

FCC REPORTS DESPIERTA AMERICA NEWS APRIL 1-15 / PART 1

04/02/2012

NORTH AMERICAN SUMMIT

VO:23

President Barack Obama is convening a summit with leaders from Mexico and Canada on Monday that aims to boost a fragile recovery and grapple with thorny energy issues against a backdrop of painfully high gas prices. The session at the White House is a make-good for a planned meeting last November in Hawaii on the sidelines of the Asia-Pacific summit. Obama ended up meeting just with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper when Mexican President Felipe Calderon's top deputy was killed in a helicopter crash. Sure to feature prominently in Monday's Oval Office session: Mexico's role as a major oil exporter and the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline from Canada that Obama has shelved pending further review.

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04/03/2012

STUDENT LOAN BUBBLE

VO: 24

The federal student loan program seemed like a great idea back in 1965: Borrow to go to college now, pay it back later when you have a job. But many borrowers these days are close to flunking out, tripped up by painful real-life lessons in math and economics. Surging above \$1 trillion, U.S. student loan debt has surpassed credit card and auto-loan debt. This debt explosion jeopardizes the fragile recovery, increases the burden on taxpayers and possibly sets the stage for a new economic crisis. With a still-wobbly jobs market, these loans are increasingly hard to pay off. Unable to find work, many students have returned to school, further driving up their indebtedness.

ARIZONA ACCUSED OF ABUSES IN PRISONS

VO: 28

Arizona's state prisons overuse solitary confinement in cruel, inhumane and illegal ways, particularly for mentally ill prisoners and juveniles as young as 14, the human-rights group Amnesty International charges in a report to be released today. According to the report, which is to be delivered to the governor and state lawmakers, Arizona prisons use solitary confinement as a punishment more than most other states or the federal government.

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04/04/2012

IMMIGRATION LAWS

KARLA GOMEZ ESCAMILLA-TUCSON, ARIZONA

PKG:2:07

A look into two new changes to immigration law to help facilitate legalization of thousands.

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04/05/2012

LATINO'S DISCRIMINATION

VICTOR HUGO RODRIGUEZ-PHOENIX, ARIZONA

PKG: 1:42

The Justice Department is preparing to sue Arizona Sheriff Joe Arpaio, saying talks between the two sides have fallen through.

They were in the middle of settlement talks over accusations Arpaio's office systematically discriminated against Latinos.

The department wanted Arpaio to allow an independent monitor to oversee reforms, but says Arpaio refuses. They had a meeting scheduled for Wednesday, and Justice says Arpaio canceled it at the last minute. Arpaio has said the allegations are a politically-driven "witch hunt."

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04/06/2012

ST RONG US HIRING EXPECTED

VO: 51

Economists surveyed by FactSet are predicting another good month in hiring in March. Economists expect that U.S. employers added 210,000 jobs last month but they also predict the unemployment rate remained at 8.3 percent for the third straight month. The Labor Department will release the March employment report this morning. If the forecast proves correct, the economy would have added an average of 236,000 jobs per month since December. That's the most for a four-month period in almost six years. It would also mark the first time the economy has created at least 200,000 jobs in four straight months since early 2000.

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04/09/2012

GAS PRICES

VO: 20

Gas prices are up in most areas around the country compared to the national gasoline average is \$.15 above the price this time last year. Diesel fuel is about \$.07 above this time last year. Premium fuel is \$4.20, up about a penny from last week.

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04/10/2012

TEEN BIRTHS DROP

VO: 22

Teen births fell again in the United States in 2010 with the highest rate once more in Mississippi, according to a new government report. Nearly every state saw a decline in teen births from 2007 to 2010, with the biggest drop in Arizona at 29 percent. Rates stayed about the same in three states: Montana, North Dakota and West Virginia.

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04/11/2012

ALABAMA IMMIGRATION LAW LATEST

VO: 26

While a proposal to amend Alabama's far-reaching immigration law is being touted as a sensible update of last year's bill, a leading immigrant rights group said Tuesday the revised bill needs to be defeated. Leaders of the Alabama Coalition for Immigrant Justice, said the measure - House Bill 658 - won't undo the effects of last year's House Bill 56 and it contains some even harsher measures. Bernard Simelton, president of the NAACP Alabama State Conference, said the conference is dismayed by legislators "efforts to fix something that can't be fixed. "HB 56 can't be fixed by another mean-spirited bill," Simelton said. But legislative leaders and aides to Gov. Robert Bentley argue the new bill strengthens the existing law and makes it more workable. Todd Stacy, spokesman for Alabama House Speaker Mike Hubbard said reasonable and legitimate concerns have been addressed in the new version.

RACIAL DISPARITIES AMONG CA SCHOOL DISTRICT SUSPENSIONS

MILLIE DELGADO - LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

PKG: 2:00

Alameda public schools suspended African American students at roughly three times the rate of students from any other sizable racial group during the 2009-2010 school year, a new report shows. The report released Tuesday by the Los Angeles-based Center for Civil Rights Remedies at the Civil Rights Project, Suspended Education in estimates that more than 400,000 students were suspended and removed from classrooms at least one time during the 2009-10 school year in California - enough to fill every seat in all the professional baseball and football stadiums in the state. The California Department of Education reports over 750,000 total suspensions for the same year. These two estimates are consistent because many students were suspended two, three or even more times that year. Suspended Education in California's Public Schools analyzes recently released data from the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR). The report focuses solely on the number of students suspended at least once, and provides statewide estimates of student discipline data for nearly 500 districts across California. The analysis also illustrates the risk for out-of-school suspension faced by students from each racial group and by those with disabilities.

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04/12/2012

DEATH PENALTY REPEAL

VO: 23

Lawmakers in Connecticut's House of Representatives voted Wednesday night to repeal the state's death penalty. The measure now goes to the desk of Democratic Governor Dannel Malloy who has pledged to sign it into law. That will make Connecticut the fifth state in five years to abandon capital punishment. Opponents of the repeal argue that capital punishment serves as a criminal deterrent and offers justice for victims and their families.

COOK COUNTY REFUSES TO DEPORT UNDOCUMENTED INMATES

VO: 34

Once again, Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle has rejected attempts by the Obama administration to turn arrested undocumented immigrants over to federal immigration authorities. At first, Preckwinkle said the county's financial problems were behind their decision to allow undocumented arrestees who post bond to go free, saying that they shouldn't have to pick up the tab for a federal U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) mandate. When ICE offered to pay for the jail time, she changed her tune. In a letter obtained by the *Chicago Tribune* to ICE Director John Morton this week, the board "The more I've gotten into it, the more offensive and unjust it seems to me to make distinctions between people based on their documentation," Preckwinkle told the *Tribune*. "Equal justice before the law is more important to me than the budgetary considerations."

SUPREME COURT URGED TO TOSS ARIZ. IMMIGRATION LAW

VO: 23

The nation's unions have joined the Obama administration in urging the U.S. Supreme Court to toss out Arizona's anti-immigrant law, SB1070. In "friend of the court" briefs filed with the justices before the April 25 oral argument on Arizona's statute, the AFL-CIO, in one brief, and the Change To Win unions, in the other, both say the law intrudes on a federal area of law, immigration. Not only that, but the CTW unions point out that Arizona directly contradicts the 1986 federal immigration law's "fine balance of sanctions" - aimed at employers who hire undocumented workers - by Arizona's outright ban on employment of undocumented workers. SB1070 even bans the workers from seeking jobs, CTW says. The case is important because SB1070, signed by GOP Gov. Jan Brewer after passage by the overwhelmingly Republican legislature, is aimed not just at undocumented workers; unions and their allies declare it discriminates against Hispanics, because it orders police to stop anyone they suspect of being undocumented and demand immediate proof of legal residence. In practical terms, that's anyone who "looks different." Lack of proof leads to arrest, detention, and deportation.

HOUSING BAILOUT

VO: 28

A government watchdog says the Treasury Department fumbled a program aimed at staving off foreclosure for people who are unemployed or owe more than their homes are worth. The Special Inspector General for the financial bailouts says in a report Thursday that homeowners have received only three percent of the money set aside for Treasury's Hardest Hit Fund. Money from the fund is distributed to state housing agencies, which run a variety of aid programs for homeowners. Special IG Christy Romero says the program has reached only 7 percent of the homeowners that states said they

expect to help over the life of the program. It expires in 2017. The Treasury Department says the IG's criticisms are misguided and the program will work in the long run.

MANY PARENTS INSTALL CAR SEATS IMPROPERLY

VO: 29

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety is releasing a new study on Thursday that measures the difficulties many parents have correctly installing child restraints. The study was conducted jointly with the University of Michigan. The main finding is that vehicle seat designs are working against parents with belt buckles and other seat hardware blocking child restraint anchors, and anchors that are so buried in the seat that they're difficult to access. Only 21 of 98 popular vehicles surveyed have child restraint attachment hardware that meet the criteria researchers identified as making it easier to correctly install restraints. Report sent to wires, CNN b-roll tape in house 08215921

ULTRASOUNDS AGAINST CANCER

VO: 18

Today an fda advisory panel voted unanimously to endorse the use of a new screening tool for breast cancer. The automated breast ultrasound system should be used in addition to mammograms for women with dense breasts. The technology can help women take control of their health. 36 year old Melanie Lasher of Santa Clarita gets routine regular check ups after a mammogram turned up something suspicious. The day she found out, her mother was just diagnosed with breast cancer. Melanie's mom and grandmother both died from breast cancer. Doctors wanted to do surgery right away. But Dr. Deanna Attai with the Center for Breast Care suggested she do something else first. It gave Melanie relief.

ROBO WALK

VO: 26

It's called an exoskeleton.....and it allows people with limited or no leg functions to be able to walk. The wearable robot was demonstrated in Colorado since breaking his neck nearly two years ago, James Naughton is back on his feet again, with the help of this bionic exo-skeleton....

SLEEP STUDY

VO: 25

Sleep and your health advisories/restrictions/embargoes: package only: no excerpting/retracking due to restricted material it was a kind of sleep deprived boot camp researchers at the Brigham and Women's hospital locked 21 volunteers into a sleep lab for 6 weeks no windows -- changing just 1 thing in their daily routine - their sleep. instead of the recommended 8 hours of sleep a night they were woken up after just

5 hours then each night they were made to go to bed 4 hours later than the night before say one night at midnight the next at 4 in the morning shattering

their normal sleep cycles.

MEDICINAS ONLINE

VO: 36

Now an abc news investigation -- it is costing american families thousands of dollars and may have cost one woman her life -- ordinary consumers buying their prescription drugs online -- then ..blackmailed.. by criminals the websites are cheerful and easy to use.... buy prescription diet pills or sleep-aids... no prescription required. but it could be a trap: a few clicks can lead to phone calls like this. phone call gfx: this is special agent david brown. we are going to bring you in, in custody, with criminal charges for medication from overseas. scammers using the names of real drug enforcement agents. victim: he had legit information on me.

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04/13/2012

NOTHING TO REPORT

====END OF PART 1====