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## November 6, 2014

### CURRENT NEWS AND UPDATES

#### A Look At the November General Elections

As you know, the November 2014 general elections took place on Tuesday. Since then, UCP has been looking at the outcomes. Republicans picked up seven seats in the Senate without losing any of their own, and regained the majority, a position they have not held since 2006. The House of Representatives will continue to be controlled by a Republican majority. Get more information on the election from *Politico*, *The New York Times*, and *The Wall Street Journal*.

#### University of New Hampshire Releases New Report on Restraint and Seclusion of Students with Disabilities

A new report from the University of New Hampshire suggests that students with disabilities are continuing to experience high rates of seclusion and restraints in schools. The report found that the majority of school districts do not report the use of restraint or seclusion: 69.2 percent report

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no cases of restraint, and 87.1 percent of districts report no cases of seclusion, even though many states have implemented policies against these practices. [View the report from the University of New Hampshire.](#)

## **STATE CHECK-UP**

### **November Edition of Medicaid Watch Released**

[Read the November 1, 2014 edition of MEDICAID WATCH.](#)

Notable and recent state developments and proposals that expand access and eligibility appear in blue, while noteworthy and recent state developments and proposals that reduce access and eligibility are printed in red. The last two pages contain a regularly-updated and current listing of sources and resources on state-level health coverage, with the most relevant news, facts and documents highlighted in yellow.

The MEDICAID WATCH doesn't cover only state-level Medicaid eligibility and access news; it also reports on other state health assistance programs, including: State Children's Health Insurance Programs (SCHIP); States' own non-federally-funded medical assistance programs; State Pharmacy Assistance Programs (SPAPs); State AIDS Drug Assistance Programs (ADAPs); State-subsidized or -sponsored health insurance programs for limited income persons; and State-subsidized high risk health insurance pools (including premium discounts given by some risk pools to those with incomes under state-set levels).

### **Rhode Island Governor Chafee Signs Executive Order Aimed at Increasing Jobs for People with Disabilities**

Last week, Governor Lincoln Chafee of Rhode Island signed a new executive order that aims to increase employment for people with disabilities in the state's workforce. The order is a result of the agreement reached in April between the state and the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) regarding the Rhode Island's violation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) by placing individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities in sheltered workshops.

[Learn more about the executive order from \*The Providence Journal\*.](#)

## ***ON THE HORIZON***

### **Watch and Share New Disability Employment PSA**

United Cerebral Palsy announced that it will be partnering with The U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) Office of Disability Employment to launch a new public service announcement as part of the 2014 [Campaign for Disability Employment](#). The PSA, called "Who I Am" features our Celebrity Ambassador, actor R. J. Mitte, along with eight other people from all walks of life. It encourages employers to look beyond individual disabilities to the potential in each candidate. You can download and share broadcast-ready versions of the [PSA](#) branded with UCP's national logo or stream and share them from UCP's [YouTube Channel](#).

For more information on the Washington Wire, please contact Connie Garner at [CGarner@ucp.org](mailto:CGarner@ucp.org).

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