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A CLIFF HANGER: HOW AMERICA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS CONTINUE TO FEEL THE IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC DOWNTURN. American Association of School Administrators. Noelle M. Ellerson. April 2010.

Students and school systems across the nation are facing serious challenges as a result of the economic downturn, according to the survey. Compounding an already tough budget environment, schools are facing the harsh reality that stimulus funds will soon run out and the Obama Administration's proposal to shift additional education dollars away from long-time formula grant programs to competitive grant programs.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

[http://www.aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Policy_and_Advocacy/files/CliffHangerFINAL\(1\).pdf](http://www.aasa.org/uploadedFiles/Policy_and_Advocacy/files/CliffHangerFINAL(1).pdf)

[PDF format, 33 pages].

Item#2

COVERAGE OF PETROLEUM SECTOR GREENHOUSE GASE EMISSIONS UNDER CLIMATE POLICY. Pew Center on Global Climate Change. Joel Bluestein and Jessica Rackley. April 2010.

The petroleum sector, which includes the production, import, processing, transportation, and distribution of crude oil and refined products such as gasoline, heating oil, diesel, propane, and jet fuel, is a significant source of U.S. greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The paper provides an overview of the petroleum sector, identifying the key entities and associated facilities in the petroleum supply chain. There is also information on GHG emissions from the petroleum sector, a summary of which emission sources are currently subject to a fuel tax and which are not, and an evaluation of the implications of adopting an alternative point of regulation for GHG emissions from petroleum.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.pewclimate.org/docUploads/coverage-petroleum-sector-emissions.pdf> [PDF format, 24 pages].

Item#3

DEFORESTATION AND CLIMATE CHANGE. Congressional Research Service, Library of Congress. Ross W. Gorte and Pervaze A. Sheikh. March 24, 2010.

Efforts to mitigate climate change have focused on reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions into the atmosphere. Policies aimed at reducing deforestation are central points of a strategy to decrease carbon emissions, reflected in pending legislation in Congress (e.g., H.R. 2454 and S. 1733) as well as in international discussions, such as the December 2009 negotiations in Copenhagen. The report provides basic information on forests and climate change.

Full Text:

<http://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41144.pdf>

[PDF format, 45 pages].

Item#4

EXPORTS SUPPORT AMERICAN JOBS. U.S. Department of Commerce. April 15, 2010.

The report confirms the importance of exports to the U.S. economy and the increasingly globalized marketplace. According to the report, in 2008, exports accounted for a record 12.7 percent of U.S. gross

domestic product (GDP), and during a period of relatively flat job growth across the economy, supported a record number of jobs, more than 10 million. Additionally, the report links the success in supporting American manufacturing with a successful export policy.

Full Text:

<http://www.trade.gov/publications/pdfs/exports-support-american-jobs.pdf> [PDF format, 14 pages].

Item#5

A HOUSE DIVIDED: POLARIZATION AND ITS EFFECT ON RAND. RAND Corporation. James A. Thomson. April 4, 2010.

The American political climate has become increasingly polarized since the 1970s. Analysis by Keith Poole and Howard Rosenthal shows that voting patterns within Congress have become increasingly divided along party lines, with fewer and fewer moderates. A major cause of polarization appears to be the geographic sorting of voters. Whatever its causes, the effects of increased polarization on political discourse and policymaking are clear: There is less room for deliberation between the two parties, and public policy decision making is increasingly driven more by ideology than by objective analysis of which policies, programs, practices, and processes will produce the desired outcomes at the lowest cost.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.rand.org/pubs/occasional_papers/2010/RAND_OP291.pdf

[PDF format, 35 pages].

Item#6

THE KIDS AREN'T ALRIGHT: A LABOR MARKET ANALYSIS OF YOUNG WORKERS. Economic Policy Institute. Kathryn Anne Edwards and Alexander Hertel-Fernandez. April 7, 2010.

Unemployment does not equally affect all workers. Different segments of the population often have different rates of unemployment, whether the distinction is made by race, gender, education, or age. While the national unemployment rate has yet to meet the 10.8% benchmark set in 1982, the workers age 16-24, unemployment rate peaked at 19.2%. Though young adults represent only 13.5% of the workforce, they now account for 26.4% of unemployed workers. The paper discusses the severity of the unemployment crisis facing young adults, its historical context, and the implications for their future wages and skills.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://epi.3cdn.net/f157c37200a46e1adc_5fm6b5geb.pdf

[PDF format, 10 pages].

Item#7

LEADERSHIP CHANGE IN NORTH KOREA – WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE U.S. The Heritage Foundation. Bruce Kingner. April 7, 2010.

North Korean dictator Kim Jong-il's faltering health has raised concerns about regime stability. Succession rumors have been swirling for years, with Kim's third son, Jong-eun, currently rumored to be Kim's favored choice. But regardless of whether leadership stays in the family or is wrested away by a challenger, a new North Korean leader is likely to keep in place the same belligerent policies--toward South Korea, toward China and Japan, and toward the U.S. If succession does not go smoothly, and if the North Korean regime were to collapse, the ensuing chaos would require immediate action by the U.S. and its Asian allies to restore stability, provide humanitarian relief, and search for and prevent the distribution of WMDs, says the report.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.heritage.org/Research/Reports/2010/04/Leadership-Change-in-North-Korea-What-it-Means-for-the-US>

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#8

MAKING MULTILATERALISM WORK: HOW THE G-20 CAN HELP THE UNITED NATIONS. The Stanley Foundation. Bruce Jones. April 2010.

The moves in 2008-09, prompted by the global financial crisis, to convene the G-20 at the level of heads of state constituted the first major adaptation of global arrangements to better fit with the fact of the emerging powers. G-20 negotiations have already given a critical impetus to governance reforms at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and The World Bank. The author asks whether the G-20 could play useful roles in broader institutional reform.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.stanleyfoundation.org/publications/pab/Jones_PAB_410.pdf

[PDF format, 12 pages].

Item#9

NUCLEAR WEAPONS. U.S. Government Accountability Office. Web posted April 8, 2010.

In March 2009, the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA), a separately organized agency within the Department of Energy, completed construction of the National Ignition Facility (NIF). GAO recommends that NNSA take actions to improve its effectiveness in (1) using outside experts to advise on scientific and technical challenges, by ensuring, for example, that the new committee reports to NNSA and advises on ignition activities early, and (2) managing NIC's cost, schedule, and scope.

Full Text:

<http://www.gao.gov/new.items/d10488.pdf>

[PDF format, 37 pages].

Item#10

OBAMA'S NEW NUCLEAR POLICIES: A STEP IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION. Brookings Institution. Michael E. O'Hanlon. April 7, 2010.

With the overlapping events of recent weeks on the nuclear front, the signing of the START Follow-On Treaty and the conclusion of the Nuclear Posture Review, the Obama administration has made a significant and positive mark in dealing with one of the greatest threats to the planet, says the author.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2010/0407_nuclear_arms_ohanlon.aspx

[HTML format, various paging].

Item#11

THE POWER OF INNOVATION. Association of University Research Parks. Brian Darmody. February 25, 2010.

The federal government can stimulate the creation of jobs and businesses by streamlining its policies for bringing new technologies to market, says the report. "This is not only about money - it's also a matter of adjusting the policies and regulations that too often deter entrepreneurial researchers in our universities and federal labs from commercializing their work," says report author, Brian Darmody.

[Note: contains copyrighted material].

Full Text:

<http://www.aurp.net/more/AURPPowerofPlace2.pdf>

[PDF format, 8 pages].