researchers said consumers also need educating about energy use.... Sarah Darby examined how householders used feedback on their energy consumption with and without smart meters. She found that a reduction in energy demand 'did not flow naturally from improved billing information. There is the potential to use (advanced metering infrastructure) for demand reduction if there is a strong strategic intention to do so, and if the social support is there,' she said." Reuters (September 9, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-21-5365]

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## SOLAR POWER

**California's Solar PV Paradox: Declining California Solar Initiative Prices and Rising Investor Owned Utility Bid Prices.** By Nika Rogers and Derek Fletcher, California Public Utilities Commission. (The Commission, San Francisco, California) October 2010. 28 p.

Full text at: [http://www.dra.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/5A0E254D-47E0-4625-BACF-F1049CEAB924/0/ParadoxPaperFinal\\_v2.pdf](http://www.dra.ca.gov/NR/rdonlyres/5A0E254D-47E0-4625-BACF-F1049CEAB924/0/ParadoxPaperFinal_v2.pdf)

["The analysis found that while global solar PV prices have fallen since 2008, solar plants proposed by California's investor-owned utilities have grown in size. The CPUC has given approval to its regulated utilities to build several large-scale solar plants in order to help fulfill the legislative mandate that 20 percent of California's electricity comes from renewable sources by 2010. Once negotiated and approved by the CPUC, these higher costs are then passed on to utility customers. The report finds that the diverging cost trends of small and large solar PV projects in California represent a troubling pattern that should signal the CPUC to look at updating its renewable procurement policies to better serve the utility customers that must pay for its decisions."]

[Request #S10-21-5338]

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## ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES

### AIR POLLUTION

**Clean Cars in California: Four Decades of Progress in the Unfinished Battle to Clean Up Our Air.** By Travis Madsen, Frontier Group, and others.  
(Environment California Research and Policy Center, Los Angeles, California)  
November 2010. 36 p.

Full text at:

<http://www.environmentcalifornia.org/uploads/5f/eb/5feb3e1d3a97f815a4e80609febe5d54/Clean-Cars-in-California.pdf>

["Clean car standards have helped cut total automobile air pollution in California by more than 85 percent since 1975, despite rapid growth in population and vehicle travel. However, many Californians are still exposed to some of the worst air pollution in the United States.... New technologies can make our cars even cleaner, and cleaner cars are a critical piece of reducing our exposure to unhealthy air. The California Air Resources Board should ensure that the next round of vehicle emission standards are strong and effective.... The standards should also chart a course for widespread commercialization of next-generation cars with no tailpipes or emissions -- such as electric cars."][Request #S10-21-5384]

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### CLIMATE CHANGE

**Climate Change: A Coordinated Strategy Could Focus Federal Geoengineering Research and Inform Governance Efforts.** By the U.S. Government Accountability Office. GAO-10-903. (The Office, Washington, DC) September 2010. 70 p.

Full text at: <http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10903.pdf>

["Policymakers have raised questions about geoengineering -- large-scale deliberate interventions in the earth's climate system to diminish climate change or its impacts -- and its role in a broader strategy of mitigating and adapting to climate change... Few geoengineering experiments or modeling studies have been conducted, and major uncertainties remain on the efficacy and potential consequences of geoengineering approaches..... Legal experts' and officials' views differed on the best approach for international governance, but generally agreed that the federal government should take a coordinated, interagency approach on domestic regulation. Experts and officials also identified governance challenges, such as the need to address liability."]  
[Request #S10-21-5366]

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## LAKE TAHOE

**The Effects of Climate Change on Lake Tahoe in the 21st Century: Meteorology, Hydrology, Loading and Lake Response. By Robert Coats, University of California, Davis, and others. (Tahoe Environmental Research Center, Davis, California) June 2010. 208 p.**

Full text at: [http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news\\_detail.lasso?id=9680](http://www.news.ucdavis.edu/search/news_detail.lasso?id=9680)

["About 30 percent of the precipitation that falls today in the Tahoe Basin, on average, arrives in the form of snow. By 2050, the study predicts this will drop to about 20 percent -- and to just 10 percent by the end of the century. The result will be a far shorter ski season, and perhaps a spring and summer without snow-capped peaks ringing the lake. This assumes a 'business as usual' approach to managing climate change, in which little is done to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. A 'greener' scenario that contains the growth of greenhouse gases still results in a diminished snowpack, though not as severe.... The changes will also result in the lake itself falling below its natural rim for perhaps decades at time, with dire consequences for water users in Reno and beyond. The lake is also likely to see significant algae growth." Sacramento Bee (November 16, 2010) 1.]

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## GENERAL GOVERNMENT

### COURTS

**Preventable Error: A Report on Prosecutorial Misconduct in California: 1997–2009. By Kathleen M. Ridolfi and Maurice Possley, Northern California Innocence Project, Santa Clara University School of Law. (The University, Santa Clara, California) October 2010. 127 p.**

Full text at:

[http://law.scu.edu/ncip/file/ProsecutorialMisconduct\\_BookEntire\\_online%20version.pdf](http://law.scu.edu/ncip/file/ProsecutorialMisconduct_BookEntire_online%20version.pdf)

["Hundreds of California prosecutors committed ethical lapses in the courtroom without being punished. Of the 707 cases in which courts found evidence of misconduct from 1997 to 2009, just six prosecutors faced public sanctions by the State Bar..... Prosecutors have absolute immunity against civil liability no matter how egregious the misconduct. The study's cases ranged from failing to turn over evidence that could help a defendant to asking witnesses improper questions during trial and presenting false testimony in court.... The number of cases found to include misconduct by prosecutors, about one a week in California, likely underestimates the size of the problem, Ridolfi said, since 97 percent of felony criminal cases are resolved before trial and possible instances of misconduct may never come to light." Modesto Bee (October 10, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-21-5342]

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## GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

**“What Gets Measured Gets Done” Performance Management in California State Government. By the Performance Management Council. (The Council, Sacramento, California) September, 2010. 34 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.bestpractices.ca.gov/GetFile.aspx?File=Performance%20Measurement%20Community%2fPerformance Management In California State Government 2010.pdf](http://www.bestpractices.ca.gov/GetFile.aspx?File=Performance%20Measurement%20Community%2fPerformance%20Management%20In%20California%20State%20Government%202010.pdf)

["Performance management is the idea of setting a strategic direction, identifying measurable goals, tracking the results and making course corrections to better achieve the goals.... We conducted a survey on the current use of performance management by California state agencies. This advisory report, based on these efforts, offers lessons learned, including the following: 1) Performance management can improve the way state government does business and can help achieve better results for Californians; 2) Performance management has been tried in California state government several times in the past, but building a performance management culture remains an idea that is only partially fulfilled; and 3) Several state agencies are successfully using performance data to improve problem solving and decision making."][Request #S10-21-5373]

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## PUBLIC FINANCE

**Ensuring State and Municipal Solvency. By Betsy Zeidman, the Milken Institute, and others. (The Institute, Santa Monica, California) October 2010. 36 p.**

Full text at:

<http://www.milkeninstitute.org/publications/publications.taf?function=detail&ID=38801248&cat=finlab>

["Even more daunting are the long-term structural issues that are simultaneously coming to a head: trillions of dollars in unfunded pension obligations, the escalating costs of other post-employment benefits (OPEB), record numbers of retirees poised to tap pensions and benefits, increasing longevity, and significant revenue/expenditure mismatches.... It's clear that achieving long-term solvency for states and municipalities will require painful paradigm shifts. There is no simple approach that will work for all 91,000 local governmental units in the U.S. But the sooner governments address their long-term structural challenges, the better off they and their residents will be. The short-term expediency of simply laying off workers to meet hard budget constraints is not sustainable in the long run and will deprive citizens of services (safety, sanitation, education) they want and deserve."]

[Request #S10-21-5337]

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## SPECIAL DISTRICTS

**What's So Special About Special Districts? A Citizen's Guide to Special Districts in California. By the California Senate Local Government Committee. (The Committee, Sacramento, California) October 2010. 28 p.**

Full text at:

[http://senweb03.senate.ca.gov/committee/standing/LOCAL\\_GOV/2010WSSASD4edition.pdf](http://senweb03.senate.ca.gov/committee/standing/LOCAL_GOV/2010WSSASD4edition.pdf)

["Celebrated as the best example of democracy, cursed as the worst form of fragmented government, and generally misunderstood even by the experts, special districts are California's unique contribution to local government. The question remains: What's so special about special districts? This citizen's guide provides the answer: focused service. Focused because special districts only serve in specifically defined areas, unlike counties and cities that provide services throughout their boundaries. Special districts are also focused because most of them provide only a single service, allowing them to concentrate on one activity. Service because districts deliver only the public programs and public facilities that their constituents want."]

[Request #S10-21-5370]

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## STATE BUDGETS

**Facing Facts: Public Attitudes and Fiscal Realities in Five Stressed States. By the Pew Center on the States and Public Policy Institute of California. (The Institute, San Francisco, California) October 2010. 92 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.ppic.org/main/publication.asp?i=951>

["A survey in five of the nation's most fiscally stressed states reveals a disconnect between what the public wants from state government and budget realities. Residents in Arizona, California, Florida, Illinois, and New York believe their states could spend less without cutting services. They want to protect K-12 education and Medicaid funding -- by far the biggest portions of state budgets. They prefer charging someone else -- wealthy corporations, smokers, drinkers, and gamblers -- to ensure essential government services. But even these increases would likely be insufficient to close severe budget gaps."]

[Request #S10-21-5350]

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## HEALTH

### CHILDREN

**Children with Special Health Care Needs: A Profile of Key Issues in California. By the Child and Adolescent Health Measurement Initiative. (The Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health., Palo Alto, California) November 2010. 97 p.**

Full text at: <http://www.lpfch.org/cshcn/fullreport.pdf>

["California ranked worst in the nation on an index that measures whether children with special health needs have insurance and medical care. About one in seven children in California has a special health care need: a chronic condition that requires health care beyond what is needed by most children. That can range from mild asthma to something as complex as cerebral palsy or heart disease.... California ranked no better than 40th on any of the 13 measures in the index. The state was 40th in the percentage of children with special needs who are uninsured. California was dead last in the percentage of parents who feel like partners in their child's care, the percentage of parents who experience stress and the percentage of children whose care meets a minimum quality index." California Health Report (November 17, 2010) 1.][Request #S10-21-5387]

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### HEALTH CARE

**California's Health Care Safety Net: Facts and Figures. By Trisha McMahon and Matthew Newman, Blue Sky Consulting Group. (California HealthCare Foundation, Oakland, California) October 2010. 36 p.**

Full text at:

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

["The health care safety net describes the intersection of three loosely coordinated, continuously evolving components: public health care programs, health care providers, and the low-income, uninsured population with unmet medical needs. The nature and scope of the safety net changes constantly due to many factors, including population needs, the economy, and shifts in policy and budget priorities. Implementation of federal health reform promises to again reshape the health care safety net, dramatically expanding both Medicaid and private insurance coverage. With the prospect of financial relief to the health care safety net as well as changes in the populations served, this California Health Care Almanac report provides a snapshot on the eve of what will likely be a decade of fundamental transformation."][Request #S10-21-5339]

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## HEALTH INSURANCE

**All-Payer Claims Databases: State Initiatives to Improve Health Care Transparency.** By Denise Love, National Association of Health Data Organizations, and others. (The Commonwealth Fund, New York, New York) September 2010. 14 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/Files/Publications/Issue%20Brief/2010/Sep/1439\\_Love\\_allpayer\\_claims\\_databases\\_ib\\_v2.pdf](http://www.commonwealthfund.org/~media/Files/Publications/Issue%20Brief/2010/Sep/1439_Love_allpayer_claims_databases_ib_v2.pdf)

["States need to have comprehensive information on disease incidence, treatment costs, and medical outcomes when formulating and evaluating health care policies. Because such information is often not readily available, a growing number of states are developing all-payer claims databases (APCDs), which combine data from public programs like Medicaid and Medicare, as well as from private insurance carriers and pharmacy benefit managers, to give policymakers statewide information on costs, quality, utilization, and access to care.... These databases are proving to be powerful tools for filling in longstanding gaps in health care information and providing essential trend data that will be needed to guide policymakers through the transitions health care reform will bring. States with APCDs are well positioned to respond to health care reform challenges." ]  
[Request #S10-21-5266]

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## HOSPITALS

**Adverse Events in Hospitals: National Incidence among Medicare Beneficiaries.** By the Office of the Inspector General, Department of Health and Human Services. (The Office, Washington, DC) November 2010. 81 p.

Full text at: <http://oig.hhs.gov/oei/reports/oei-06-09-00090.pdf>

["A major federal study suggests that state regulators aren't getting the full story from California hospitals when it comes to reporting serious lapses in care. And if the results of the nationwide probe apply here, hospitals could be withholding reports of as many as 20,000 incidents. The federal study found that one in seven Medicare patients are harmed while in a U.S. hospital, and 15,000 die each month as a result of lapses by hospitals and their employees. The report found that 44 percent of the errors were preventable and spurred declarations of a crisis.... The report findings are considered reliable enough to draw conclusions about all Medicare patients who received care in a hospital. If their conclusions hold in California, then the implications are serious." California Watch (November 17, 2010) 1.]

[Request #S10-21-5388]

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## HOUSING

### HOME OWNERSHIP

**The Mobility Bank: Increasing Residential Mobility to Boost Economic Mobility.** By Jens Ludwig, University of Chicago, and Steven Raphael, University of California, Berkeley. (The Brookings Institution, Washington, DC) October 26, 2010. 26 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2010/10\\_mobility\\_bank\\_ludwig\\_raphael.aspx](http://www.brookings.edu/papers/2010/10_mobility_bank_ludwig_raphael.aspx)

["The paper proposes the creation of a 'mobility bank' at a government cost of less than \$1 billion per year to help finance the residential moves of U.S. workers relocating either to take offered jobs or to search for work, and to help them learn more about the employment options available in other parts of the country.... Calculations suggest that the benefits compare favorably with the costs from alternative federal efforts. Perhaps more importantly, our proposal helps address a persistent market failure that limits the ability of low-income families to borrow against future earnings to 'invest' in job-promoting residential moves. "]  
[Request #S10-21-5381]

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### REDEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

**Restoring Properties, Rebuilding Communities: Transforming Vacant Properties in Today's America.** By Jennifer R. Leonard and Alan Mallach, Center for Community Progress. (The Center, Washington, DC) October 2010. 51 p.

Full text at:

[http://www.communityprogress.net/filebin/pdf/RestoringProperties\\_Final.pdf](http://www.communityprogress.net/filebin/pdf/RestoringProperties_Final.pdf)

["Above all, we need to focus on vacant and abandoned properties not just as a problem, but as a resource, one that we can use to build stronger, healthier communities. In many cities, vacant houses can be turned back into homes for families rich and poor, while obsolete factories and office buildings can become lofts and apartments, or incubators for small businesses and emerging technologies. Older cities that have been losing population may become smaller, but they can become healthier and greener cities, with community spaces, farms, and stream corridors replacing blighted areas. This can be a reality, not just in a handful of places, but in cities and neighborhoods throughout the United States."]  
[Request #S10-21-5382]

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## RENTAL HOUSING

**A Responsible Market for Rental Housing Finance: Envisioning the Future of the U.S. Secondary Market for Multifamily Residential Rental Mortgages. By the Mortgage Finance Working Group's Multifamily Subcommittee. (Center for American Progress, Washington, DC) October 2010. 50 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/10/multifamily\\_rental\\_housing.html](http://www.americanprogress.org/issues/2010/10/multifamily_rental_housing.html)

["Americans rent. Ninety-two million people in America live in rental housing, nearly one-third of our country.... Our rental housing market today is in trouble. The sharp drop over the past few years in construction of multifamily rental residences - - defined as buildings with five or more rental apartment units -- because of the larger financial and housing crises means there will be fewer new places to rent over the next few years.... The first place policymakers should focus on is a somewhat arcane but nonetheless crucial part of our nation's housing finance system -- the so-called secondary mortgage market for multifamily housing finance. How well the secondary markets work determines whether mortgages are available at what cost; for what kinds of communities, buildings, owners, and tenants; and on what terms."][Request #S10-21-5380]

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## TRANSPORTATION

### BICYCLING AND PEDESTRIANS

**Women's Cycling Survey: Analysis of Results. By Anna Sibley, University of North Carolina-Greensboro. (Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, Cedarburg, Wisconsin) September 14, 2010. 22 p.**

Full text at:

[http://www.apbp.org/resource/resmgr/downloads/womens\\_cycling\\_survey\\_091420.pdf](http://www.apbp.org/resource/resmgr/downloads/womens_cycling_survey_091420.pdf)

["APBP conducted an online questionnaire to investigate the factors that would induce women to bicycle more for transportation.... Findings suggest that women living in large cities are more likely to increase their cycling with the addition of bike lanes than women living in other areas, particularly rural communities. However, the level of interest for installing more bike lanes was very high for all community types.... Though the response rate was over 50% for all age groups, findings suggest that women under 30 years of age are more likely to increase their cycling with additional bike lanes than women from other age groups. Indeed, almost three quarters of all 20 to 30 year-olds indicated that providing more bike lanes would cause them to start or increase their cycling."][Request #S10-21-5301]

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## DRIVERS

**Distracted Driving and Driver, Roadway, and Environmental Factors. By Santokh Singh, Bowhead Systems Management, Inc. (National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Washington, DC) September 2010. 40 p.**

Full text at: <http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811380.pdf>

["Drivers often perform non-driving activities that divert their attention from the primary task of driving. This may be due to conversing with a passenger, dialing or hanging up a cell phone, having a phone conversation, or adjusting the radio or other vehicle controls.... A descriptive analysis of the weighted data brought out some interesting facts about distracted driving. For example, the results show that, among the crash-involved drivers, distraction from internal sources was more common than distraction due to non-driving cognitive activities. The data also revealed that conversing with a passenger was the most common source of distraction from internal sources, while inattentiveness due to unknown thought focus was the most prevalent factor among the non-driving cognitive activities."]  
[Request #S10-21-5299]

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## HIGHWAY SAFETY

**Achieving Traffic Safety Goals in the United States: Lessons from Other Nations. By the Committee for the Study of Traffic Safety Lessons from Benchmark Nations, Transportation Research Board. (National Academies Press, Washington, DC) 2010.**

["The United States is missing significant opportunities to reduce traffic fatalities and injuries. The experiences of other high-income nations and of the U.S. states with the best improvement records indicate the benefits from more rigorous safety programs. Most high income countries are reducing traffic fatalities and fatality rates (per kilometer of travel) faster than is the United States, and several countries that experienced higher fatality rates 20 years ago now are below the U.S. rate. From 1995 to 2009, annual traffic fatalities declined by 52 percent in France, 39 percent in the United Kingdom, 25 percent in Australia, and 50 percent in total in 15 high-income countries (excluding the United States) for which long-term fatality and traffic data are available, but by only 19 percent in the United States."]  
[Request #S10-21-5389]

Book. 183 p.

[http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=13046](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=13046)

Executive Summary. 19 p.

[http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record\\_id=13046&type=pdfxsum](http://www.nap.edu/nap-cgi/report.cgi?record_id=13046&type=pdfxsum)

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