

Current Articles & Research Resources, May 31

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In this weekly post, we feature helpful research tools and recent articles of interest to the legislative community.

- Consider ways to combat [elder financial exploitation](#). (National Conference of State Legislatures, May 2018)
- Explore [similarities and differences](#) among rural, suburban, and urban areas. (Pew Research Center, May 22, 2018)
- See how many Texas cities are among the [fastest-growing cities](#) in the U.S. (U.S. Census Bureau, May 24, 2018)
- Read about a [federal ruling](#) that could affect elected officials on social media. (Electronic Frontier Foundation, May 23, 2018)

Members of the Texas legislative community may request the articles below [here](#) or by calling 512-463-1252.

- "This little house could be a big deal for Austin." By Marissa Luck. *Austin Business Journal*, May 25, 2018, pp. 5-8.
Considers the viability of a proposed 3-D home printing model and the impact on cities lacking affordable housing.
- "Growing revenue: The economics of marijuana legalization." By Lisa McKinney. *Capitol Ideas*, March/April 2018, pp. 28-31.
Suggests the tax revenue generated by marijuana legalization may not be the "golden goose" to solve state budget problems, despite marijuana being an estimated \$10 billion industry in 2017. Discusses challenges faced by Colorado, Oregon, and Maine in the legalization and regulation process.
- "[States' complex Medicaid waivers will create costly bureaucracy and harm eligible beneficiaries](#)." By Jennifer Wagner and Judith Solomon. *Center on Budget and Policy Priorities*, May 23, 2018, pp. 1-16.
Criticizes Medicaid eligibility restrictions such as increased work requirements, new premium requirements, and coverage "lockouts" in Medicaid demonstration projects, or section 1115 waivers, as proposed by several states listed in the appendix.
- "Taking the hill." By Ann Scott Tyson. *Christian Science Monitor*, May 28, 2018, pp. 24-30.
Acknowledges the nearly 400 veterans running for Congress as a promising political initiative that might help bridge the partisan divide and bolster confidence in Congress. Includes quotes from Texas state Senator Van Taylor, who is running to represent Texas' Third Congressional District.
- "After a Texas college revoked scholarships for 61 Nepali students: 'Admissions hunger games'." By Eric Hoover. *Chronicle of Higher Education*, May 25, 2018, pp. A25-A27.
Highlights the experiences of some of the 61 Nepali students who had

scholarships rescinded by the University of Texas at Tyler. Focuses on their efforts to find acceptance at other institutions.

- "Hack-proof." By Henry Kenyon. *CQ Weekly*, May 21, 2018, pp. 30-33.
Investigates adopting blockchain technology as a means of protecting government records from hacking. Reports there are federal and state agencies already experimenting with using blockchain applications to combat their cybersecurity problems.
- "Area's increasing income gap threatens region." By Bill Hethcock. *Dallas Business Journal*, May 18, 2018, pp. 20-25.
Examines the widening gaps in wealth, educational attainment, access to housing, and other challenges connected to increasing population growth in the Dallas-Fort Worth region.
- "Increasing naloxone awareness and use: The role of health care practitioners." By Jerome M. Adams. *JAMA (Journal of the American Medical Association)*, May 22/29, 2018, pp. 2073-2074.
Notes the significance of the Surgeon General's Advisory on Naloxone and Opioid Overdose, which explains the need to educate the public and develop policies on this medication that can reduce opioid overdose mortality.
- "Texas showdown: Insurgent populists are facing off against establishment picks in May's high-stakes runoff." By D.D. Guttenplan. *Nation*, June 4/11, 2018, pp. 12-18.
Profiles several Democratic candidates for Texas congressional districts.
- "Conservation: Drought and supply limits drive sustainability initiatives." *Opflow*, March 2018, pp. 10-14.
Discusses California American Water's recent experiences to provide some valuable lessons on how one water utility is dealing with extreme climate conditions.
- "Bordernomics: Enhancing prosperity by increasing integration in the US-Mexico border region." By M. Ray Perryman. *Perryman Report and Texas Letter*, Vol. 35, No. 3, pp. 1-3, 6-7.
Presents part two of a special report describing the results of a study on the trade and economic activity between the United States and Mexico.
- "Engage diverse stakeholders to strengthen policy." By Elizabeth Leisy Stosich and Soung Bae. *Phi Delta Kappan*, May 2018, pp. 8-12.
Highlights the experiences of California, Iowa, New Hampshire, and Vermont in bringing diverse stakeholders into the process when developing school reform.
- "First look at 2017 CO2 emission trends in U.S.: Electricity sector focus." By Daniel Klein. *Public Utilities Fortnightly*, May 2018, pp. 40-47.
Analyzes two key energy-related carbon dioxide emission trends in the United States, as reported in the U.S. Energy Information Agency's March 2018 Monthly Energy Review. Report at: <https://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/monthly/archive/00351803.pdf>
- "'Assault weapons,' explained." By Jacob Sullum. *Reason*, June 2018, pp. 52-57.
Explains that "assault weapons" account for a small percentage of firearms used in mass shootings and other gun violence. Discusses the difficulty in meaningfully defining an "assault weapon" and whether a ban would have a measurable impact on safety.
- "Critical condition: Fall funding." By W. Scott Bailey. *San Antonio Business Journal*, May 18, 2018, pp. 14-16.
Focuses on San Antonio as a recipient of grants from the National Institutes of Health [NIH]. Explains how NIH grants can be used to lure top talent and spur

economic growth in Texas.

- "Rebirth on campus." By Maya Rhodan. *Time*, June 4, 2018, pp. 58-61.
Examines recent student activism on historically black college and university campuses. Attributes this activism to a number of factors, including the current White House administration.

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