Overview of Annual Research Topics/Literature Review

October 2026

NAPSA Conference – November 16, 18, 2026. Austin Texas

Link to Registration and Information.

https://www.napsa-now.org/annual-conference/

Adult Welfare:

CNBC. October 14, 2026. Lorie Konish. Social Security Administration Announces 3.6% Cost-of-Living. The Article discusses with the 3.6% COLA for 2027, Social Security Retirement Benefits will go up by $75.00 per month, on average, they agency said.

Link to Article:

https://www.cnbc.com/2026/10/14/social-security-cola-2027.html

Elder Law Answers. October 28, 2026. Lee Pruitt. More Than 10 Million Older Adults Are Living in Poverty. The article explored reasons that include rising food, housing, health care costs hit low-income older adults on fixed incomes hardest.

Link to Article:

https://www.elderlawanswers.com/more-than-10-million-older-adults-are-living-in-poverty-21729

Child Welfare:

EINPRESSWIRE. October 13, 2026. Victory for Vulnerable Youth as Newsom Signs AB2524 Expanding Access to Employment. The article discusses California has taken steps toward addressing employment barriers that leave foster and justice involved vulnerable to poverty, homelessness, and exploitation.

Link to Article:

https://www.einpresswire.com/article/948902067/major-victory-for-vulnerable-youth-as-newsom-signs-ab-2524-expanding-access-to-employment

Imprint News. October 9, 2026. Jeremy Loudenback. Newsom Signs Bill Providing New Sex Abuse Protections for Youth in Foster Care and Detention facilities. The article discusses a bill signed by Governor Newsom that adds additional measures to prevent future abuse in foster homes, residential centers, and juvenile detention facilities. The bill it advised also provides financial protection for counties and school districts.

Linked to Article:

https://imprintnews.org/top-stories/newsom-signs-bill-providing-new-sex-abuse-protections-for-youth-in-foster-care-and-detention-facilities/277679

Los Angeles Times. October 13, 2026. James Queally. Arcadia Surrogacy mansion Parents Left Years-Long Trail of Red Flags Before Child Abuse Case. The article discussed this case and that the accused were able to sidestep what few safeguards existed in the unregulated U.S. Surrogacy Industry.

Link to Article:

https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2026-10-13/arcadia-surrogacy-house-violence-threats-child-abuse-allegations

Health:

CalMatters. October 1, 2026. Marisa Kendall. New Laws make Incremental Tweaks to California's Mental Health Court, While Bigger Changes Nixed. The article discussed Governor Newsom signed two laws designed to help CARE Court better connect Californians with mental health care.

Link to Article:

https://calmatters.org/housing/homelessness/2026/09/care-court-bills-vetoes-2026/

CalMatters. October 16, 2026. Jocelyn Wiener. California Falls Short on Medi-Cal Fraud, State Report Says. The State has not investigated 26,000 of its 28,000 highest-risk Medi-Cal Providers, the report says. Health Officials dispute it.

Link to Article:

https://calmatters.org/health/2026/10/california-medi-cal-fraud-state-report/

CalMatters. October 22, 2026. Kristin Hwang. Medi-Cal Cuts Could Push Seniors and People with Disabilities off of Coverage. The article says state leader believe cuts are needed to balance the budget; while Senior and disability right advocates argue the cuts unfairly target vulnerable groups.

Link to Article:

https://calmatters.org/health/2026/10/california-medi-cal-asset-limit-cut/

Immigration:

Los Angeles Times. October 16, 2026. Fear in the Fields: Why ICE Surge may be Hitting the Central Valley Now. The article discusses Immigration Agents have reported been detaining people at a feverish pace for the last two week; the Trump administration has a state goal of deporting a million people a year.

Link to Article:

https://www.latimes.com/california/newsletter/2026-10-16/fear-in-fields-why-ice-surge-may-be-hitting-central-valley-now

Poverty:

CalMatters: September 29, 2026. Marissa Kendall. New California Law Frees up Funds for Sober Homeless Housing. The New Law plans to free up stated fund for housing that requires residents to stay sober.

Link to Article:

https://calmatters.org/housing/homelessness/2026/09/sober-housing-haney/

Other:

CalMatters: October 8, 2026. Melanie Henshaw. Newsom apologized to Tribes for Historic Harms, but Vetoed Two Bills that Would have Empowered Them? The article discusses Gov. Newsom vetoed two bills that would have given tribal governments a greater voice in water projects.

Link to Article:

https://calmatters.org/politics/capitol/2026/10/newsom-vetoes-tribal-bills-apology/

ABC News: October 1, 2026. Molly Nagle & Elizabeth Schulze. Changes to SNAP Benefits Begin October 1, 2026, for Millions of Americans: What to Know. The article discusses Five Million Americans, including over one million children, lost benefits this year.

Link to Article:

https://abcnews.com/Politics/snap-benefits-begin-oct-1-millions-americans/story?id=136895859