Dear Kambiz,

Our latest research updates are listed below and include information on: new federal guidelines for banking and marijuana sellers, the Keystone XL pipeline, the world's largest new solar power plant, Attorney General Holder's speech on felon voting, and our recent headline articles.

**MEDICAL MARIJUANA**

**New Federal Guidelines Allow Banks to Provide Financial Services to Legal Marijuana Sellers** - The US Justice and Treasury departments issued a new policy that will enable banks to do business with marijuana shops so long as the banks complete "thorough customer due diligence." See the official guidelines and 20 "red flags" listed for banks doing business with marijuana-related companies.

**FELON VOTING**

**Attorney General Eric Holder Calls for Restoration of the Vote to People Convicted of a Felony** - Holder said that 5.8 million Americans are prohibited from voting due to a felony conviction and called the situation "unacceptable."

**ALTERNATIVE ENERGY**

**Should the US Authorize the Keystone XL Pipeline to Import Tar Sand Oil From Canada?** - On Jan. 31, 2014, the US State Department issued its "Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement" for the proposed Keystone XL pipeline. See the report's executive summary along with 18 pro and con quotes from experts, one not clearly pro or con statement from President Obama, and related background information.

**Ivanpah, the World's Largest Concentrated Solar Power Generation Plant, Goes Online** - The 392-megawatt solar power generation plant located in the Mojave Desert (CA) produces enough electricity to power 94,000 average homes.

**PROCON.ORG IN BOOKS & MEDIA**

**68 Books Cited ProCon.org in 2013** - Our websites on gay marriage, immigration, medical marijuana, and prostitution garnered the most citations. Notable authors who have referenced ProCon.org in their books include: Glenn Beck, Mark Bittman, Newt Gingrich, Stefan Halper, Dick Morris, Condoleezza Rice, Michael Schmoker, Tavis Smiley, and Joseph Stiglitz.


**FROM OUR HEADLINES**

- Confusion over New CBO Findings on Obamacare and Employment

http://campaign.r20.constantcontact.com/render?llr=ctvpnooab&v=001VJu5GGZPDR9Bur0IMluOEVeJmS35bq-ZF9qUNFUHawhIXsD6EBApY6UGw6wc9P...
- Teacher Tenure on Trial in California
- Frequent Cell Phone Use Linked to Higher Anxiety and Lower GPA, Says New Study
- Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid Now Pro to Medical Marijuana
- US Drones Killed No More than 4 Civilians in Pakistan in 2013, Lowest Annual Number Ever: UK Group Reports

TEACHERS’ CORNER
We expanded the number of schools where educators use or have used ProCon.org from 3,560 schools at the end of 2012 to 4,571 schools at the end of 2013 - an increase of 1,011 schools (28.4%). By level, those schools include: 1,053 elementary and middle schools (23%), 2,356 high schools (51.6%), and 1,162 colleges and universities (25.4%). Check out our updated resource to look up your school and nearby schools, find new lessons, learn new ways to use ProCon.org, and get inspired.

Educators, if you have not already done so, please take our 2-minute survey and let us know how YOU use ProCon.org.

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To help counter misinformation with facts and replace bias with nonpartisanship, we need your support. We don't tell you what or how to think. We just give you the best information to help you make your own decisions. Please support ProCon.org with your tax-deductible donation via credit card or PayPal.

Please forward these updates to others who may be interested. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kamy Akhavan
President & Managing Editor, ProCon.org
"Promoting Critical Thinking, Education, and Informed Citizenship"

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