

## Youth Will Be Served...Eventually



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June 9, 2014

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The next issue of Capitol Journal will be available on June 16th.

### Top Story

*A growing number of Millennials have entered elected office in statehouses around the country. But they are learning that changing the players is easier than changing the game.*

## SNCJ Spotlight

### Millennial lawmakers face major challenges, big opportunities

America is in the embryonic stages of a gradual but inevitable generational power shift away from Baby Boomers and Gen-Xers and toward the 80 million or so young adults we've dubbed the Millennials. But while many 20-somethings have harnessed that newfound influence to capture elected office in statehouses around the country, they are learning that changing the players is easier than changing the game.



By Rich Ehsen

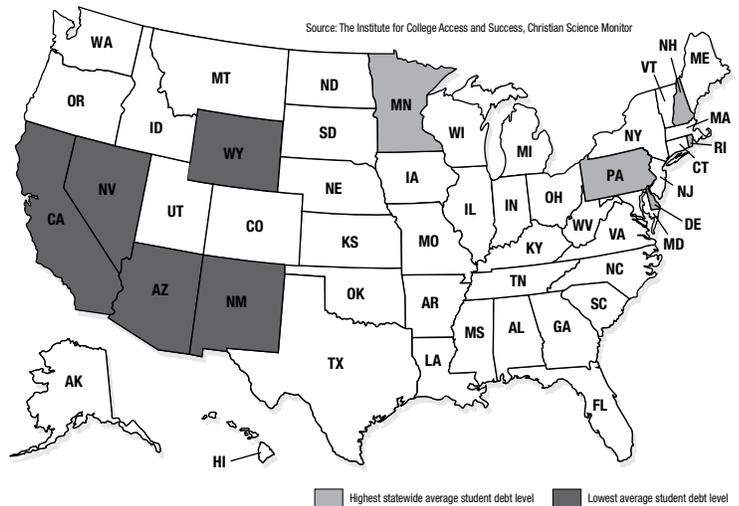


As voters and consumers, Millennials have already had a huge impact on society. They have been a determining factor in the last two presidential elections and continue to be a major driver of historic changes in how the nation deals with social issues like same-sex marriage (See “Millennials make waves in statehouses too” in the June 2 issue of SNCJ). Young adults are also forcing change in the workplace, where they now comprise over a third of all workers. By 2025, some studies estimate that figure will grow to around 75 percent of the workforce. As such, employers across the spectrum are being forced to reconsider longstanding ways of doing things, from basic communication practices to the once-sacrosanct 9-5 workday.

Millennials are creating more than just structural changes. They want careers that are both lucrative and socially meaningful, with a greater emphasis on work-life balance and less on the company’s bottom line. They are demanding — and receiving — flexible work schedules and open work spaces instead of the dreary “cube farms” Boomers and Gen-Xers have accepted as just part of the ticket into Corporate America. They like to work in teams, a byproduct of a childhood where seemingly every activity was carefully organized and structured. And they generally don’t understand or accept the “wait your turn” pecking order that has long been the staple of working for a living. If I can do the job now, the Millennial worker believes, why wait 10 years behind someone who doesn’t do it as well?

All that is fine when you have the critical mass to impose your will upon the world. But Millennial lawmakers now comprise only around 1 percent of the country’s total number of state legislators. As lawmakers like Maine Rep. Justin Chenette (D), 23, have discovered, that makes it hard to shake up the status quo. He is one of 13 Maine lawmakers under the age of 30, and is the vice-chair of the group’s appropriately named Youth Caucus. But although he says he “at least had an inkling of what I was getting into” when he ran for office, the experience has nonetheless been eye opening.

## Bird’s eye view



### East-west divide on college student debt

Seventy-one percent of the graduating class of 2012 had student loan debt, up from 68 percent in 2008, according to a recent study by The Institute for College Access and Success (TICAS). The majority of the states with the highest statewide average debt levels, which include Delaware (\$33,649), New Hampshire (\$32,698) and Pennsylvania (\$31,675), were east of the Mississippi River. Most of the states with the lowest average student debt levels, including New Mexico (\$17,994), California (\$20,269) and Arizona (\$20,299), were west of the Rocky Mountains.







“They helped push the envelope toward a more collaborative government. In an environment where we really needed to work together, they were very helpful in making sure we were actually doing all we could to do that,” he says.

Eves, only 37 himself, says the biggest challenge for any new lawmaker, regardless of age, is establishing credibility. That can be a particularly heavy lift for a lawmaker fresh out of college like Chenette or Youth Caucus colleagues like co-chairs Mattie Daughtry (D) and Matt Pouliot (R). To that end, Daughtry and Pouliot say both voters and their older statehouse colleagues welcomed them from the beginning.

“They kid sometimes and call us “the Kiddie Caucus,” she says. “But most have gone out of their way to be helpful.”

But the Maine Legislature is hardly one big lovefest. Gov. Paul LePage’s (R) combative, hyper-partisan style has ratcheted up the discord in both legislative

**“They kid sometimes and call us “the Kiddie Caucus.”**

chambers. And while Chenette agrees that his younger colleagues generally “tend to blur the party lines a lot more than people who have been here for a while,” he says they are not immune to their own political ambitions.

“There are people who want to work together and there are people who do not,” he says. Those with lofty ambitions, regardless of party, “are more apt to play the game” and stick with their caucus’s positions to curry favor with leadership.

“Ultimately, if you want to be Speaker of the House, if you want to be in leadership so you can run for the next highest office, you can’t be as vocal,” he says. “You can’t fight back against the system and the institution as much as I might be doing.”

There are other challenges as well. All are in their formative career years, and time in public service is time they are not building that foundation for the future.

“The pay in a citizen legislature like ours isn’t much [around \$13,000 a year], and it’s hard to live on without some other kind of employment,” says Eves. Pouliot, for instance, is a realtor who owns his own agency. Daughtry owns her own photography and video studio. Chenette is a marketing executive.

“Many of these young people are fresh out of college and don’t have an established career yet. This is the time when they would be making that transition, but if you want to serve all eight years [the maximum under Maine’s term limits restrictions] you have to put your career on hold. It can be a real sacrifice for young people just starting out their careers,” Eves says.

The sacrifice was too much for at least one highly regarded young lawmaker, Rep. Corey Wilson (R). Numerous people interviewed for this story lauded Wilson for his thoughtful approach to issues and his willingness to break party ranks to support measures he believed in. But with an impending marriage and family to consider, he has decided not to seek another term in November.

“I absolutely loved serving in the Maine Legislature, but it is just extremely difficult for a young person to support a family on this income,” he says. He said he

hopes to return to elected office in the future, at either the state or federal level.

Tim Storey, a legislative expert with the National Conference of State Legislatures, says small salaries are just one reason why the average age for lawmakers nationwide remains in the mid-50s. He notes that while most legislatures are technically part time, the job often requires much more than that. And, he adds, that doesn't even account for the many months required to run a campaign.

"If anything, this all pushes legislatures toward more retired people, or those who might be independently wealthy, rather than to younger ones," he says.

Finances are less of a burden for California Assembly members Dababneh and Sebastian Ridley-Thomas (D), 26. Golden State lawmakers are full time, with an annual salary of over \$95,000 (more for leadership) and a healthy per diem.

Even so, Ridley-Thomas says it's not income but issues that drive him. And although he is a freshman, he is hardly a neophyte. He is the son of former state Sen. Mark Ridley-Thomas and was a lead staffer for former Assemblymember and Senator Curren Price, both now members of the Los Angeles City Council.

"Let's say I knew where the bathrooms were in this building a little before some of the other new folks," he says, smiling.

He is more serious when speaking of his own core issues, like job creation and education. He also knows he is a beneficiary of changes voters made to California's term limits law in 2012 that allow lawmakers to serve up to 12 years in one chamber.

"We have a unique opportunity now to move in a new direction. We're not going to be looking to jump to a new office as much," he says.

That matters immensely to young people who might be interested in following him into public policy.

"As a young person, we know we're here for the long haul," he says. "We're thinking long term. Our mindset is, 'what do I really want to dig in on?'"

In California at least that potential longevity would appear to be their biggest contribution to date, presuming, of course, they continue to get elected. Dababneh and Ridley-Thomas seem well on their way: both finished at the top of their re-election primaries last week and are expected to easily win another term in November.

Things are a little less secure for the Assembly's other Millennial lawmaker, 28-year-old Ian Calderon (D), who finished 10 points behind a GOP rival in the June 3 California primary. Calderon was undoubtedly hurt by a raft of legal troubles currently facing his uncle, Sen. Ron Calderon (D), who has been indicted on

## The week in session

**States in Regular Session:** CA, DC, DE, MA, MI, NH, NC, NY, OH, PA, PR, RI, SC, US

**States in Special Session:** CA "b", VA "a"

**States currently prefilng for 2015 Session:** MT

**States adjourned in 2014:** AK, AL, AR, AZ, AZ "a", CA "a", CO, CT, DE "b", FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IL, IL "a", IL "b", IN, KS, KY, LA, MD, ME, MN, MO, MS, MS "a", MS "b", NE, NM, OK, OR, PR "a", PR "b", SD, TN, UT, VA, VT, WA, WA "a", WA "b", WA "c", WI "c", WV, WV "a", WV "b", WY

Letters indicate special/extraordinary sessions

— Compiled By FELICA CARILLO  
(session information current as of 5/29/2014)  
Source: State Net database



corruption charges. Even so, it was a particularly painful result for him given that Democrats hold a 24 percent registration edge in his district. The younger Calderon's chances in November are now murky at best.

Back in Maine, Eves says the younger lawmakers have been immensely beneficial to their older colleagues by helping them to understand how their state can better attract and retain younger people, a major concern in a state with the oldest population in the country. In that regard, while Wilson is out, Daughtry and Chenette are favored to win re-election and Pouliot is running unopposed.

Still, the ultimate successes or failures of these political Millennials are yet to play out. But regardless of the outcomes, at this point their youth — and even their impatience and occasional hubris — seems more of a blessing than a curse.

“Part of being young is being able to stand up and infuse some energy into a situation,” says Chenette. “Most young people are elected because people really want to see someone make a difference. Well, we’re not going to make a difference if we’re just doing the same things that older legislators have done.”

— By RICH EHISEN

*This is the second of a two-part look at a few of the growing number of Millennials — the generation born roughly between 1982 and 2000 — now serving in statehouses around the country. Part I can be found at <http://bit.ly/11yBN4X>.*

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## Budget & taxes

**M**I LAWMAKERS APPROVE ‘GRAND BARGAIN’: Michigan lawmakers have given their approval to the bankruptcy exit plan negotiated by federal mediators that has come to be known as the “grand bargain.” The nine-bill package, passed with bipartisan support in both chambers and expected to be signed by Gov. Rick Snyder (R), calls for the transfer of \$194.8 million from the state’s rainy day fund to Detroit’s pensioners and provides for long-term oversight of the city’s finances by a new state commission. And thanks to \$466 million pledged by private benefactors, the deal also ensures that the Detroit Institute of Arts’ 60,000-piece collection remains intact.

“It makes pensioners as whole as possible and protects the Detroit Institute of Arts from having its artwork seized and sold off,” said state Sen. Tupac Hunter (D).

The “grand bargain” still has to be approved by a majority of Detroit’s pensioners, most of whom would have their monthly pension checks cut 4.5 percent under the deal. If they vote the plan down, however, they could face a cut of 27 percent or more. And a federal bankruptcy court judge has already ruled the city’s pensions can be cut.

“There’s really no value for someone to vote no,” Gov. Snyder said at a press conference. “They’re putting themselves at risk.”

But one of the state’s senators, Coleman Young II (D) of Detroit, found a reason to vote “no” on all nine of the “grand bargain” bills. He said the plan’s oversight commission, for instance, would legalize “inter-state colonialism” in the predominately African-American city he represents.

“It simply won’t do for my city, my friends, my neighbors, my constituents who will be put under the thumb of another body hand-picked by this administration to enact policies in their own best interests, not Detroit’s,” he said.

Sen. Pat Colbeck (R), one of 17 senators who opposed the pension aid bill, contended that it sets a bad precedent for the next Michigan city that gets into fiscal trouble.

“We need to tighten our state spending, not break open the piggy bank,” he said.

Annie Patnaude, deputy director of the conservative group Americans for Prosperity, who testified against the bills, also found fault with the notion that the city’s art and other assets shouldn’t be sold off to repay its pensioners and creditors.

“What’s more important: A painting on the wall or someone’s pension?” she said. “Detroit needs to give up some of its assets.”

But Senate Majority Leader Randy Richardville (R) said simply, “This was, in my mind, a very responsible vote.” (DETROIT NEWS, MLIVE.COM, STATE NET)

**FL HURRICANE BONDS ON RISE:** Six years ago, Florida’s government-run property insurer, Citizens Property Insurance Corp., paid Warren Buffett’s Omaha, Nebraska-based Berkshire Hathaway Inc. \$224 million in exchange for a guarantee that the company would buy bonds issued by the Florida Hurricane Catastrophe Fund Finance Corp., a taxpayer-owned entity that provides backup coverage for insurers, if a storm caused more than \$16 billion in damage. But the state won’t need to make any such deals this year.

Demand for the state’s catastrophe bonds is soaring. In fact, the state quadrupled the size of its bond sale last month, to \$1.5 billion. The high level of investor interest is being fueled in part by generationally low municipal bond rates, which have sent investors in search of higher returns. Catastrophe bonds offer higher returns in exchange for higher risk: the potential loss of principal. But investors have been willing to take that risk because a hurricane hasn’t struck the state since Wilma in 2005.

“We haven’t had a hurricane make landfall in eight years,” said Jack Nicholson, who runs the state’s catastrophe fund. “I’d rather be lucky than smart any day.”

That luck has allowed Citizens Property and the catastrophe fund to amass more than \$18.5 billion combined. That wouldn’t be enough to cover claims, however, if

**“What’s more important:  
A painting on the wall  
or someone’s pension?  
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a hurricane were to hit a major population center like Miami, which according to state estimates, could cause over \$80 billion in damage.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration predicted May 22 that three to six hurricanes would probably form in the Atlantic Ocean this year, with one or two possibly qualifying as major.

The hurricane season runs through November in the Atlantic. (BLOOMBERG)

## Upcoming stories

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

- **Mid-year reviews**
- **Voter ID**
- **Hollywood tax credits**

**MN GOV VETOES LOTTERY LIMITS:** Last month Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton (D) vetoed a bill that would have eliminated online scratch-off lottery games and prohibited the sale of lottery tickets at gas pumps and ATMs in the state.

The governor reportedly anguished over the bill. The state’s House and Senate passed it with veto-proof majorities in the closing days of the session.

“I am really torn,” Dayton said before making his decision. “I realize that if I were to veto it and they were still in session, they would override my veto.”

But although many lawmakers expressed concerns that online lottery sales could increase gambling addiction, the governor said the bill’s sweeping curbs on the lottery seemed motivated more by the desire of other gambling interests to protect their turf.

“I am concerned that the real impetus behind this bill was not to protect the citizens of Minnesota, but to protect the interests that now benefit from the status quo,” he said. “That is the wrong reason for the legislation to be supported and passed.” (MINNEAPOLIS STAR TRIBUNE, STATE NET)

**BUDGETS IN BRIEF:** The City of Fort Wright in northern **KENTUCKY** has filed a lawsuit alleging the Kentucky Retirement Systems has made “illegal and imprudent investments” in hedge funds and other “alternative investments” with public pension money. The city claims KRS is legally required to invest the local government pension and retiree health care money it manages only in relatively safe stocks and bonds (KENTUCKY.COM). • **FLORIDA** Gov. Rick Scott (R), who is up for re-election in November, signed a record \$77 billion budget last week without vetoing any of the pet projects lawmakers included in the spending plan as he had done in previous years (ORLANDO SENTINEL). • Last week **VERMONT** Gov. Peter Shumlin (D) signed a \$685.7 million transportation bill, the largest in state history (BURLINGTON FREE PRESS, STATE NET). • **OKLAHOMA** Gov. Mary Fallin (R) signed legislation shifting newly hired state employees from a traditional pension retirement system to a 401(k)-style retirement plan (ASSOCIATED PRESS, KSWO [LAWTON], STATE NET).

— Compiled by *KOREY CLARK*







Democratic lawmakers in the state. The Democrats allege the maps dilute minority voting power (NEW YORK TIMES). • **MASSACHUSETTS** Attorney General Martha Coakley (D) has filed a lawsuit against Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac for allegedly refusing to comply with a state law aimed at stemming foreclosures (ASSOCIATED PRESS, BOSTON GLOBE). • Unlikely disparities in **KENTUCKY** lawmakers’ pay has prompted a legislative review. Senate Republican Caucus Chairman Dan Seum, for instance, was paid \$79,352 in salary and expenses in 2013, while Majority Floor Leader Damon Thayer (R), a higher-ranking senator, earned \$57,440 (COURIER-JOURNAL [LOUISVILLE]).

— *Compiled by KOREY CLARK*

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# Governors

## **HASLAM INTRODUCES TN PRESCRIPTION DRUG REFORM PLAN:**

Saying Tennessee has “a problem with prescription drug abuse and it’s going to take all of us working together to tackle it,” Gov. Bill Haslam (R) introduced a “strategic plan” last week to crack down on the problem. The proposal would expand cooperation among the state’s substance abuse, health and law enforcement communities in combating it.

Prescription drug abuse has skyrocketed in Tennessee over the last decade. State officials estimate that nearly 221,000 residents have used prescription pain relievers for non-medical purposes over the last year alone, and 9,000 of them are addicted to the drugs. Haslam’s plan lists seven specific goals, including cutting the number of prescription opiate users and overdoses by 20 percent, and increasing access to and the quality of early intervention treatment and recovery programs.

“It’s a serious problem in Tennessee when one out of every 20 adults has used prescription drugs that weren’t prescribed to them for medical reason,” Haslam told reporters at a Capitol news conference announcing the plan.

It is the second major such effort this year for Haslam. In March, he sponsored legislation that restricts the over-the-counter purchase of ephedrine- and pseudoephedrine-based cold and allergy medications to 5.76 grams a month. The two elements are major components in the making of illegal methamphetamine. The laws goes into effect July 1. (CHATTANOOGA TIMES-FREE PRESS), KNOXVILLE NEWS, KINGSPORT TIMES-NEWS)

**GOVS HAVE MIXED REACTION TO OBAMA CLIMATE RULES:** The reaction to proposed new regulations from the Obama administration to clamp down on carbon emissions drew a mixed reaction last week, predictably along party lines.



The proposed regulations, which would require a reduction in nationwide carbon-dioxide emissions from existing power plants 30 percent from their 2005 levels by 2030, were generally lauded by Democratic governors and reviled by Republicans. Some, such as Indiana Gov. Mike Pence (R) vowed to fight the new measure “using every means available.” California Gov. Jerry Brown (D), however, echoed other Democrats in voicing his strong support, saying, “While others delay and deny, the Obama Administration is confronting climate change head-on with these new standards.” The proposal, which sets different goals for individual states, based on the types of generation they use, their capability to switch fuel sources and other factors, now faces a yearlong public comment period. (CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR’S OFFICE, ARIZONA REPUBLIC [PHOENIX], INDIANAPOLIS STAR, LOS ANGELES TIMES)

**GOVERNORS IN BRIEF:** Six GOP governors — **MAINE** Gove. Paul LePage, **FLORIDA** Gov. Rick Scott, **KANSAS** Gov. Sam Brownback, **LOUISIANA** Bobby Jindal, **PENNSYLVANIA** Tom Corbett and **TEXAS** Gov. Rick Perry — have asked the Obama administration for unprecedented authority to conduct their own reviews of federal Department of Veterans Affairs facilities in their states. Gov. Scott said he would pursue litigation if permission was not granted (PORTLAND PRESS HERALD). • **IDAHO** Gov. Butch Otter (R) has asked the full 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals to review its pending same-sex marriage case rather than the usual three-judge panel. Otter said the issue is “so passionately contested and so divisive among the citizenry” that anything less than a full court review would make that citizenry question the legitimacy of its decision (SPOKESMAN-REVIEW [SPOKANE]).

— *Compiled by RICH EHISEN*

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## Hot issues

**B** **USINESS:** The Seattle City Council approves raising the minimum wage in the Emerald City to \$15 per hour, the highest standard in the nation. At least one business organization has vowed to file suit to block the hike (SEATTLE TIMES). • **TENNESSEE** Gov. Bill Haslam (R) signs SB 2126, a bill that removes individual supervisor liability in cases of employment discrimination. The measure also places a cap on pain and suffering judgments and bars employees from filing both state and federal discrimination suits at the same time (NATIONAL LAW REVIEW). • **LOUISIANA** Gov. Bobby Jindal (R) signs SB 12, a bill that bars the sale of electronic cigarettes, vaporizers and other tobacco alternative products to minors (ADVOCATE [BATON ROUGE]). • **CONNECTICUT** Gov. Dannel P.

Malloy (D) signs SB 24, legislation that bars the sale of electronic cigarettes and other alternative nicotine delivery products to minors (CTNEWSJUNKIE.COM). • **COLORADO** Gov. John Hickenlooper (D) signs SB 125, a bill that makes the Centennial State the first to regulate the fast-growing ride sharing industry. The new law requires companies like Uber and Lyft, which allow consumers to hail rides from everyday people who use their personal vehicles for the fares, to obtain permits from the state Public Utilities Commission and carry at least \$1 million in liability insurance (STATE NET, DENVER POST).

**CRIME & PUNISHMENT:** The **OHIO** Senate approves HB 130, a bill that would make soliciting sex from a minor under age 16 a third degree felony punishable by up to three years in prison. It returns to the House (COLUMBUS DISPATCH). • **LOUISIANA** Gov. Bobby Jindal (R) signs HB 1142, a domestic violence protection bill that requires a pelican state court to conduct a hearing to assess the feasibility of granting bail to a person arrested on domestic abuse charges and to deny bail if it is determined the person seeking it is still a threat to commit violence (ADVERTISER [LAFAYETTE]). • Still in **LOUISIANA**, Gov. Jindal signs SB 87, which sets a maximum prison sentence of 99 years for repeat convictions for heroin dealing (TIMES-PICAYUNE [NEW ORLEANS]).

**EDUCATION:** The **LOUISIANA** Senate gives final approval to SB 62, which would require all Pelican State public universities to adopt a common joint application. The measure, which would also apply to some private universities, moves to Gov. Bobby Jindal (R) for review (TIMES-PICAYUNE [NEW ORLEANS]). • **CONNECTICUT** Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (D) signs HB 5113, which requires Constitution State schools to have the parents of student athletes sign a consent form that contains detailed information on concussions. The law also

## Upcoming elections

(6/6/2014 - 6/27/2014)

06/10/2014

### **Arkansas Primary Runoff**

House District 16

Senate District 17

Constitutional Officers: Attorney General

### **Maine Primary Election**

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

### **Nevada Primary 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)

### **North Dakota Primary Election**

House (Odd)

Senate (Odd)

Constitutional Officers: Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture, Tax Commissioner  
US House (All)

### **South Carolina Primary Election**

House (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant

Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller General, Adjutant General, Commissioner of Agriculture, Superintendent of Education  
US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

### **Virginia Primary Election**

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

06/24/2014

### **Colorado Primary 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)

requires coaches to complete a concussion treatment and management course (HARTFORD COURANT).

- The **CALIFORNIA** Assembly approves AB 2377, which creates a refinancing program within the Office of the State Treasurer where Golden State residents who choose a career in community service can get student loans from private entities refinanced. It moves to the Senate (STATE NET).
- **SOUTH CAROLINA** Gov. Nikki Haley (R) signs HB 3893, legislation that makes the Palmetto State the second to drop out of using Common Core Standards for math and English and adopt new standards effective for the 2015-16 academic year (EDUCATION WEEKLY).
- **OKLAHOMA** Gov. Mary Fallin (R) signs HB 3339, a bill that makes the Sooner State the third to drop out of the Common Core Standards. The measure gives state education officials until 2016 to devise new standards (OKLAHOMAN [OKLAHOMA CITY]).
- Also in **OKLAHOMA**, Gov. Fallin signs HB 1623, a bill that authorizes Sooner State teachers and students in grades 7 through 12 to be trained in how to recognize the danger signals of suicide and ways to prevent it. The measure also requires the state Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services to develop a curriculum for the training and offer it to school districts for free (EDMOND SUN).

**ENERGY: COLORADO** Gov. John Hickenlooper (D) signs HB 1030, which directs state energy officials to facilitate project review by state agencies in a timely manner commensurate with federal agency timelines, making it possible for an applicant to simultaneously clear both federal and state reviews as quickly as 60 days for “non-controversial” projects (HYDROWORLD.COM).

- **CONNECTICUT** Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (D) signs SB 2, a bill that requires third party electricity sellers to maintain their initial rates for at least three months and issue bills that show the standard rate so consumers can compare it with the rate they are paying (CTNEWSJUNKIE.COM).

## Upcoming elections (cont.)

(6/6/2014 - 6/27/2014)

### **Florida Special Election**

US House (Congressional District 19)

### **Maryland Primary Election**

House (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller

US House (All)

### **Mississippi Primary Runoff**

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

### **New York Primary Election**

Assembly (All)

Senate (All)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Comptroller

US House (All)

### **Oklahoma Primary Election**

House (All)

Senate (Even)

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, Attorney General, Auditor and Inspector, Commissioner of Labor, Insurance Commissioner, Superintendent of Public Instruction

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

### **Oklahoma Special Primary**

Senate District 5

US Senate (Class 3)

### **South Carolina Primary Runoff**

Constitutional Officers: Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Treasurer, Attorney General, Comptroller General, Adjutant General, Commissioner of Agriculture, Superintendent of Education

US House (All)

US Senate (Class 2)

### **Utah Primary 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)



**ENVIRONMENT:** The Obama administration reveals a proposal to reduce greenhouse gases by 30 percent from their 2005 level by the year 2030. Under the proposal, states would have several options for meeting their specific targets, which vary based on their current fuel mix. The plan now begins a yearlong comment and review period (LOS ANGELES TIMES). • **NORTH CAROLINA** Gov. Pat McCrory (R) signs a bill that lifts a 2012 moratorium on the use of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in the Tar Heel State. The measure also requires the state to pay for the cost of searching for usable natural gas deposits in seven counties (ASHEVILLE CITIZEN-TIMES).

**HEALTH & SCIENCE:** The **DELAWARE** Senate approves SB 219, which would allow a heroin addict’s friends and family to obtain the overdose medication naloxone at low or no cost. The measure, which would require recipients to take an approved education course, moves to the House (DELAWARENEWSZAP.COM). • **IOWA** Gov. Terry Branstad (R) signs SB 2360, which requires cannabis oil patients to have a recommendation from a neurologist and obtain a registration card from the state Department of Health before being allowed to possess and use up to 32 ounces of cannabidiol, a non-psychoactive concentrate derived from marijuana, used to treat people who suffer from epileptic seizures (THE DAILY CHRONIC). • **SOUTH CAROLINA** Gov. Nikki Haley (R) signs SB 1035, which allows children who suffer from epileptic seizures to be treated with cannabis oil. Iowa and South Carolina become the seventh and eighth states this year to adopt such measures (HUFFINGTON POST). • **CONNECTICUT** Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (D) signs HB 5487, which grants criminal and civil immunity to anyone who administers the anti-overdose drug naloxone to someone suffering from an opiate overdose. The measure takes effect on October 1 (HARTFORD COURANT, CONNECTICUT GOVERNOR’S OFFICE). • Still in **CONNECTICUT**, Gov. Malloy vetoes HB 5373, which would have required health insurance carriers to report information about the substance abuse treatment they have covered and their networks of mental health and substance abuse treatment providers. Malloy said he feared the bill would lead to the gathering of inaccurate patient information (CONNECTICUT MIRROR).

## 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: 0**

**Number of 2015 Prefiles last week: 126**

**Number of Intros last week: 760**

**Number of Enacted/Adopted last week: 1,128**

**Number of 2014 Prefiles to date: 21,427**

**Number of 2015 Prefiles to date: 165**

**Number of 2014 Intros to date: 76,951**

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

**Number of 2014 Session Enacted/Adopted overall to date: 20,931**

**Number of bills currently in State Net Database: 166,172**

— Compiled By FELICIA CARILLO  
(measures current as of 6/5/2014)  
Source: State Net database



**SOCIAL POLICY:** A three-judge panel of the 9<sup>th</sup> U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals rules that an **ARIZONA** law restricting the use of chemical abortion drugs like RU486 “substantially burdened” the legal right of Grand Canyon State women to obtain the procedure. The panel also ruled the state had presented no evidence that the restrictions benefited women. State officials said they would appeal the ruling (**ARIZONA DAILY SUN** [FLAGSTAFF]). • The **LOUISIANA** Senate approves HB 1176, a bill that bars welfare recipients from spending their benefit dollars at liquor stores, lingerie shops, tattoo parlors, nail salons and jewelry stores. The bill also requires retailers to disable ATM machines on their property that accept electronic benefit transaction cards (EBT). The bill moves to Gov. Bobby Jindal (R), who is expected to sign it into law (**TIMES-PICAYUNE** [NEW ORLEANS]). • **OKLAHOMA** Gov. Mary Fallin (R) signs SB 1848, which requires clinics that perform abortions to have a physician with admitting privileges at a hospital within a 30-mile radius present when an abortion is performed (**JURIST.ORG**). • The U.S. Supreme Court declines to halt same-sex marriages in **OREGON** while a federal appeals court considers whether a group opposed to those unions can intervene in the case. State officials have declined to challenge a federal court’s ruling that a state law banning gay nuptials was unconstitutional (**SEATTLE TIMES**).

**POTPOURRI: CONNECTICUT** Gov. Dannel P. Malloy (D) vetoes HB 5417, which would have allowed anglers to fish commercially for glass eels, which are under consideration for federal endangered species protection (**CONNECTICUT MIRROR**). • Also in **CONNECTICUT**, Gov. Malloy signs SB 445, so-called “puppy mill” legislation that bars pet shops from selling animals purchased from breeders that have been cited for direct violations by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (**CTNEWSJUNKIE.COM**).

— Compiled by *RICH EHISEN*

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# Once around the statehouse lightly

**I**F AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED...lie, lie again. To be fair, the wannabe Arizona Congressman formerly known as Scott Fistler isn't technically lying when he calls himself Cesar Chavez. As the *Arizona Capitol Times* reports, Fistler — who has lost in his previous two attempts at elected office — legally changed his name back in February to match that of the labor rights icon. He also switched parties, ditching the GOP in favor of running for Congress in the heavily-



Hispanic 7<sup>th</sup> District as a Democrat. But wait, there's more! His website shows crowds of delirious supporters waving signs pledging their support for a Chavez candidacy. The thing is, the pictures are old photos of folks in Venezuela rallying in support of their now deceased president, Hugo Chavez. Oh, tricky, tricky. But hey, maybe he's on to something. If this charade works, perhaps Chris Christie will change his name to Barack Obama to take on Hillary Clinton in 2016.

## In case you missed it

More and more 20-somethings are now finding their way into elected office in state-houses from California to Maine. And though they still lack critical mass, their impact is definitely being felt.

In case you missed it, the story can be found on our Web site at

[http://www.statenet.com/capitol\\_journal/06-02-2014/html#sncj\\_spotlight](http://www.statenet.com/capitol_journal/06-02-2014/html#sncj_spotlight)

**A SWEET, SWEET VICTORY:** It seemed the Illinois Senate would crush a young girl's dreams. As the *Chicago Sun-Times* reports, the House recently approved a bill to stop local health departments from shutting down home baking operations unless a complaint or legitimate foodborne illness was at hand. That was great news to 12-year-old Chloe Stirling, an aspiring entrepreneur doing a tidy business making and selling cupcakes out of her family's Troy kitchen until health officials shut her down for not meeting health codes. But the bill hit a snag in the Senate when Sen. Donne Trotter added a long list of requirements his colleagues found so onerous they overwhelmingly killed the measure. But Trotter eventually backed off amidst much sniping from his fellow Senators, giving them a chance to vote on the original House-endorsed measure. It passed 57-0 and was sent to Gov. Pat Quinn. Chloe's mom said they would celebrate "with lots of cupcakes."

**UNSESSION SUCCESS:** One of Minnesota Gov. Mark Dayton's top priorities this year was culling a plethora of outdated, unnecessary or just plain silly laws from the Gopher State code books. Mission accomplished! As the *St. Paul Pioneer-Press* reports, Dayton signed a bill last month that wiped out over 1,100 such statutes. Among those to go buh-bye: a law making it a misdemeanor to carry fruit in an illegally-sized container. Another goner made it a crime to drive a vehicle that is in neutral. While one might legitimately question just how someone drives while in neutral anyway, they might ask the same questions about some state legislatures. Or for sure Congress.

**LORD STANLEY WOULD NOT APPROVE:** By now we're all a little bored of the tired bets that governors make when teams from their state are playing for a championship. But the Stanley Cup wager between California Gov. Jerry Brown and New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo may be the one that sends this tradition to its grave. As the *Albany Times Union* reports, the notoriously cheap Brown showed his underwhelming support for the Los Angeles Kings' chances by risking...wait for it...a copy of a California history book and some "lightly salted" organic rice cakes. Yes, really. But Cuomo didn't exactly go all in on the New York Rangers either, offering



up a sampler basket of Empire State foods and a commemorative “hat trick” hockey puck he had made up to make a third year of on-time budgets. Let’s hope the Rangers and the Kings make a better accounting of themselves than these two did. Yeesh.

**SPEAKING OF EPIC FAILS:** Daniel Snyder, the owner of Washington’s NFL franchise, is clearly a stubborn guy. With pressure growing to change the team’s name — a moniker many consider to be patently racist — Snyder has dug in his heels and refused to budge. In fact, last week he had the brilliant idea of striking back at name-change advocate Harry Reid, who some might know better as the Majority Leader of the U.S. Senate. The team turned to Twitter, urging fans to tweet their support for keeping the name to Reid using the hashtag #RedskinsPride. What could possibly go wrong? As *Sports Illustrated* reports, it didn’t take long for opponents to catch on. And oh they used the hashtag alright. In fact a tsunami of sarcastic tweets soon followed berating Snyder and the team for refusing to change the name. Reid called the effort “a massive failure.” No word from Snyder. #epicfail.

— By *RICH EHISEN*



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