

News From The States

THIS WEEK IN COMMENTARY

Welcome to the best opinion pieces of the week from **News From The States**. Our commentary includes our own journalists from across our extensive network as well as outside voices to bring a wide range of perspectives and ideas. In addition to the sampling below, [you can look through all our commentary here](#).

TOP COMMENTARY OF THE WEEK

Nursing home residents' cries are falling on deaf ears in the Capitol

by **Kathie Obradovich** | *Iowa Capital Dispatch*



(Stock photo via Canva)

Iowa Capital Dispatch has been reporting for four years about nursing home residents dying due to neglect, as well as the state's backlog of inspections and its lack of staff to complete

them. It was bound to get lawmakers' attention eventually.

Deputy Editor Clark Kauffman, who writes these stories, has been reporting on similar issues for more than two decades.

I was semi-hopeful before the start of the 2024 legislative session that this would be the year the Legislature actually did something meaningful about it. I should have known better.

[Read this commentary](#)

[Legislative bullies target Kansas LGBTQ+ kids for harassment with anti-trans bills](#)

by **Clay Wirestone** | *Kansas Reflector*

[Bills to curb human trafficking in Virginia are good. Collective community action is even better.](#)

by **Samantha Willis** | *Virginia Mercury*

[New voting maps propel a surge of optimism for Wisconsin Democrats](#)

by **Ruth Conniff** | *Wisconsin Examiner*

[The Alabama Legislature helped Tom Parker realize his medieval dreams](#)

by **Brian Lyman** | *Alabama Reflector*

[717 bills have been drafted. Not one fixes the disenfranchisement of thousands of Idaho voters.](#)

by **Christina Lords** | *Idaho Capital Sun*

[Constitutional comprehension — or lack thereof.](#)

by **J. Holly McCall** | *Tennessee Lookout*

[Louisiana's health leadership changes open the door to medical misinformation](#)

by **Greg LaRose** | *Louisiana Illuminator*

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