

News & Views from the 50 States

Election Day



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November 3, 2014

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The next issue of Capitol Journal will be available on November 10th.

Top Story

Most eyes are focused on national and statewide issues, but voters across the country must also decide a number of critical local issues with national implications.

SNCJ Spotlight

Local measures vie with state, federal issues as voters finally get their say

Former Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives Tip O'Neill (D-Massachusetts) is often credited with coining the phrase "all politics is local," a nod to the critical nature of retail politics even for those inhabiting Congress in Washington D.C. O'Neill's authorship is apocryphal — the phrase was first used by the Associated Press's



By Rich Ehsen

D.C. bureau chief Byron Price in 1932, years before the future Speaker entered the political arena. But the point he was making remains valid to this day: Voters often care most about what's happening in their own communities.

Much of the media focus leading up to the Nov. 4 election is on congressional and state legislative races or statewide ballot measures, but there is no shortage of local initiatives on issues that have broad national interest and importance.

One of the more closely watched measures in the country is taking place in tiny San Benito County, California, a mostly rural community to the south of the Silicon Valley. If approved, Measure J would do something Golden State lawmakers rejected doing earlier this year: ban the controversial oil and natural gas extraction process hydraulic fracturing. Better known as fracking, the process involves injecting millions of gallons of chemically treated water under intense pressure thousands of feet into the ground to break up shale deposits that trap oil and natural gas deposits.

Energy producers say fracking gives them access to a trove of oil and gas that will help break America's dependence on foreign oil. The United States is forecast to surpass Saudi Arabia as the world's largest oil producer within a year or two. But opponents contend that the fracking process pollutes groundwater stores, creates massive wastewater problems and contributes to an uptick in earthquakes in areas where fracking is prevalent. They also cast doubts on whether the additional oil and gas benefit America at all, noting that energy companies sell most of the additional gas and oil overseas.

Measure J has drawn significant opposition from the oil and gas industries, which have spent nearly \$2 million in an effort to defeat the proposal.

An even more closely watched — and more expensive — ballot measure race is taking place further south in Santa Barbara on California's idyllic central coast, where oil interests are spending even more to stop a similar proposal, Measure P. As of last Tuesday, companies like Chevron and Aera Energy LLC had contributed almost \$8 million to fight the measure, exponentially more than the less than \$300,000 its supporters had collected. The money is significantly bigger in the Measure P fight because the stakes are also considerably bigger. While the oil industry presence is minimal in San Benito County — only about 26 wells, none of which use fracking — the Santa Barbara area features approximately 1,100 wells. Drillers argue that those wells also currently refrain from fracking, though they admit the process has been used

The week in session

States in Regular Session: DC, PR

States in Informal Session: MA

States in Skeleton Session: OH

States in Recess: CA "b", DE "c", IL, MI, NJ, NY, PA, US

States currently prefilng for 2015 Session: CO, FL, KY, MT, ND, NV, OR, VA, WY

Adjourned Sessions: AK, AL, AR, AR "a", AZ, AZ "a", CA, CA "a", CO, CT, DE, DE "b", DE "d", FL, FL "a", GA, HI, HI "c", IA, ID, IL "a", IL "b", IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MS "a", MS "b", NC, NE, NH, NJ "a", NM, NV "a", OK, OR, PR "a", PR "b", RI, SC, SD, TN, UT, VA "a", VT, WA, WA "a", WA "b", WA "c", WI, WI "c", WV, WV "a", WV "b", WY

Letters indicate special/extraordinary sessions

— Compiled By DENA BLODGETT
(session information current as of 10/30/2014)
Source: State Net database

previously at some sites in recent years. The measure would also ban other “high intensity” extraction processes like steam injection and acid well stimulation, though it would allow wells currently using those processes to continue.

Measure P opponents like the Santa Barbara County Coalition against the Oil and Gas Shutdown say the proposal is actually intended to force those industries out of Santa Barbara County and will result in the elimination of over 1,000 jobs and cost the county over \$16 million in lost tax revenue annually. The measure’s supporters, mostly individuals and environmental groups, vehemently dispute that claim, saying the ballot proposal applies only to new projects using high intensity processes and would allow wells already issued permits to stay in production. They also contend it is critical to protect the area’s pristine natural resources and, equally important in a state ravaged by a historic drought, help prevent the depletion of an already very limited fresh water supply.

Fracking has been a major issue around the Capitol in Sacramento for several years. Gov. Jerry Brown (D) signed legislation last year to regulate the process, but has steadfastly rejected calls from fracking opponents to issue an executive order

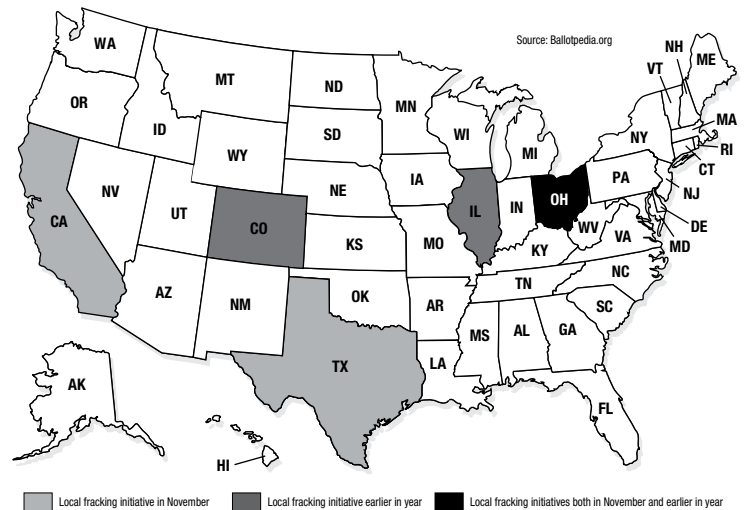
“It is way easier to kill things in the legislature than it is at the local level.”

banning it. Lawmakers have also been wary of that step. In May, the Senate rejected SB 1132, a bill that would have imposed statewide the same restrictions being posed by Measures J and P.

Grant Gillham, a Reno, Nevada-based campaign consultant who has worked on local and statewide campaigns all over the country, says taking the matter to the local level was the obvious move for fracking opponents.

“It is way easier to kill things in the legislature than it is at the local level,” he says. “If I really wanted something to pass, the last place I would go is the legislature. Winning at the local level with something like this is the way to go because it sets a precedent.”

Bird’s eye view



Fracking local ballot issue in several states this year

Local initiatives aimed at banning, regulating or suspending the controversial method of oil and gas extraction known as hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, will be on the ballot in three states in November, according to Ballotpedia. The initiatives include measures J, P and S in CALIFORNIA’s San Benito, Santa Barbara and Mendocino counties, respectively, and four measures in OHIO, where a local fracking ban in the City of Youngstown failed in May.



It is a model that has worked well before. A major oil spill in the waters near Santa Barbara in 1969 helped kick start the modern environmental movement, a push that led to many of the nation's most enduring state and federal environmental protection laws, including the California Environmental Quality Act and the creation of the powerful California Coastal Commission. Even so, in the 1980s President Ronald Reagan floated the idea of expanding oil drilling off the California coast near Monterey Bay. That sparked furious opposition from coastal residents, with 25 counties eventually adopting measures that banned the building of new oil infrastructure within their borders, effectively killing any expansion ideas. To date, two California communities — Santa Cruz and Beverly Hills — ban fracking, while Mendocino County also has a proposal (Measure S) similar to Measures J and P on this year's ballot. Butte County is planning one for 2016.

Other local measures with national import abound. Voters in Washington D.C. will consider Initiative 71, which would allow District residents to possess up to two ounces of pot and grow up to six plants of their own. Meanwhile, the debate over legal recreational-use pot still rages on in Colorado, where voters two years ago made the Centennial State one of the first (along with Washington) to allow residents to legally possess weed for recreational use. On Nov. 4, voters in 10 local communities will address referendums to either bar retail marijuana outlets or legalize them. Weed legalization is also on the ballot in 10 Michigan cities and two more in Maine. A handful of small counties in Wisconsin and New Mexico will also address the legal pot issue.

The effort to regulate, label or ban genetically modified organisms, or GMOs, has been a battle fought in both statehouses and through statewide ballot measures in recent years, most notably in the Northeast, Washington and California. This time out, voters in tiny Maui County, Hawaii will decide whether to impose a moratorium on cultivating, growing or testing GMO crops until they can be proven safe. Opponents, backed by chemical companies like Monsanto and DowAgroSciences, have already spent at least \$2 million trying to sway voters against it, far outpacing the approximately \$76,000 its supporters have collected. Although Maui County has a population of only 166,000, the scope of the ban could impact the rest of the nation. Chemical companies develop most of their new genetically-engineered corn seeds at farms they operate in the county. Given that 90 percent of the corn grown in the United States comes from GMO seeds, anything that halts or limits production of new seed lines could potentially lead to a spike in corn prices on the mainland.

Raising the minimum wage was also a major issue in statehouses in 2014. According to State Net, 34 states considered raising their minimum wage this year, with 10 and the District of Columbia endorsing hikes. Tomorrow, the California cities of San Diego (\$13.05), San Francisco (\$15 per hour by 2018) and Oakland (\$12.25) will do the

Upcoming stories

Here are some of the topics you may see covered in upcoming issues of the *State Net Capitol Journal*:

- **Election analysis**
- **State worker exodus**
- **The rising pot market**

same, as will Las Cruces, New Mexico (\$10.10 by 2017). Chicago endorsed a measure in March that raised the Windy City minimum wage to \$15 per hour.

Finally, voters in the San Francisco Bay Area will determine whether the City by the Bay will become the first in the nation to add a .02 cents per ounce surtax on sodas and other sugary drinks. As the *San Francisco Chronicle* reports, opponents of Proposition E have pulled out all the stops in their effort to prevent that from happening, spending almost \$8 million on ads hoping to sway voters against it. The soda industry has spent \$1.4 million more battling another soda tax proposal across the Bay in Berkeley, where Measure D would impose a .01 cent per ounce tax on those drinks.

The two measures have one major difference: Measure D needs only a majority vote to pass, while Prop E needs a two-thirds vote to gain victory. John Maa, a surgeon and Prop E supporter, told the *Chronicle* he believes the vote will be very close, but he notes that a victory could also be the start of something big.

“This could be the tipping point for a wave of similar legislation across the nation,” he said.

— By RICH EHISEN

Budget & taxes

MA CASINO STUDY AT ODDS WITH EXPERIENCE OF OTHER STATES: Supporters of a November ballot measure in Massachusetts (Question 3) aimed at repealing the 2011 law authorizing as many as three resort casinos and a slots parlor in the state issued a press release last month predicting the law would reduce lottery revenues — and the state payments to cities and towns they afford — by more than 20 percent. That dire prediction was based largely on a 2008 legislative study written by state Rep. Tom Conroy (D), a casino

“I still have the same doubts; I still see the same risks I saw seven years ago.”

opponent, who still stands by the overall conclusions of that study, despite the passage of nearly seven years.

“I still have the same doubts; I still see the same risks I saw seven years ago,” he said in an interview.”

But the experience of other large states that have introduced casino gambling into mature lottery markets

doesn’t support the claims of Massachusetts’ casino opponents. For instance, lottery sales in Ohio dropped after casinos opened in the state in 2012, but only by 1.5 percent, from \$2.73 billion to \$2.69 billion. And sales bounced back to \$2.74 billion in fiscal 2014. Pennsylvania lottery sales, which stood at \$3.1 billion before the first casino opened there in 2006, held flat for the next five years as an explosion of

● gambling parlors transformed the state into the second largest casino market in the
● nation behind Nevada. But the lottery sales started growing again in 2011 and reached
● a record \$3.8 billion last fiscal year. And Clyde Barrow, chairman of the political
● science department at the University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley, said that after

“I believe rolling this study out, which is such an outlier, is a scare tactic designed to create doubt and hysteria.”

casinos opened in some states, including Connecticut and New Jersey, lottery revenues “continued to grow as if nothing happened.”

Massachusetts state treasurer Steve Grossman attributes the casino opponents’ projections of massive lottery revenue losses to election-year politics.

“Anyone who has numbers on [potential lottery losses] is to some extent making them up,” he said. “I believe rolling this study out, which is such an outlier, is a scare tactic designed to create doubt and hysteria.”

The casino opponents, however, suggest Massachusetts’ lottery could be more sensitive to casino competition than other states because of the amount of money spent on it, \$4.8 billion last fiscal year, making it one of the most successful in the country.

“Common sense seems to dictate there is only so much disposable income out there,” said former state treasurer Joe Malone, who supports repeal of the casino law. “I think the dollars will be moved around.” (BOSTON GLOBE)

MORE BOTTOM GRADES THAN TOP ONES ON GOVS’ FISCAL REPORT CARDS: The libertarian CATO Institute has released its biennial Fiscal Report Card on America’s Governors. Four governors received “A” grades: North Carolina’s Pat McCrory (R), who cut his state’s personal and corporate income taxes, and repealed the estate tax; Kansas’ Sam Brownback (R), who held down spending and reduced individual and small business income taxes; Maine’s Paul LePage (R), who has consistently cut income taxes and held down spending, and pushed for \$100 million in new tax cuts offset by an equal amount of spending cuts this year; and Indiana’s Mike Pence (R), who eliminated the inheritance tax and cut individual and corporate taxes.

Twice as many governors, however, received “F”s, including: California’s Jerry Brown (D), who led the effort to increase The Golden State’s annual tax revenues by \$6 billion a year in 2012 and is now proposing \$107 billion in general-fund spending, a 20 percent increase from three years ago; Illinois’ Pat Quinn (D), who proposed raising corporate taxes by over \$400 million last year and whose state has the fourth-highest debt and unfunded pension liability per capita in the nation; and Oregon’s John Kitzhaber (D), who has raised cigarette taxes, hospital taxes, corporate income taxes and individual income taxes, and increased general fund spending more than 12 percent in 2014. (FORBES, STATE NET)

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FAILING BRIDGES ECONOMIC CONCERN IN MS: A bridge failure like the collapse of the I-35W Mississippi River Bridge in Minneapolis in 2007 that killed 13 people may be one of the biggest fears state transportation officials have about the aging infrastructure they oversee. But officials in Mississippi — and likely elsewhere — have something else to worry about as well: the economic impact of that deterioration.

“There’s a serious problem out there with bridges,” said Tom King, who represents Mississippi’s southern district on the state’s Transportation Commission. “We’re having to post a lot of bridges, lowering the weight limits, and that’s affect[ing] farmers in north Mississippi and loggers in my part of the state. Now you’re talking about economic impact.”

Mississippi Department of Transportation officials say there are 700 bridges in the state with such weight limits, forcing heavy vehicles to use longer and costlier alternate routes, and replacing just those posted bridges would cost about \$700 million. (ASSOCIATED PRESS)

BUDGETS IN BRIEF: Trump Entertainment Resorts Inc. has asked the **NEW JERSEY** Gaming, Sports and Entertainment Advisory Commission to put together a funding package to keep the Taj Mahal casino in Atlantic City open, since that cash-strapped city has refused to approve \$175 million in property tax abatements for the bankrupt casino operator. The Taj Mahal provides nearly 3,000 jobs (BLOOMBERG). • The Washington, D.C.-based Tax Foundation has ranked **NEW JERSEY**’s business tax climate the worst in the nation for the second year in a row and the third time in four years (NJ.COM). • After 12 years of discussion and pilot projects, **OREGON**’s Department of Transportation says it’s ready to launch a public trial of a pay-as-you-drive transportation tax with 5,000 drivers. The drivers will be charged 1.5 cents per mile and billed monthly (OREGONLIVE.COM). • Former Major League Baseball pitcher Curt Schilling and three other former executives of **RHODE ISLAND**-based 38 Studios have reached a tentative \$300,000 settlement in the federal bankruptcy case involving the failed, taxpayer-supported video game company (PROVIDENCE JOURNAL).

— Compiled by KOREY CLARK

Politics & leadership

A L HOUSE SPEAKER INDICTED: On Oct. 20, Alabama House Speaker Mike Hubbard (R) was booked into Lee County Jail after being indicted by a grand jury on 23 felony corruption charges, including using his office for

personal gain and soliciting things of value. Each count carries a penalty of two to 20 years in prison and up to \$30,000 in fines.

A day after surrendering to authorities, Hubbard and his allies accused fellow Republican state Attorney General Luther Strange of prosecuting Hubbard to take him out of the running for the 2018 governor's race and thereby improve Strange's own chances.

"Who'd like to be governor in four years?" U.S. Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Alabama) asked at a press conference. "Who would like to get Mike Hubbard out of the picture or skin [him] up as a candidate?"

Strange issued a statement indicating he was recusing himself from the Hubbard case to "completely remove any appearance of politics being involved in the matter."

"Mr. Hubbard is entitled to the presumption of innocence and this matter will now be handled, as it should be, in the court system," said the statement. (AL.COM, MONTGOMERY ADVERTISER)

"In my two decades of experience on this court, no other justice...has done as much to bring the Supreme Court into disrepute."

PA SUPREME COURT JUSTICE SUSPENDED:

The Pennsylvania Supreme Court suspended Justice Seamus P. McCaffery last month pending an investigation of a variety of allegations against him, including that he sent hundreds of pornographic emails between 2008 and 2012.

"Today's action against Justice McCaffery should surprise no one, given Chief Justice Castille's relentless crusade to destroy his career and reputation."

"In my two decades of experience on this court, no other justice...has done as much to bring the Supreme Court into disrepute," Chief Justice Ronald D. Castille wrote in a statement issued along with the court's order suspending McCaffery and directing the state's Judicial Conduct Board to determine whether there is cause to file formal misconduct charges against him. "No other justice has failed to live up to the high ethical demands required of a justice of this court or has been the constant focus of ethical lapses to the degree of Justice McCaffery."

McCaffery has apologized for sending the sexually explicit emails, but he also lashed out at Castille for what he described as a "vindictive pattern of attacks" against him.

And a statement issued by his spokesman, Frank Keel, said: "Today's action against Justice McCaffery should surprise no one, given Chief Justice Castille's relentless crusade to destroy his career and reputation. We will continue in our efforts to expose the malicious intent behind this effort to take down Justice McCaffery. We are confident that he will be cleared of any wrongdoing and returned to the bench soon." (PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER)

OH NOT AS POLITICALLY ENGAGED AS EXPECTED: Perennial swing state Ohio always receives plenty of attention at election time. But the state has far from the most politically engaged citizenry, according to a study by the Washington D.C.-based personal finance website WalletHub.

The state tied with Wyoming for 34th place in WalletHub's overall rankings, which took into account such factors as voter registration, election turnout and political contributions. Massachusetts, Colorado and Minnesota took the top spots.

Ohio fared somewhat better in the rankings for youth voter participation, however, with a 46.3 percent turnout rate among eligible voters aged 18 to 24 in the 2012 presidential election earning it 13th place. (CLEVELAND.COM, WALLETHUB.COM)

STOCKTON BANKRUPTCY PLAN PRESERVING PENSIONS

APPROVED: A federal bankruptcy judge approved a recovery plan for Stockton, California last week that preserves the city's public pension payments. Judge Christopher M. Klein had ruled last month that the city's payments into the California Public Employees' Retirement Systems were on the table like any of the city's other financial obligations. Had the city actually cut those payments it would likely have opened the door for other financially struggling cities to do the same (LOS ANGELES TIMES).

POLITICS IN BRIEF: Despite purging 72,000 names from its central voter registry over the last three years, **DELAWARE** still has tens of thousands more voters on that list than Census data suggests it should. Officials say the problem is "phantom voters," individuals who have died, left the state or just stopped voting but still remain on the voter rolls (NEWS JOURNAL [WILMINGTON]). • With a recent survey showing 67 percent of **UTAH** residents favor keeping Mountain Standard Time year-round, legislation or a ballot measure doing away with daylight savings time could soon be coming to the state (SALT LAKE TRIBUNE).

— *Compiled by KOREY CLARK*

Governors

GOVERNS IMPOSE STRICT EBOLA RULES: At least eight governors resisted pressure from the White House and federal health officials last week and imposed their own state-specific quarantine orders on medical personnel and others returning from Ebola-impacted areas in West Africa.

The first quarantine orders came on Oct. 25th when New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D), and New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie (R) and Illinois Gov. Pat Quinn (D) each imposed a mandatory 21-day quarantine on travelers arriving from West African nations hit hardest by the virus. The time period was chosen because it is the virus's incubation period.

Cuomo and Christie initially hinted they would require those people to serve their isolation period in a medical facility, though neither offered specific details with their first announcements. Quinn's order, meanwhile, specified that a quarantine would be warranted only if the person in question had not worn proper protective clothing while treating or mingling with Ebola victims, or if they had suffered some sort of breach in that protective gear. He also said those facing a quarantine order could serve the time at home. A few days later, Cuomo and Christie each followed suit, allowing quarantined persons in their states to serve the quarantine period at their own homes.

Within days, governors in five more states — Florida, Maryland, Georgia, Maine and Connecticut — had imposed similar quarantines. Other states, such as California, have also adopted less stringent quarantine policies that require health officials to determine if a person is at high risk of carrying the disease before they can be quarantined.

The blanket quarantines implemented in some states drew veiled criticism from President Barack Obama, who said such decisions on managing the disease should be made based on scientific facts and not hysteria and fear. Those sentiments were echoed by leaders in the international community fearful they will discourage American medical personnel from traveling to Ebola hot spots like Sierra Leone and Liberia, where to date approximately 4,900 people have died from the Ebola virus. World Bank President Jim Yong Kim told the *BBC* last week that West Africa desperately needs as many as 5,000 more doctors and nurses to help them quell the outbreak there so it won't spread to other population centers around the world.

"Right now, I'm very much worried about where we will find those healthcare workers," he said, adding, "With the fear factor going out of control in so many places, I hope healthcare professionals will understand that when they took their oath to become a health care worker it was precisely for moments like this."

In the hopper

At any given time, State Net tracks tens of thousands of bills in all 50 states, the US Congress and the District of Columbia. Here's a snapshot of what's in the legislative works:

Number of 2014 Prefiles last week: 73

Number of 2015 Prefiles last week: 57

Number of Intros last week: 229

Number of Enacted/Adopted last week: 83

Number of 2014 Prefiles to date: 21,669

Number of 2015 Prefiles to date: 5,192

Number of 2014 Intros to date: 84,340

**Number of 2013 Session Enacted/
Adopted overall to date:** 40,747

**Number of 2014 Session Enacted/
Adopted overall to date:** 27,933

**Number of bills currently in State Net
Database:** 173,639

— Compiled By DENA BLODGETT
(measures current as of 10/29/2014)
Source: State Net database

The prestigious New England Journal of Medicine also weighed in against quarantines, saying in an Oct. 27 editorial that “We understand [governors] motivation for this policy — to protect the citizens of their states from contracting this often-fatal illness. This approach, however, is not scientifically based, is unfair and unwise, and will impede essential efforts to stop these awful outbreaks of Ebola

disease at their source, which is the only satisfactory goal.

The governors' action is like driving a carpet tack with a sledgehammer: it gets the job done but overall is more destructive than beneficial."

The governors in question, however, have kept swinging. The situation came to a head almost immediately after the quarantines were announced when New Jersey officials ordered a nurse returning from a month working with Ebola victims as part of Doctors Without Borders in Sierra Leone to be isolated in a tent behind a Garden State hospital. The nurse, Kaci Hickox, was held for two days before being allowed to return to her home in Maine, where officials asked her to honor the rest of the 21-day quarantine by staying inside

her rural residence. Hickox refused, saying she is not infected and poses no threat to anyone. After days of unsuccessful negotiations with Maine officials — during which she openly defied their wishes by going outside her residence to take a bike ride and to talk with reporters — Gov. Paul LePage (R) issued a statement last Thursday saying he would “exercise the full extent of his authority allowable by law” to force her to stay indoors, presumably by seeking a court order. (NEW YORK TIMES, HUFFINGTON POST, CHICAGO TRIBUNE, BANGOR DAILY NEWS, ILLINOIS GOVERNOR’S OFFICE, NEW ENGLAND JOURNAL OF MEDICINE, WASHINGTON POST, ATLANTIC, BLOOMBERG BUSINESSWEEK, BBC, LOS ANGELES TIMES)

GOVERNORS IN BRIEF: **MISSOURI** Gov. Jay Nixon (D) announced he would create a commission to address the “social and economic conditions” in Ferguson, a suburb of St. Louis that has seen months of violence and protest after the shooting death of an unarmed black teenager by a white Ferguson police officer. Nixon said the commission will consist of approximately 15 people and be tasked with studying the underlying causes of the unrest and making recommendations for “making the St. Louis region a stronger, fairer place for everyone to live.” He is expected to announce his choices for the commission members this month (ST LOUIS POST-DISPATCH). • **ARIZONA** Gov. Jan Brewer (R) fired the head of the state’s Department of Administration, a man previously lauded for exposing wrongdoing in her administration. Brewer did not offer any reason for relieving Brian McNeil of his duties (ARIZONA REPUBLIC [PHOENIX]).

— *Compiled by RICH EHISEN*

State Net Capitol Journal®

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Hot issues

BUSINESS: **MICHIGAN** Gov. Rick Snyder (R) signs HB 5606, a bill that closes a loophole in a Wolverine State law that requires all new vehicles to be sold through a dealership. The law was widely viewed as being intended to ban electric carmaker Tesla Motors from selling its vehicles directly to consumers (DETROIT FREE PRESS). • **NEW JERSEY** Gov. Chris Christie (R) signs SB 2460, a bill that legalizes sports wagering at Garden State casinos and horse racing tracks. Within days, U.S. District Judge Michael Shipp issued a temporary injunction blocking the law from going into effect. Shipp's ruling came at the behest of the National Football League, Major League Baseball, the National Hockey League, the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the National Basketball Association. The leagues are seeking a permanent injunction against the law (ESPN.COM, STAR-LEDGER [NEWARK]).

CRIME & PUNISHMENT: PENNSYLVANIA Gov. Tom Corbett (R) signs SB 508, which allows prosecutors or crime victims to seek an injunction when an offender's conduct "perpetuates the continuing effect of the crime," including causing "mental anguish." A Keystone State judge would determine if the offender's actions had legitimately caused a victim anguish, and if so what compensation was due (PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER, PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE).

EDUCATION: The U.S. Department of Education rejects a **KANSAS** plan to allow high-school students skip state mathematics and English tests to instead focus on college entrance exams and career-oriented tests. Kansas education officials said they will now restrict those tests to only 10th grade students (TOPEKA CAPITAL-JOURNAL).

HEALTH & SCIENCE: PENNSYLVANIA Gov. Tom Corbett (R) signs SB 1164, which allows emergency responders to carry and administer the anti-overdose drug naloxone to someone in the throes of an opioid overdose. The law also allows doctors to prescribe naloxone to family members and friends of addicts to aid them in saving the person's life if they are required to give aid before emergency personnel arrive (DAILY ITEM [SUNBURY]). • Also in **PENNSYLVANIA**, Corbett signs SB 1180, which creates a state drug database to track the prescription and dissemination of prescription drugs across the Keystone State. He also signs HB 1846, which imposes certain limits on the drugs doctors may prescribe in workers compensation cases (PENNSYLVANIA GOVERNOR'S OFFICE).

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SOCIAL POLICY: The **UTAH** Supreme Court lifts an injunction barring Beehive State residents from adopting their same-sex spouses' children. The state recently dropped its appeal of a federal court ruling that struck down a state law barring same-sex marriage (REUTERS).

In case you missed it

Things look rosy for Republicans in this year's state legislative races, but Democrats are poised to take back several governorships. In case you missed it, the story can be found on our Web site at

http://www.statenet.com/capitol_journal/10-20-2014/html#sncj_spotlight

POTPOURRI: **ALASKA** Gov. Sean Parnell (R) signs HB 216, legislation that grants official state recognition of 20 native Alaskan languages. The law raises the number of official state languages from one to 21 (KTVA.COM [ANCHORAGE]).

— Compiled by *RICH EHISEN*

Once around the statehouse lightly

IT'S OFFICIAL: Our long national nightmare is over. As the *New York Daily News* reports, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo has signed legislation that makes yogurt the Empire State's official snack food. As the story goes, lawmakers were spurred on by a group of precocious students from upstate who came up with the idea and were then just too darned cute and persistent to ignore. Even Cuomo was helpless in the face of the kids' cheerful lobbying efforts. But wait, before anyone lines up the Disney Channel movie, it's worth noting that the popularity of Greek-style yogurt has taken off nationwide in recent years, and that New York has become the leading producer of said Greek yogurt, producing over 741 million pounds of it last year. Cuomo even waited to announce the signing until he could do so at his second annual "yogurt summit," a gathering of yogurt industry leaders. The kid angle is cute, but as always 'twas the dollars that carried the day.

BUT WITH NO EXTRA TOPPINGS: If you believe *Politico* — and I'm not saying you do or should — California Gov. Jerry Brown "may just be the most effective public sector leader in America today." It could be true, but he is also likely the cheapest. As the *Sacramento Bee* reports, with the San Francisco Giants in the World Series again this year, Brown recently entered into the traditional World Series bet with Missouri Gov. Jay Nixon, whose Kansas City Royals were making their first Series appearance since Ronald Reagan was in the White House. You might recall that Brown raised eyebrows in 2013 when, with the San Francisco 49ers in the Super Bowl playing against the Baltimore Ravens, he wagered Maryland Gov. Martin

O'Malley a somewhat weathered book on California history. This time around, Brown got with the program and went with the more traditional food offering, a pizza from San Francisco's famous Tommaso's pizza joint. Nixon countered with a full-on barbecued rib dinner at equally-notable Gates BBQ in Kansas City. Alas, Brown won't have to pay up: the Giants won the Series in seven games.

LIES, DAMNED LIES AND STICKERS: Anyone who has ever voted is familiar with the little "I Voted" sticker kindly poll workers hand you when you cast your ballot. But in Tennessee this year, voters will get a special treat: some self-promotion from Secretary of State Tre Hargett! As the *Chattanooga Times Free Press* reports, Hargett has added his own name and title to the sticker, bumping the usual American flag background in the process. Hargett, a former House Republican Leader, denies that he is using the stickers to presage a widely expected campaign for higher office, insisting he only wants residents to know who to call "when something bad happens" in the election. You mean, like when an overly ambitious politician tosses over Old Glory so he can pimp himself on the state's dime? Yeah, like that. Just like that.

LIES, DAMNED LIES AND CAMPAIGNING: Wisconsin Gov. Scott Walker is all about empowering women and making sure they get paid the same as their male counterparts for equal work. How do we know this? Because he says so. Or at least his surrogate, Lt. Gov. Rebecca Kleefisch, does in a new campaign ad in which she trumpets his desire to "create more opportunities for women to succeed." Sounds great. Alas, facts can be stubborn things. As the *Huffington Post* reports, this is the same Gov. Walker who two years ago quietly signed legislation that did away with the state's Equal Pay Enforcement Act, a little statute that directly helped ensure women facing wage discrimination could have their day in court. Sigh.

— By RICH EHISEN

Upcoming elections

(10/31/2014 - 11/21/2014)

11/04/2014

Alabama General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Alaska General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts A, C, E, F, G, I, K, M, N, O, P, Q, S and T

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Arizona General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Superintendent of Public Instruction

US House (All)

Arkansas General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 3-6, 8-10, 14-15, 17-20, 24,

30-31, 33 and 35

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant

Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer,

Attorney General, Auditor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

California General Election

Assembly (All)

Senate (Even)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Controller, Insurance Commissioner, Superintendent of Public Instruction

US House (All)

Colorado General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 1-3, 5-7, 9, 11, 13, 15-16, 20, 22, 24, 30, 32 and 34

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney

General

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Connecticut General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller

US House (All)

Delaware General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 2, 3, 4, 6, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18 and 21

Constitutional Officers: Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

District of Columbia General Election

Council Chairman of the Council, At-Large Member of the Council,

Wards 1, 3, 5 and 6

Constitutional Officers: Mayor

US House (House Delegate)

Florida General Election

House (All)

Senate (Even)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer

US House (All)

Georgia General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, Comptroller General/Commissioner of Insurance, Superintendent of Education

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Hawaii General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 1, 3, 4, 6, 7, 12, 16, 17, 18, 21, 23 and 24

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant

Governor

US House (All)

Hawaii Special Election

US Senate (Class 3)

Idaho General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers:

Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Controller, Superintendent

of Public Instruction

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Illinois General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 24, 27, 30,

33, 36, 39, 42, 45, 48, 51, 54, 57

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary

of State, Treasurer, Attorney

General, Comptroller

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Indiana General Election

House (All)

Senate Districts 1, 4, 6, 11, 14-15, 17, 19, 21-23, 25-27, 29, 31, 38-39,

41, 43, 45-49

Constitutional Officers: Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor

US House (All)

Iowa General Election

House (All)

Senate (Odd)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary

of State, Treasurer, Attorney

General, Auditor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Kansas General Election

House (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of

State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Commissioner of Insurance

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Kentucky General Election

House (All)

Senate (Even)

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Louisiana Open Primary

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Maine General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Maryland General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney

General, Comptroller

US House (All)

Massachusetts General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney

General, Secretary of the

Commonwealth, Treasurer and

Receiver-General, Auditor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Michigan General Election

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant

Governor, Secretary of State,

Attorney General

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Minnesota General Election

House (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant

Governor, Secretary of State,

Attorney General,

Auditor

US Senate (Class 2)

Minnesota Primary Election

US House (All)

Mississippi General Election

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

Mississippi Special Election

Senate District 17

Upcoming elections (cont.)

(10/31/2014 - 11/21/2014)

Missouri General Election

House (All)
Senate (Even)
US House (All)

Montana General Election

House (All)
Senate 1, 4, 5, 8, 11-15, 17, 20, 23, 25, 28-32, 35, 39, 40, 42, 44, 48 and 49
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Nebraska General Election

Legislature (Even)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor of Public Accounts
US House (All)

Nevada General Election

Assembly (All)
Senate Districts 2, 8-10, 12-14, 16-17, 20-21
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Controller
US House (All)

New Hampshire General Election

House (All)
Senate (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

New Jersey General Election

US House (CD 2-12)
US Senate (Class 2)

New Mexico General Election

House (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

New York General Election

Assembly (All)
Senate (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller
US House (All)

North Carolina General Election

House (All)
Senate (All)
US House (All)
US Senate (Hagan)

North Carolina Special Election

US House (CD 12)

North Dakota General Election

House (Odd)
Senate (Odd)
Constitutional Officers: Attorney General
US House (All)

Ohio General Election

House (All)
Senate (Odd)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor
US House (All)

Oklahoma General Election

House (All)
Senate (Even)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor and Inspector, Insurance Commissioner, Superintendent of Public Instruction
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2) and (Class 3)

Oregon General Election

House (All)
Senate Districts 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 19, 20, 24, and 26
Constitutional Officers: Governor
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Pennsylvania General Election

House (All)
Senate (Even)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor
US House (All)

Rhode Island General Election

House (All)
Senate (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General, General Treasurer
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

South Carolina General Election

House (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller General, Superintendent of Education
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

South Carolina Special Election

US Senate (Class 3)

South Dakota General Election

House (All)
Senate (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Tennessee General Election

House (All)
Senate (Odd)
Constitutional Officers: Governor
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Texas General Election

House (All)
Senate Districts 2, 3, 5, 7-10, 14-17, 23, 25, 30, 31
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller of Public Accounts
US House (All)
US Senate (Cornyn)

Texas Special Election

House District 16

Utah General Election

House (All)
Senate Districts 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 11, 12, 15, 17, 18, 21, 22, 26 and 28
Constitutional Officers: Attorney General
US House (All)

Vermont General Election

House (All)
Senate (All)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor of Accounts
US House (All)

Virginia General Election

US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Virginia Special Election

Senate District 16

Washington General Election

House (All)
Senate Districts 6-8, 13, 15, 21, 26, 29-38, 41-48
US House (All)

West Virginia General Election

House Districts 1-67
(1 new Delegate per district)
Senate Districts 1-17
(1 Senator per district)
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)

Wisconsin General Election

Assembly (All)
Senate (Odd)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General
US House (All)

Wyoming General Election

House (All)
Senate (Odd)
Constitutional Officers: Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Auditor, Superintendent of Public Instruction
US House (All)
US Senate (Class 2)



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