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

- **Track felony offenses** in Texas by code and category. (Texas Legislative Council, April 2018)
- **Map border checkpoints** within the U.S. along the U.S.-Mexico border. (Cato Institute, accessed April 12, 2018)
- **See which produce is more likely to contain pesticide residue.** (Environmental Working Group, 2018)
- **Explore political opinions** of America’s voting-age youth. (Harvard Institute of Politics, April 11, 2018)

Members of the Texas legislative community may request the articles below here or by calling 512-463-1252.

- "**Boundary lines.**" By Mark Walsh. ABA Journal: The Lawyer’s Magazine, April 2018, pp. 54-59.
- **How states use funds under the TANF block grant (2018).** By Liz Schott, Ilie Floyd, and Ashley Burnsive. Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, Updated April 2, 2018, pp. 1-19.
- **Examines the use of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) funds by state governments in 2016.** Finds states spend slightly more than half of their combined federal and state TANF dollars on the core welfare reform areas of basic assistance, child care for low-income families, and work supports. Includes several state tables on TANF spending and identifies Texas as a state in the “Race to the Bottom,” spending only six percent of TANF funds on basic assistance in 2016.
- **Highlights California programs that provide housing and food assistance to help homeless students stay in community colleges and other higher education institutions.**
- **Reports that over 25 percent of today’s workforce hold jobs that require an occupational license.** Notes several states are reviewing licensing requirements and considering policy changes.
- **TANF dollars on the core welfare reform areas of basic assistance, child care for low-income families, and work supports.** Includes several state tables on TANF spending and identifies Texas as a state in the “Race to the Bottom,” spending only six percent of TANF funds on basic assistance in 2016.
- **Provides a brief history of the public power business model.** Argues that, as an integral part of the nation’s electric utility infrastructure, public power utilities continue to play an important role.
- **“What can we do to stop it?” By Sean Gregory, et al.** Time, April 2, 2018, pp. 32-35.

Provides six steps for reducing gun violence in the United States. Argues it is more effective to tackle the problem as a public health issue rather than a political one.

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**The Legislative Reference Library** compiles this weekly annotated list of Current Articles of interest to the legislative community. Professional librarians review and select articles from more than 300 periodicals, including public policy journals, specialized industry periodicals, news magazines, and state agency publications. Members of the Texas legislative community may request articles using our online form.