

# Clearinghouse REVIEW

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## ASSET BUILDING by People with Disabilities

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Rights of Limited-English-Proficient Individuals  
Machine Translation of Legal Information  
Toward Veterans Courts  
Language Access in State Courts  
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Postracialism or Targeted Universalism?



Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

# Clearinghouse REVIEW

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## Letter from the Editor

President Obama's signing of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 into law—a historical event—occurred just days after the most recent CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW issue went to the printer. Through other media speedier than print—*The Shriver Brief*, the blog of the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law—Shriver Center attorneys are explaining the effects of the new health care reform law on such population groups as children, the elderly, small-business owners, and individuals with preexisting conditions (see page 88).

Advocates who represent low-income people are eager to learn about the implications of this law for their clients. Families USA, the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, the Center for Children and Families of Georgetown University's Health Policy Institute, and the National Health Law Program, all organizations found on the Internet, are among the recommended resources for timely explanations of the law's reforms and the timetable for implementation.

Questions about how public programs will be expanded, what kind of coverage children will get, how the insurance market reform will actually be implemented, and many others remain to be answered. States will have to make choices, and some choices may benefit low-income communities more than others. REVIEW articles are planned on many of these questions and on other aspects of the reform law. The Shriver Center and the REVIEW welcome your narratives as the legal aid community develops its expertise on the new law so that it can ensure that clients benefit from the law's reforms as intended.

And, although progress has been made in reforming the health care system, other problems of low-income people remain unsolved. For example, in this issue, several authors discuss language access to public benefit programs and in state courts and the rights of limited-English-proficient individuals. Litigation in Hawaii and California challenging state budget cuts' effects on recipients of public health care benefits is discussed. Having seen weeks pass before BP appears to find a workable solution to its catastrophic oil spill, we recognize how crucial to our lives the development of alternative sources of energy truly is. For a related discussion, follow the Shriver Center series on climate change at [www.theshriverbrief.org](http://www.theshriverbrief.org) and look for more on climate change and low-income communities in the September–October 2010 REVIEW special issue on “Climate Change and a Green Economy: New Advocacy Opportunities.”

*Ilze Sprudz Hirsch*



Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law

CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW encourages the submission of articles from legal aid field staff and others. Send articles to Ilze Sprudz Hirsch, editor and vice president of communication programs, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, 50 E. Washington St. Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60602; [ilzehirsch@povertylaw.org](mailto:ilzehirsch@povertylaw.org).

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We are interested in your comments and suggestions on and criticisms of all aspects of our work. Please direct them to John Bouman, president, Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law, 50 E. Washington St., Suite 500, Chicago, IL 60602; 312.263.3830 ext. 250; fax 312.263.3846; admin@povertylaw.org.

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