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**To:** Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov  
**Date:** 3/14/2016 10:06:01 AM  
**Subject:** Bot Bans; Federalism Cases; Spectrum Auction; Public Pensions; Transit-Oriented Development; Millennial Voters

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**Issue: 53**

**March 14, 2016**

#### **Blame it on the Bots: States Act to Ban Ticket-Buying Software**

Frustration and disappointment are often part of the ticket-buying process for people who want to see their favorite megastars live in concert. Single ladies might have a better chance at getting into one of the upcoming Beyoncé concerts than couples and groups. Blame it, at least partly, on bots, software that allows scalpers to quickly snag large quantities of tickets online. About a dozen states have laws that ban ticket bots, and a bill that would prohibit the software was introduced in Congress last year.

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#### **Spectrum Sale Could Mean New Opportunities to Meet Digital Demands**

Wireless phones have become a critical tool in expanding access to high-speed Internet service to Americans in rural communities, but as the demand for wireless communications continues to increase, the frequencies used for signal transmissions are quickly running out. The federal government is taking initial steps to help prevent a wireless spectrum crisis, which could impact for states as they seek to expand broadband access.

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#### **Federalism and the U.S. Supreme Court: Past, Present and Future**

If you are interested in federalism, much of the action has been at the U.S. Supreme Court in the last few years. This is true of the court's current term and will likely be true of the next few terms. Lisa Soronen of the State and Local Legal Center examines how federalism has fared recently in the Supreme Court, the important federalism cases currently on the court's docket and what federalism cases the court might take up in the next few years.

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#### **The Facts on Public Pensions**

Struggling from insufficient contributions and longer-living retiree populations, many states face mounting public pension liabilities. Understanding how your state's plan compares to others around the country and having access to reliable data about pension plans are essential to making evidence-based policy decisions. This FREE CSG eCademy session on March 29 at 2 p.m. EDT, will offer background on the state of public pension systems and introduce a free tool that can be used to inform debates about retirement security issues.

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### **Millennials Now Outnumber Baby Boomers--And They Aren't Voting**

Millennials--born between 1982 and 2000--are now the largest generation in the U.S. with an estimated population of 83.1 million; that's bigger than the baby boomer generation. Although their numbers are significant, they aren't showing up to vote. Since 1964, the young voter rate has varied, hitting peaks in 1992 and 2008, but has always stayed below the 50 percent mark.

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### **Place Management in Downtowns and Transit-Oriented Developments**

Efforts around the country to revitalize downtowns and create economically vital communities, often centered on transit hubs, have created a greater need for a private-public entity that can manage these areas. While most states have laws on the books to enable these special districts, some experts say they are still too difficult to establish and that some of the decades-old laws may need to evolve to reflect the expanding mission of these districts and the changing nature of the communities they serve.

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### **Strong Link Between Zika and Guillain-Barré Paralysis Study Finds**

A new study published in the British health journal *Lancet* presents the strongest case to date that the Zika virus is linked to Guillain-Barré syndrome, which causes temporary paralysis. The study retrospectively looked at 42 cases of Guillain-Barré in French Polynesia between October 2013 and April 2014, the same time that French Polynesia experienced the largest Zika virus outbreak ever described at that time.

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### **CSG to Lead Initiative on Workforce Development for People with Disabilities**

CSG has been awarded funding from the U. S. Department of Labor to work in partnership with the National Conference of State Legislatures to develop a national policy framework for workforce development and employability for people with disabilities in 2016. More than 54 million Americans have a disability, and a majority of those are unemployed or underemployed. For more information, please contact Elizabeth Whitehouse, CSG director of education and workforce development policy, at [ewhitehouse@csg.org](mailto:ewhitehouse@csg.org).

### **10 Years of the Roberts Court for State and Local Government**

Wednesday, March 16, 2 p.m. EDT  
Free Webinar Presented by the State and Local Legal Center  
**REGISTER HERE**

### **Road Usage Charge:**

#### **An Update from the West**

Tuesday, March 22, 2 p.m. EDT  
Free CSG eCademy Presented by CSG West  
**REGISTER HERE**

### **The Facts on Public Pensions**

Tuesday, March 29, 2 p.m. EDT  
FREE CSG eCademy Webcast  
**REGISTER HERE**

### **The Every Student Succeeds Act**

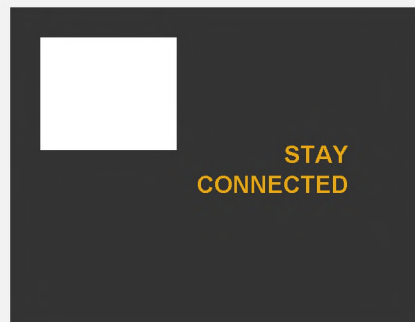
Tuesday, April 12, 2 p.m. EDT

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FREE CSG eCademy Webcast  
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