

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 20, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Monday, January 9, 2012 marked the opening of the Second Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Arizona State Legislature. Since that time, 847 floor actions were filed; 126 of those related to legislation being tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

Monday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> marks the deadline for House members to submit bill requests to the Legislative Council. Other legislative calendar deadlines can be found at: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/council/CalendarDeadlines.pdf>.

### **State Legislation:**

Legislative action on just a few of the bills the Council is tracking:

**S1004: Dental Hygienists; Local Anesthetics** authorizes dental hygienists to administer local anesthetics to patients (adults) who have been examined by a dentist within the previous year if no change in the patient's medical history and the supervising dentist approved the patient for local anesthetics. 1/19 passed Senate 28-0; ready for House.

**S1172: Transportation of Patients; Requirements** states that certified ambulance providers transporting a patient in response to a call made to 911 or another emergency telephone number are only required to transport the patient to the closest appropriate emergency receiving facility capable of meeting the patient's needs.

**H2199: I Didn't Pay Enough Fund** from voluntary contributions is moved from the Department of Revenue to the Department of Health Services and DHS is to use 50 percent of monies in the Fund to provide medicine to mentally ill persons and 50 percent of the monies to provide medicine to minors suffering from a chronic illness.

**H2208: Local Transportation Assistance Fund; Restoration** was referred to the House Appropriations Committee on 1/17.

### **Hearings next week:**

**S1098: Dependent Children; Placement; Grandparents; Stipend** provides a monthly stipend of \$75 for grandparents having dependent children placed with them. 1/25 Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee at 9:00 am, Senate Room 3.

**S1189: Health Professionals; State Regulation; Exception** allows health professional who provides services at a free medical clinic to do so without being licensed in this state if the professional holds an active license in another jurisdiction in the U.S., provides a copy of that license to the clinic and provides only the services authorized by that jurisdiction's

regulatory agency. 1/25, Senate Healthcare & Medical Liability Reform Committee at 2:00 pm, Senate Room 1.

**H2095: Firearms Regulation; Planned Communities;** 1/24, House Government Committee at 2:00 pm, House Room 4.

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**, the JLBC Budget Presentations to the Senate Committee on Appropriations includes the Departments of Economic Security and Health Services. Agenda: <http://www.azleg.gov/agendas/01240154107.pdf>

**Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>**, the House Committee on Appropriations includes the JLBC Budget Presentations for DES and DHS. Agenda: <http://www.azleg.gov/agendas/01250101107.pdf>

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At the end of day twelve, 873 bills posted; 78 memorials or resolutions posted; 1 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It **does** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. ***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills. We will add new bills to the list on a regular basis until all bills have been posted.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, January 23, 2012.

**Fiscal News**

Latest from the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)**

The **JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights January 2012** report indicates:

*"Year-to-date for the first half of FY 2012, revenues are \$204 million above forecast."*

To view the report, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-jan-12.pdf>

The most recent update to the JLBC report, **Tracking Arizona's Recovery** is provided at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0112.pdf> .

The Governor's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Information is posted at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/Priorities/BudgetInfo.asp>

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area**.

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.3546**

#### **Senior Veterans Housing Assistance Act of 2011**

Introduced on 12/1/2011 by Representative Michael R. Turner (OH-3), the bill is intended to allow an occupancy preference for veterans in housing projects developed on property of the Department of Veterans Affairs with assistance provided under the Department of Housing and Urban Development program for supportive housing for very low-income elderly persons.

On January 12, 2012 the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity.

### **H.R.3749**

#### **Expanding Opportunities for Older Americans Act of 2011**

Introduced on 12/20/2011 by Representative Laura Richardson (CA-37), the bill amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to expand the Senior Community Service Employment Program.

On December 20, 2011, H.R.3749 was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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## **Update on NAPA – National Alzheimer's Project Act**

### **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)**

Framework for the National Alzheimer's Plan:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/Framework-Draft.pdf>

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## **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## **Other News:**

**National Council on Aging** offers a new website dedicated to helping those coping with chronic conditions: <http://www.restartliving.org/index.php>.

Also tips on protecting yourself from scams: [http://www.ncoa.org/enhance-economic-security/economic-security-Initiative/top-8-ways-to-protect.html?utm\\_source=NCOAWeek\\_120117&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=NCOAWeek](http://www.ncoa.org/enhance-economic-security/economic-security-Initiative/top-8-ways-to-protect.html?utm_source=NCOAWeek_120117&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=NCOAWeek)

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From the **National Center for Senior Transportation (NCST)** ideas on partnerships between public transportation and aging service providers in the December 2011 newsletter:

[http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/DocServer/NCST\\_Today\\_Dec2011\\_Final.pdf?docID=147342](http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/DocServer/NCST_Today_Dec2011_Final.pdf?docID=147342)

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**From the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a)**

**Winter Warmth and Safety: Home Energy Tips for Older Adults** brochure:  
<http://www.n4a.org/pdf/HomeEnergyTips.pdf>

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From the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** warnings on the impact of binge drinking that includes older adults:  
<http://www.cdc.gov/vitalsigns/BingeDrinking/index.html>

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**From the National Conference of State Legislatures and the AARP Public Policy Institute** *Aging in Place: A State Survey of Livability Policies and Practices*  
<http://assets.aarp.org/rgcenter/ppi/liv-com/aging-in-place-2011-full.pdf>

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT:** *Transportation for the Underserved - without a ride, life unravels* (West Valley Human Services Alliance)

**WHEN:** Friday, February 10, 2012, 9 am to 4 pm, Desert Springs Community Church, 14440 West Indian School Road, Goodyear, Arizona 85395

**Registration at:** <http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/>

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**WHAT:** *Ben Behind His Voices One Family's Journey from the Chaos of Schizophrenia to Hope*, evening with author, educator and advocate Randy Kaye

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 8, 2012, 6:00 to 7:30 pm, ASU Phoenix Downtown campus, A.E. England Building, 424 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RandyKayeMarch8thFlyer.pdf>

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**WHAT:** 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference "Elders Holding our Nations Together"

**WHEN:** March 12 to 15, 2012, the Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, 3800 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012AICOAConfSaveTheDate.pdf>

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**WHAT: Implementing Rural Transit Technology Course Offering** presented by  
National Transit Institute

**WHEN: March 27 & 28, 2012** in Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RuralTransitFlyer.pdf>

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Just in case you're interested:

Back issues of the ***Legislative Updates*** are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 27, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### **2nd Regular Session of the 50th Legislature**

Monday, January 30th marks the deadline for Senate bills to be introduced and Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> marks the House bill introduction deadline. The Legislative Council's calendar of deadlines can be found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/council/CalendarDeadlines.pdf>.

Since last Friday, 546 floor actions were filed; 73 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

### **Legislation**

Legislative action on a few of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging

**H2208: Local Transportation Assistance Fund; Restoration** designates a portion of lottery funds to local transportation assistance fund with annual appropriations. On 1/17 referred to the House Appropriations Committee.

**H2228: Home Care Workers** adds a new chapter to Title 36 (Public Health) related to licensure and regulation of home care workers. On 1/17 referred to the House Health and Human Services and Judiciary Committees.

**H2593: TANF Benefits; Dependent Children; Grandparents** allows for increase in cash assistance under TANF if dependent child resides with and is cared for daily by grandparent. On 1/18 referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

**S1224: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services** outlines requirements of insurers that offer eye care services and prohibits requirements of inclusion of optometrist or physician on the insurer's provider panel; does not mandate insurer to provide eye care coverage; prohibits insurers from requiring an optometrist or physician to join a plan to provide materials, lenses or eyeglasses. On 1/24 referred to Senate Banking and Insurance Committee.

### **Hearings next week:**

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation tracked on the Council's FULL LIST are listed below.

**H2199: I Didn't Pay Enough Fund**; 1/30, House Rules Committee at 1 pm, House Room 4. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:

[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2199\\_01-23-12\\_caucuscow.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2199_01-23-12_caucuscow.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**H2236: AHCCCS: Covered Services; Podiatry;** 2/1, House Health & Human Services at 9 am, House Room 4.

**H2582: AHCCCS; Food Stamps; ID Card;** 2/1, House Health & Human Services at 9:00 am, House Room 4.

**S1131: Transportation Project Advancement Notes;** 1/30, Senate Rules Committee in the Senate Caucus Room. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1131nrt.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1131nrt.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**S1143: Aggravated Identity Theft;** Sentencing; 1/30, Senate Rules Committee in the Senate Caucus Room. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1143jud.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1143jud.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

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At the end of day nineteen, 1,133 bills posted; 116 memorials or resolutions posted; 3 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It *does* mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

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***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills. We will add new bills to the list on a regular basis until all bills have been posted.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, January 30, 2012.

**Fiscal News**

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)** comparison presentation:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/13JLBCBaseline-rcaucus-ExecComparisonSlideshow.pdf>



## **Other News**

Today, the Governor called a special primary election and a special general election for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the 8<sup>th</sup> congressional district resulting from the resignation of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. A link to the press release is provided here:

[http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_012612\\_ProcSpecialPrimary.pdf](http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_012612_ProcSpecialPrimary.pdf)

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.3794**

#### **Volunteer Freedom Act**

Introduced on 1/18/2012 by Representative Marlin A. Stutzman (IN-3), the bill repeals the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (NCSA) and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (DVSA) one year after this Act's enactment. (NCSA authorizes the Learn and Serve America, AmeriCorps and National Civilian Community Corps [NCCC] programs. The DVSA authorizes the Volunteers in Service to America [VISTA] and National Senior Service Corps programs.)

Preserves the educational awards volunteers earn before the NCSA and DVSA are repealed.

On 1/18/2012, H.R.3794 was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

### **S.2037**

**Title: A bill to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.**

The bill was introduced on 1/26/2012 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### **H.R.3820**

#### **Elder Care Tax Credit Act of 2012**

The bill was introduced on 1/24/2012 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-2) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the dependent care credit to take into account expenses for care of parents and grandparents who do not live with the taxpayer.

H.R.3820 proposes modifications of credit for expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment.

On 1/24/2012, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – HHS** issues IT challenge to improve care transition for hospital-discharge patients:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/01/20120126b.html>

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### **National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices**

National plan on dementia and intellectual disabilities

Executive Summary:

[http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/Executive%20Summary\\_w\\_cover.pdf](http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/Executive%20Summary_w_cover.pdf)

Full Report: [http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/NTG\\_Thinker\\_Report.pdf](http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/NTG_Thinker_Report.pdf)

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From **LeadingAge**

***How CCRCs are Keeping Hearing Impaired Residents "In the Loop"***

**[http://www.leadingage.org/How CCRCs are Keeping Hearing Impaired Residents in the Loop.aspx](http://www.leadingage.org/How_CCRCs_are_Keeping_Hearing_Impaired_Residents_in_the_Loop.aspx)**

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Faith-Based Summit Connecting and Equipping Faith-Based Communities to Support Service Members, Veterans & Their Families**

**WHEN: February 9, 2012**, 9 am to 4 pm, Arizona National Guard, Papago Park Military Reservation, Joint Force Headquarters, 5636 McDowell Rd, Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

**[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF\\_FaithBasedSummit\\_020912.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF_FaithBasedSummit_020912.pdf)**

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**WHAT: *Transportation for the Underserved - without a ride, life unravels*** (West Valley Human Services Alliance)

**WHEN: Friday, February 10, 2012**, 9 am to 4 pm, Desert Springs Community Church, 14440 West Indian School Road, Goodyear, Arizona 85395

**For more information:** **<http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/>**

**Registration at:** **<http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/transportation-for-the-underserved/>**

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**WHAT: ALTCS 101 Workshop**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 9, 2012**, 9 to 10 am, Unity Church Fellowship Hall, Prescott, Arizona

**For more information:** **<http://www.SeniorConnection.us/ALTCS101.pdf>**

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**WHAT: Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) for People with Disabilities, Resource Fair**

**WHEN: Saturday, February 18, 2012**, 11 am to 3 pm, Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road, Tucson, Arizona

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ResourceFairFlier.pdf>

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**WHAT: Trauma Informed Care Summit**

**WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 2012**, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Downtown Phoenix Campus, AE England Building (Civic Space Park), 424 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/TICSummit\\_2012SaveTheDate.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/TICSummit_2012SaveTheDate.pdf)

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**WHAT: 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging** Conference "Elders Holding our Nations Together"

**WHEN: March 12to 15, 2012**, the Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, 3800 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718

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**WHAT: Implementing Rural Transit Technology Course Offering** presented by National Transit Institute

**WHEN: March 27 & 28, 2012** in Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RuralTransitFlyer.pdf>

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**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## **Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 3, 2012**

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### **Happy Birthday Arizona!**

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, Arizona celebrates 100 years of statehood; read about planned events at: <http://www.az100years.org/>.

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature**

This past week, 613 floor actions were filed; 75 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

Monday, February 6<sup>th</sup> marks the House bill introduction deadline. The Legislative Councils calendar of deadlines can be found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/council/CalendarDeadlines.pdf>

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

### **Legislation:**

Legislative action on a few of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

#### **H2679: Autonomous Vehicles; ADOT Rules**

The Department of Transportation is required to adopt rules authorizing the operation of "autonomous vehicles" (defined as a vehicle that uses artificial intelligence, sensors and GPS coordinates to drive itself without the active intervention of a human operator) on highways in Arizona. Minimum requirements for the rules are listed.

#### **H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation**

For the purposes of adult protective services, a written expression witnessed by at least two individuals who do not benefit from the withdrawal of services creates a rebuttable presumption that the person was competent to understand the expression. Transfers of assets for the primary purpose of obtaining eligibility for AHCCCS, supplemental security income, Medicaid, Medicare or veteran's administration programs and that are between a vulnerable adult and their spouse, disabled child or a trust for the spouse or disabled child cannot be construed as financial exploitation.

### **H2713: Arizona Long-Term Care Trust**

Adds a new chapter to Title 35 (public finances) establishing the AZ Long-Term Care Trust. The State Treasurer is required to establish the AZ Long-Term Care Trust Fund, consisting of individual savings accounts for qualified long-term care expenses not covered by an insurance policy. Withdrawals from the Fund require a physician's certification that the designated beneficiary is in need of services. Interest earned on contributions to the Trust are added to the list of income subtracted from Arizona gross income for tax purposes. Also establishes an advisory committee to the trust and powers and duties of the State Treasurer as trustee.

### **H2714 Financial Abuse of Elders; Reports**

Financial institutions are required to report to the Attorney General suspected financial abuse of an elder (defined as a person at least 62 years of age) under specified circumstances. If the Attorney General does not have jurisdiction, s/he must notify the financial institution and the financial institution must then notify the proper local law enforcement.

### **H2715: Caregiver Registries**

The Department of Health Services is required to establish registries of caregivers who have a substantiated history of abuse of persons with a developmental disability and persons who receive care in an assisted living facility, nursing care institution or in-home care. The registries must be available to the public on the Department's website.

### **S1131: Transportation Projects Advancement Notes**

Municipalities, counties, regional association of governments, and the Department of Transportation are authorized to enter into transportation project advance agreements with each other for the acceleration of a "transportation project" (defined). If an agreement is entered into, the parties may advance monies to one another, issue and sell transportation project advancement notes, and use note proceeds for specified transportation advancement project purposes. On 2/2 Senate Committee of the Whole approved with floor amendment.

### **S1189: Health Professionals; State Reg; Exception**

A health professional who provides services at a free medical clinic may do so without being licensed in this state if the professional holds an active license in another jurisdiction in the U.S., provides a copy of that license to the clinic and provides only the services authorized by that jurisdictions regulatory agency.

### **Hearings next week:**

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation tracked on the Council's **FULL LIST** are listed below.

**H2677: Vehicle Insurance; Proof Shown Electronically;** 2/9 House Transportation Committee at 9 am, House Room 3.

**H2679: Autonomous Vehicles; ADOT Rules;** 2/9 House Transportation Committee at 9 am, House Room 3.

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation;** 2/8 House Health & Human Services Committee at 9:00 am, House Room 4.

**S1189: Health Professionals; State Reg; Exception;** 2/8 Senate Healthcare & Medical Liability Reform at 2:00 pm, Senate Room 1.

**S1124: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services;** 2/7 Senate Banking & Insurance at 2:00 pm, Senate Room 3.

## **ASRS Bills**

The **Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS)** provides health insurance and long-term disability benefits for individuals that have served in the government and education fields. In this Legislature Session, over ten bills have been introduced that could affect ASRS; the Council is tracking ASRS bills that could potentially impact older Arizonans that are retiring or retired from public service. One example: S1119 RETIREMENT; ASRS; SPOUSAL CONSENT which requires a member who is married to name and maintain the members current spouse as a beneficiary and to receive at least 50 percent of the members account unless the spouse consents to waive this requirement. The member is also required to, if married at the time of retirement, to choose a monthly benefit in the form of a joint and survivor annuity unless the spouse consents to waive this requirement.

Other ASRS bills that could affect older Arizonans include S1117: RETIREMENT; ASRS; ADMINISTRATION, S1118: RETIREMENT; ASRS; LONG-TERM DISABILITY AMENDMENTS, and S1194: RETIREMENT; ASRS; NONPARTICIPATORY EMPLOYER; LIABILITIES.

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At the end of day 26 of the legislative session, 1,294 bills posted; 134 memorials or resolutions posted; 4 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It **does** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

## **FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills. We will add new bills to the list on a regular basis until all bills have been posted.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.



At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, February 6, 2012.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area**.

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.3735**

#### **Medicare Fraud Enforcement and Prevention Act of 2011**

Introduced on 12/19/2011 by Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (FL-18), the bill provides for enhanced penalties to combat Medicare and Medicaid fraud, a Medicare data-mining system and biometric technology pilot program, and for other purposes.

On 12/23/2011, referred to House Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R.3613**

#### **Part D Beneficiary Appeals Fairness Act**

Introduced on 12/8/2011 by Representative Henry C. "Hank" Johnson, Jr. (GA-4), the bill has 33 cosponsors.

Amends title XVIII of the Social Security Act to allow for fair application of the exceptions process for drugs in tiers in formularies in prescription drug plans under Medicare Part D.

On 12/9/2011, the bill was referred to the House Subcommittee on Health.

### **S.1982**

#### **Improving Care for Vulnerable Older Citizens through Workforce Advancement Act of 2011**

Introduced on 12/13/2011 by Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. (PA), the bill amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to develop and test an expanded and advanced role for direct care

workers who provide long-term services and supports to older individuals in efforts to coordinate care and improve the efficiency of service delivery.

On 12/13/2011, the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Note: we'll be tracking the Senate's Federal Public Transportation Act of 2012 and the House's American Energy and Infrastructure Jobs Act and provide updates in the future.

**Others that may be of interest:**

**H.R.3801**

**Ultralight Aircraft Smuggling Prevention Act of 2012**

Introduced on 1/23/2012 by Representative Gabrielle Giffords (AZ-8), the bill is cosponsored by Representative Jeff Flake (AZ-6)

Ultralight Aircraft Smuggling Prevention Act of 2012 - Amends the Tariff Act of 1930 with respect to aviation smuggling to extend its coverage of aircraft to: (1) any contrivance invented, used, or designed to navigate, or fly in, the air; and (2) ultralight vehicles.

Subjects attempts or conspiracies to commit aviation smuggling to specified criminal penalties.

Expresses the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Defense (DOD) should continue the broad program of cooperation with the Secretary of Homeland Security to identify DOD equipment, technology, and expertise that could be leveraged by Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to fulfill its missions. Urges DOD especially to ensure that DHS can identify DOD equipment and technology that could also be used by the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to combat illicit trafficking across the international borders between the United States and Mexico and the United States and Canada, including any that could be used to detect and track the illicit use of ultralight aircraft. On January 30, 2012, presented to President.

**H.R.3835**

Title: To extend the pay limitation for Members of Congress and Federal employees

The bill was introduced on January 27, 2012 by Representative Sean P. Duffy (WI-7).

Amends the Continuing Appropriations Act, 2011 (P.L. 111-242) to extend through December 31, 2013, the freeze on any cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) to the pay of certain federal civilian employees (thus extends such freeze from two to three calendar years).

Extends through such date the prohibition against receipt by a senior executive or senior-level employee of any increase in the rate of basic pay absent a change of position that results in a substantial increase in responsibility or a promotion.

Applies the pay limit freeze to Members of Congress.

Declares that no statutory COLA for a legislative branch employee which would otherwise take effect during the period beginning on enactment of this Act and ending on December 31, 2013, shall be made.

On 2/2/2012, H.R.3835 was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services - information on American Heart Month:** <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120201b.html>

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**The Internal Revenue Department (IRS)** offers information on free tax assistance, earned income tax credit, avoiding identity theft, and more at: <http://www.irs.gov/>.

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### **Administration on Aging**

May is Older Americans month and this year's theme is "Never Too Old to Play". For more information, go to:

[http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press\\_Room/Observances/2012/Older\\_Americans.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx)

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**National Council on Aging/NCOA** Medication Use Safety Training includes safe use of Acetaminophen:

[http://www.mustforseniors.org/acetaminophen\\_safeuse.jsp](http://www.mustforseniors.org/acetaminophen_safeuse.jsp)

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**U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs** has released its first module of a six-module training guide for family caregivers of veterans. Originally designed for caregivers of veterans injured post-9/11, the training guide of the National Veteran Caregiver Training Program is now available for individual caregivers of veterans of any age. To view the first module, go to:

[http://www.caregiver.va.gov/pdfs/Caregiver\\_Workbook\\_V3\\_Module\\_1.pdf](http://www.caregiver.va.gov/pdfs/Caregiver_Workbook_V3_Module_1.pdf)

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From the **Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records** resource page, *Tools for Tough Times*:

<http://www.lib.az.us/about/helpinfo.aspx#Top>

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Faith-Based Summit Connecting and Equipping Faith-Based Communities to Support Service Members, Veterans & Their Families**

**WHEN: February 9, 2012**, 9 am to 4 pm, Arizona National Guard, Papago Park Military Reservation, Joint Force Headquarters, 5636 McDowell Rd, Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF\\_FaithBasedSummit\\_020912.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF_FaithBasedSummit_020912.pdf)

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**WHAT: ALTCS 101 Workshop**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 9, 2012, 10 am to 12:00 Noon**, Unity Church Fellowship Hall, Prescott, Arizona

**For more information:** <http://www.SeniorConnection.us/ALTCS101.pdf>

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**WHAT: Community Conversation on Healthcare**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 16,** 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Marana Health Center, 13395 N. Marana Main Street. Event is free and open to the public.

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/FlyerMaranaHealthForum.pdf>

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**WHAT: Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) for People with Disabilities, Resource Fair**

**WHEN: Saturday, February 18, 2012,** 11 am to 3 pm, Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road, Tucson, Arizona

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ResourceFairFlier.pdf>

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**WHAT: Trauma Informed Care Summit**

**WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 2012,** 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Downtown Phoenix Campus, AE England Building (Civic Space Park), 424 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/TICSummit\\_2012SaveTheDate.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/TICSummit_2012SaveTheDate.pdf)

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Coming later this summer

**WHAT: 2012 Behavioral Health and Older Adults Conference;** Trends, Issues, Solutions

**WHEN: Friday, June 15, 2012,** Casino Del Sol Conference Center, 5655 W. Valencia Rd., Tucson, AZ

For more information, contact the Community Partnership of Southern Arizona at conference @bhacsa.com. (<http://www.cpsa-rbha.org/>)

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Our thanks to Intern, Jena Grady for her assistance with tracking and reviewing legislation.

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Just in case you're interested:

Back issues of the ***Legislative Updates*** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 10, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature

During this week, 662 floor actions were filed; 52 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup> marks the last day Senate bills are heard in the Senate and House bills are heard in the House.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

### **Legislation:**

Legislative action on a few of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

**S1177: Strike everything amendment to S.B.1177, relating to DES contractors, licenses, volunteers; fingerprinting;** on 2/9 from Senate Public Safety & Human Services with amendment.

Fact sheet provided at Arizona State Legislature website:

[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1177pshs\\_strikermemo\\_revised.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1177pshs_strikermemo_revised.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**S1224: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services,** 2/8 from Senate Banking & Insurance with do pass.

**H2674: CENTRAL STATE REPOSITORY; NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION;** The list of entities that may exchange criminal justice information through the central state repository is expanded to include nonprofit organizations that interact with children or vulnerable adults for the purpose of evaluating the fitness of current and prospective employees, contractors and volunteers. On 2/8 from House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee with amendment.

**H2677: Vehicle Insurance; Proof Shown Electronically;** on 2/9 from House Transportation Committee with do pass.

**H2679: Autonomous Vehicles; ADOT Rules;** 2/9 House Transportation FAILED 2-4.

**H2807: REDISTRICTING COMMISSION; OPEN MEETING LAW;** For the purposes of open meeting laws, the definition of "public body" includes all commissions and public entities established by the state Constitution or by ballot initiative, including the Independent Redistricting Commission. Open meeting law applies except and only to the extent that specific constitutional provisions supersede the statute. On 2/8, referred to House Judiciary Committee.

**Hearings next week:**

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation tracked on the Council's **FULL LIST** are listed below.

**S1177: Strike everything amendment to S.B.1177, relating to DES contractors, licenses, volunteers; fingerprinting,** 2/13 Senate Rules, 1:00 pm in the Senate Caucus Room.

**S1189: Health Professionals; State Reg; Exception,** Senate Healthcare & Medical Liability Reform Committee, 2/15 at 2:00 pm, Senate Rm. 1.

**S1224: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services,** 2/13, 1:00 pm in the Senate Caucus Room.

Be sure to check all the summaries and listing of hearings and committee meetings found at the **FULL LIST** link below.

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At the end of day 33 of the legislative session, 1,372 bills posted; 138 memorials or resolutions posted; 5 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It **does** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

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At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, February 13, 2012.

## Other News

On Monday, the Governor filed an opening brief with the U.S. Supreme Court regarding SB 1070. A link to the press release and the brief are provided here:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_020612\\_1070Filing.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_020612_1070Filing.pdf)

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_020612\\_1070FilingOpeningBrief.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_020612_1070FilingOpeningBrief.pdf)

Today, the Attorney General announced the national mortgage settlement includes \$1.6 billion for Arizona. The press release is posted at:

[http://www.azag.gov/press\\_releases/feb/2012/120209%20ARIZONA%20MORAGAGE%20SETTLEMENT.html](http://www.azag.gov/press_releases/feb/2012/120209%20ARIZONA%20MORAGAGE%20SETTLEMENT.html).

The Arizona Attorney General's Office has established a dedicated e-mail address, website link, and phone line to respond to questions regarding the settlement:

Email: [mortgagefraud@azag.gov](mailto:mortgagefraud@azag.gov)

Toll-free outside the Phoenix area: 855-256-2834

Within the Phoenix area: 602-542-1797

[www.azag.gov/consumer/foreclosure/settlement.html](http://www.azag.gov/consumer/foreclosure/settlement.html)

National Mortgage Settlement Website (established by state and federal agencies participating in this settlement):

<http://www.nationalmortgagesettlement.com/>

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

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If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **Happy Birthday Arizona!**

On Tuesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, Arizona celebrates 100 years of statehood. Read about planned events including free activities at the capitol complex this Saturday and Sunday at:

<http://www.az100years.org/arizona-best-fest-series/> and

<http://www.az100years.org/>.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **S.2037**

#### **Older Americans Act Amendments of 2012**

Introduced by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT) on 1/26/2012.

Older Americans Act Amendments of 2012 - Revises the Older Americans Act of 1965 with respect to functions and duties of the Administration on Aging of the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), particularly with respect to those with the greatest social need caused by specified noneconomic factors.

Reauthorizes the Act through FY2017.

Requires the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs to recommend to the Assistant Secretary for Aging resources (including hardware and software) needed by state Long-Term Care Ombudsmen (LTCOs) to collect and report program data through the National Ombudsman Reporting System.

Directs the Assistant Secretary to award livable communities grants to eligible entities for the federal share of the cost of assisting communities in preparing for the aging of the population through specified activities.

Grants states the option to use certain grant funds to provide disease prevention and health promotion services directly, including clinical preventive services.

Directs the Assistant Secretary to award grants: (1) to a national organization to establish a National Resource Center on Livable Communities for All Ages; and (2) to carry out projects to support and promote modern multipurpose senior center models which yield multiservice, multigenerational centers for older individuals, their families, and others to gain needed skills, resources, and connections for continuum of care and quality of life.

Requires each grantee under the Older American community service employment program to place at least 50% of its project participants in positions with organizations that assist older adults or with duties that positively impact their lives.

Revises the prohibition against contracting by state LTCO programs with public agencies or nonprofit private organizations to carry out LTCO programs in any case in which there is an organizational conflict of interest unless such conflict has been identified, disclosed, and remedied by certain actions.

Requires a state agency to provide the services of a state legal services developer, who shall promote the development and operation of an integrated legal assistance delivery system.

On 1/26/2012, referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### **H.R.3827**

### **To repeal the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research program and comparative effectiveness research funding.**

H.R.3827 was introduced on 1/25/2012 by Representative Brett Guthrie (KY-2).

Text of legislation:

Repealing Patient-Centered Outcomes Research

(a) Social Security Act- Part D of title XI of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320e et seq.), as added by section 6301 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is repealed.

(b) Public Health Service Act- Section 937 of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 299b-37), as added by section 6301(b) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is repealed.

(c) Internal Revenue Code of 1986-

(1) Section 9511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 6301(e)(1) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is repealed, and the table of sections for subchapter A of chapter 98 of such Code is amended by striking the item relating to such section 9511.

(2) Subchapter B of chapter 34 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as added by section 6301(e)(2) of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, is repealed.

(3) Section 501(l) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by striking paragraph (4).

(d) Rescission of Unobligated Funds- Of the funds made available under section 9511 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 or section 1181(b)(3) of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1320e(b)(3)), the unobligated balance is rescinded.

Rescission of unobligated funds under ARRA for Comparative Effectiveness Research

There are hereby rescinded all unobligated balances remaining available as of the date of the enactment of this Act of funds made available by division A of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Public Law 111-5) for purposes of comparative effectiveness research under healthcare research and quality under the heading 'Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality' under title VIII of such division.

Use of Funds to Reduce National Deficit

The total amount rescinded by this Act shall be deposited in the general fund of the Federal Treasury and used for Federal budget deficit reduction.

#### Budgetary Effects

The budgetary effects of this Act, for the purpose of complying with the Statutory Pay-As-You-Go Act of 2010, shall be determined by reference to the latest statement titled 'Budgetary Effects of PAYGO Legislation' for this Act, submitted for printing in the Congressional Record by the Chairman of the House Budget Committee, provided that such statement has been submitted prior to the vote on passage.

On 1/25/2012, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and the Committees on Appropriations, the Budget, and Energy and Commerce.

#### **H.R.3831** **Medicare Hospice Care Access Act of 2012**

Introduced on 1/25/2012 by Representative Lee Terry (NE-2), H.R.3831 amends Title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the recognition of attending physician assistants as attending physicians to serve hospice patients.

On 1/25/2012, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means and the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Related bills: S891.

#### **H.R.3891** **Spending Reductions through Innovations in Therapies Agenda Act of 2012**

Introduced on 2/2/2012 by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-7) to amend the Public Health Service Act to speed American innovation in research and drug development for the leading causes of death that are the most costly chronic conditions for our Nation, to save American families and the Federal and State governments money, and to help family caregivers.

On 2/2/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

Related bills: S.2069

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**Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services** announced new steps to fight Alzheimer's Disease.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120207a.html>

**Kaiser Health News** summary regarding the Alzheimer's research funding boost:

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Daily-Reports/2012/February/08/alzheimers-funding.aspx>

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### **Administration on Aging**

*HIV: Know the RISKS. Get the FACTS. Older Adults and HIV/AIDS Toolkit*

[http://aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA\\_Programs/HPW/HIV\\_AIDS/toolkit.aspx](http://aoa.gov/AoARoot/AoA_Programs/HPW/HIV_AIDS/toolkit.aspx)

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### **National Center on Senior Transportation**

Pre-release of the findings from a study on the intersection between health/wellness and transportation

[http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2\\_Health\\_Transportation\\_PreRelease](http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2_Health_Transportation_PreRelease)

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**From AARP *New Ways for an Aging Population to Get Around***

<http://www.aarp.org/home-garden/transportation/info-12-2011/ways-for-aging-population-to-get-around.html>

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

### **WHAT: Community Conversation on Healthcare**

**WHEN: Thursday, February 16,** 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm, Marana Health Center, 13395 N. Marana Main Street. Event is free and open to the public.

#### **For more information:**

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**WHEN: Saturday, February 18, 2012,** 11 am to 3 pm, Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road, Tucson, Arizona

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**WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 2012,** 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Downtown Phoenix Campus, AE England Building (Civic Space Park), 424 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 17, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2nd Regular Session of the 50th Arizona State Legislature

Today marked the deadline for Senate bills to be heard in Senate Committees and House bills to be heard in their committees triggering considerable activity this week. Since February 9<sup>th</sup>, 972 floor actions were filed; 89 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

More information regarding deadlines can be found on the Senate calendar at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

the House calendar at: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

### Legislation:

Legislative action on a few of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here and found on the **FULL LIST**.

**H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments**, 2/15 House Health & Human Services Committee amended; report awaited.

- 2/16 Fact Sheet (from azleg.gov website):  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/sunmary/h.hb2526\\_02-15-12\\_approps.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/sunmary/h.hb2526_02-15-12_approps.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**H2713: Arizona Long-Term Care Trust**, 2/15 from House Health & Human Services Committee as amended.

- Approved amendment: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/h.2713-se-hhs.pdf>
- 2/15 summary for House Appropriations Committee:  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/sunmary/h.hb2713\\_02-15-12\\_approps.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/sunmary/h.hb2713_02-15-12_approps.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)
- Proposed amendment:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/proposed/h.2713ca.pdf>



**S1177: DES Contractors; Unpaid Personnel; Fingerprinting**, 2/16 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with amendment.

**HCR2058: HURF; Monies; Allowable Uses**, 2/16 from House Transportation with do pass.

**Others that may be of interest:**

**H2791: Limitation on State Expenditures**, 2/16 from House Appropriation with amendment.

- 2/16 Fact Sheet:  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2791\\_02-16-12\\_caucuscow.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2791_02-16-12_caucuscow.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**H2571: Public Employees; Unlawful Acts; Termination**

- 2/16 Fact Sheet:  
[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2571\\_02-13-12\\_era.doc.htm&Session\\_ID=107](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2571_02-13-12_era.doc.htm&Session_ID=107)

**Hearings next week:**

A few of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation tracked on the Council's **FULL LIST** are listed below.

**S1004: Dental Hygienists; Local Anesthetics**, House Health & Human Services Committee, 2/22 at 9 am, House Room 4.

**S1473: AHCCCS; Dental Care; Contractor**, Senate appropriations 2/21 at 2 pm, Senate Room 109.

Be sure to check all the summaries and listing of hearings and committee meetings found at the **FULL LIST** link below.

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At the end of day 40 of the legislative session, 1,373 bills posted; 2 passed; 1 signed by the Governor, 140 memorials or resolutions posted; 8 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It **does** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on Arizona seniors so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills. We will add new bills to the list on a regular basis until all bills have been posted.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, February 20, 2012.

## **Other News**

Information on **Personnel Reform** is posted at the Governor's website:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/PersonnelReform.asp>.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.3790**

#### **Improving Cancer Treatment Education Act of 2012**

Introduced on 1/18/2012 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-2)

H.R.3790 amends title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide comprehensive cancer patient treatment education under the Medicare Program and to provide for research to improve cancer symptom management.

On 1/20/2012, H.R.3790 was referred to the House Subcommittee on Health.  
Related bills: H.R.3622

## **H.R.3819**

### **Health Freedom for Seniors Act**

Introduced on 1/24/2012 by Representative Bill Huizenga (MI-2)

To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to allow the transfer of required minimum distributions from a retirement plan to health savings account.

On 1/24/2012, bill referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

Also: On Monday, the **President's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request** was released. For more information, go to: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/budget/Overview>.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

#### **Administration on Aging**

#### ***New Resource Tool for Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff***

For the fourth year, the National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners (NCCDP) is offering *The National Council of Certified Dementia Practitioners Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week February 14th to the 21<sup>st</sup> Toolkit*. The toolkit includes PowerPoint In-services Training on a number of topics for health care staff, and all include pre-test, post-

test, hand outs, answers, in-service evaluation, and in-service certificates. The Toolkit is free and available at: <http://www.nccdp.org/>.

To learn more about NCCDP and Alzheimer's and Dementia Staff Education Week, go to <http://www.nccdp.org/>.

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## **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

*Health Care Fraud Prevention and Enforcement Efforts Result in Record-Breaking Recoveries Totalling Nearly \$4.1 Billion:*

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120214a.html>

Note: **SMP - Senior Medicare Patrol** programs help Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries prevent, detect and report health care fraud. Persons interested in becoming a volunteer with SMP can contact their location Area Agency on Aging for more information and to fill out an application. To find your local Area Agency on Aging in Arizona, go to:

[http://www.azaging.org/AZ\\_Area\\_Agencies\\_on\\_Aging.php](http://www.azaging.org/AZ_Area_Agencies_on_Aging.php)

More information regarding SMP is also available through the Division of Aging and Adult Services at the Arizona Department of Economic Security (602)-542-4446.

Also announced by **HHS** this week:

Increase in use of health information technology by physicians and hospitals

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120217a.html>

Action to ensure equal access for the deaf and the hard of hearing

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/02/20120217c.html>

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**National Alzheimer's Project Act Website** <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>

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Some responses to the President's FY 2013 budget request:

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities - NASUAD**

[http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/nasuad\\_materials/Preliminary%20Draft%20of%20the%20Presidents%20Proposed%20FY13%20Budget.pdf](http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/nasuad_materials/Preliminary%20Draft%20of%20the%20Presidents%20Proposed%20FY13%20Budget.pdf)

**NASUAD funding request:**

[http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/nasuad\\_materials/NASUAD's%20FY13%20Proposed%20Budget%20Chart.pdf](http://www.nasuad.org/documentation/nasuad_materials/NASUAD's%20FY13%20Proposed%20Budget%20Chart.pdf)

From **Reconnecting America**

Summary and Analysis of the President's Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Request:  
<http://reconnectingamerica.org/assets/Uploads/FY2013BudgetAnalysis.pdf>

From the **National Council on Aging (NCOA)** *Aging Programs Funding* chart:

<http://www.ncoa.org/assets/files/pdf/FY13-Request.pdf>

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From the **National Institutes for Health**

**NIHSeniorHealth:** <http://nihseniorhealth.gov/>

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In case you didn't see this earlier, the U.S. Census Bureau's report issued in November 2011 on our nation's 90+ population:

<http://www.census.gov/prod/2011pubs/acs-17.pdf>

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More resources from the **Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records:**  
<http://www.lib.az.us/azlibrary/res.aspx>

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Also: **Social Security Updates** from Sandra R. Pérez, Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Arizona

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SocialSecurityUpdates021712.pdf>

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT:** Free Webinar – *Breaking the Poverty Cycle: Creating Social and Economic Opportunities* – SAMHSA Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration

**WHEN:** Tuesday, February 28, 2012; 3 pm to 4:30 pm EST

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/BreakingThePovertyRegistrationFlyer.pdf>

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**WHAT: *SCAMS - Elder Abuse – Life Care Planning; What You Need to Know***  
**presented by the Arizona State Attorney General's Office**

**February 28, 2012 –**

**9:00 am, Kingman, Kathryn Heidenreich Center, 1776 Airway, Suite A**

**2:00 pm, Bullhead City, Nutrition Center, 2275 Trane Rd.**

**February 29, 2012**

**9:00 am, Lake Havasu City Senior Center, 450 S. Acoma Blvd.**

**For more information:**

**<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AGPresentationFlyerMOHAVE.pdf>**

**February 29, 2012**

**2:00 pm, Parker – Parker Senior Center, 1115 12<sup>th</sup> Street**

**March 1, 2012**

**10:00 am, Quartzsite, Town Hall, 465 N. Plymouth Avenue**

**For more**

**information: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AGPresentationFlyerLAPAZ.pdf>**

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**WHAT: Understanding the Legislative Process**

**WHEN: March 27, 2012, 10 am to 2:30 pm, Parker Senior Center, 1115 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Parker, Arizona**

**For more information:**

**<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/LegislativeTrainingParkerFlyer.pdf>**

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Just in case you're interested:

Back issues of the ***Legislative Updates*** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 24, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### **Legislative Budget**

Early this week, the Senate introduced **SB1523 - SB1532**, and the House introduced **HB2852 - HB2861**.

Information on the **Senate bills** can be found on links at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp?FirstBill=SB1501&LastBill=SB1550>

and information on the **House bills** at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp?FirstBill=HB2851&LastBill=HB2900>.

On 2/22, S1523 through S1532 recommended by the Senate Appropriations Committee with do pass. On 2/21, H2852 through 2861 were recommended by the House Appropriations Committee with do pass.

**JLBC** posted the ***Budget Proposal as Introduced*** summary, provided at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/budgetproposalasintroduced022112rev.pdf>

The **Governor's** budget information is posted at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/Priorities/BudgetInfo.asp>

#### **Other fiscal news**

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)** ***Monthly Fiscal Highlights February 2012*** indicates "While January collections showed large gains, base sales tax revenues only increased 2.5%, reflecting a mild growth in December holiday sales."

The report is available at: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-feb-12.pdf>.

The JLBC **Tracking Arizona's Recovery February 2012** update is posted at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0212.pdf>

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#### **Legislative Action**

This past week, 896 floor actions were filed; 147 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)



The next deadline is March 16<sup>th</sup> – the last day for House committees to hear Senate bills and the Senate committees to hear House bills.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

### **Legislation:**

Legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature or summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports-LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

**H2259: Dental Board; Omnibus;** 2/22 from Senate Healthcare and Medical Liability Reform Committee with do pass. Senate fact sheet:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2259hmlr.pdf>

**H2264: Retirement; ASRS; Employee; Employer Contribution Rate,** 2/23 from House Appropriations Committee with amendment. House Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2264\\_02-23-12\\_caucuscow.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2264_02-23-12_caucuscow.pdf)

**H2472: AHCCCS; Cancer Screening;** For the purpose of breast and cervical cancer treatment under AHCCCS, the requirements a person must meet in order to be eligible are modified so that the breast and cervical cancer screening was done by a provider recognized by the AZ well woman healthcheck program administered by the Department of Health Services. 2/23 from House Rules committee with okay.

**H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments;** 2/23 withdrawn from House Appropriations Committee.

**H2655: Developmental Disabilities Services; Providers; Monitoring;** Mandatory monitoring of Department of Economic Security contracts for residential care services for developmentally disabled persons is reduced to once every three years (from once each year) for service providers with deemed status, and to once each year (from once every six months) for service providers with a score of 95 percent or more on the previous monitoring visit. 2/20 from House Rules Committee with okay.

**H2674: Central Repository; Nonprofit Organization;** 2/20 from House Rules Committee with okay.

**S1177: DES Contractors; Unpaid Personnel; Fingerprinting;** 2/20 passed Senate 24-2; ready for the House.

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### **Hearings next week:**

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation (tracked on the Council's **FULL LIST**) are listed below.

**S1119: Retirement; ASRS; Spousal Consent;** 2/28 House Employment & Regulatory Affairs Committee at 2 pm, House Room 3.

**S1131: Transportation Project Advancement Notes;** 2/27 House Ways & Means Committee at 2 pm, House Room 3.

Be sure to check all the summaries and listing of hearings and committee meetings found at the **FULL LIST** link below.

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### **Overview of Strikers; Name Changing Amendments:**

**S1010: Nursing Board; Executive Director; Authority** (formerly Tech Correction: AHCCCS; Capitation Rates)

Authorizes the Board of Nursing (Board) Executive Director (Director) to order substance abuse, psychological or other evaluations and establishes protocol relating to the Director's responsibilities to the Board.

**S1153: Strike Everything Amendments to SB 1153 relating to hearing aid dispensers; licensure** (formerly Capital Outlay; Stabilization Fund; Report)

Modifies the examination requirements for a hearing aid dispenser. Requires the DHS to offer the written examination at least quarterly for each calendar year. Removes the requirement that the examination include practical tests of proficiency in the specified Techniques and Skills. Requires an applicant to demonstrate practical proficiency in the Techniques and Skills by completing at least 160 hours of work under the direction of a licensed hearing dispenser who must certify to the Director that the applicant has knowledge and proficiency in:

- identification of medical aspects or conditions relating to abnormal middle ear problems;
- conducting oral examinations on speech audiometry;
- obtaining air and bone conduction thresholds using simulators;
- hearing aid maintenance and service;
- selecting a particular hearing aid based on an audiogram review;
- determining the effects of different ear mold modifications; and
- taking an ear mold impression.

**S1161: Handicap Placard;** (formerly Tech Correction: State Institutions)

Would allow physically disabled to have more than one removable windshield placard for multiple cars.

**S1188: Medical Board; Duties; Meetings; Procedures** (formerly Hospital Internships; Residencies; Clinical Fellowships)

Adds requirements pertaining to records, complaints and personnel training to the statutes governing the Arizona Medical Board.

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At the end of day 47 of the legislative session, **1,393** bills posted; **4** passed; **2** signed by the Governor; **141** memorials or resolutions posted; **10** passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to consider actions taken.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, February 27, 2012.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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**FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

**H.R.4023**

**Veterans' Telehealth and Telemedicine Improvement Act**

Introduced on 2/24/2012 by Representative Kathleen C. Hochul (NY-26)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the use of teleconsultation, teleretinal imaging, telemedicine, and telehealth coordination services for the provision of health care to veterans, and for other purposes.

On 2/14/2012 referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

#### **H.R.4042**

##### **Veterans' Access to Care Act**

Introduced on 2/15/2012 by Representative Bruce L. Braley (IA-1)

To amend the Public Health Service Act to designate certain medical facilities of the Department of Veterans Affairs as health professional shortage areas, and for other purposes.

On 2/15/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

#### **H.R.4079**

##### **Safe Housing for Homeless Veterans Act**

Introduced on 2/17/2012 by Representative David B. McKinley (WV-1)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require recipients of grants and other assistance from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs for the provision of housing and other services for homeless veterans to comply with codes relevant to operations and level of care provided, and for other purposes.

On 2/17/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### **H.R.4028**

##### **Senior Transportation and Mobility Improvement Act of 2012**

Introduced on 2/14/2012 by Representative Bill Pascrell, Jr. (NJ-8)

According to Congressional Findings, the number of individuals in the United State who are 65 years of age or older will increase from 40,000,000 in 2010 to 72,000,000 in 2030, yet a 2004 report by the Surface Transportation Policy Project found that more than 1 in 5 (or 21 percent) of individuals who are 65 years of age or older do not drive. H.R. 4028 amends title 49 of the United States Code to improve transportation for seniors. The bill specifically focuses on public transportation services, metropolitan and statewide transition planning, and technical assistance and mobility management. Specific provisions include:

- Directing new funding (\$11.5 million over two years) to the National Center on Senior Transportation (NCST) to provide technical assistance to transit and human service organizations and disseminate best practices associated with senior transportation.
- Establishing a supplemental FTA Mobility Management program for older and disabled adults, to connect them with the best available transportation options in their communities.
- Providing \$8 million over two years to award grants to non-profit aging services organizations to offer mobility management services and enhanced technology to support these services.

2/14/2012, referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

Related bill: **S.1942**

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

**Administration on Aging** has released ***A Profile of Older Americans: 2011***. A link to the pdf file posted on their website is provided here:

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoAroot/Aging\\_Statistics/Profile/2011/docs/2011profile.pdf](http://www.aoa.gov/AoAroot/Aging_Statistics/Profile/2011/docs/2011profile.pdf)

**Also:** this resource is a part of the AoA off-site resource list and offers ideas on **long term care planning**. [http://longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main\\_Site/index.aspx](http://longtermcare.gov/LTC/Main_Site/index.aspx)

Did you know? The **Arizona Department of Health Services** offers an online search option for information about care facilities, providers and enforcement actions at: <http://azdhs.gov/als/search/>.

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**Kaiser Family Foundation** – *Income-Relating Medicare Part B and Part D Premiums Under Current Law and Recent Proposals: What are the Implications for Beneficiaries?* <http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/8276.pdf>

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**U.S. Department of Labor** announced an extension of comment period on proposed rule to provide minimum wage and overtime protections for in-home care workers. For more information, go to: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/whd/whd20120331.htm>

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**National Institute on Aging** – “What’s on *Your Plate?* Smart Choices for Healthy Aging” <http://www.nia.nih.gov/health/publication/whats-your-plate-smart-food-choices-healthy-aging>

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT:** Arizona Housing Alliance Academy – *Affordable Housing Impact: Breaking Barriers, Creating Jobs, Stabilizing Neighborhoods*

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Wells Fargo Conference Center, 100 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003

For more information: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=aom6kddab&oeidk=a07e5ijypu1a12e0573>

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**WHAT:** 2012 AzTA/ADOT Transit Conference *Showcasing Value in Transit*

**WHEN:** April 23 - 24, 2012, High Country Conference Center, Northern Arizona University

For more information: <http://www.azta.org/conference/overview/2012-azta-adot-transit-conference/>

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Just in case you're interested:

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 2, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

Lots of action at the legislature this week; 782 floor actions were filed; 70 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

The next deadline is March 16<sup>th</sup> - the last day for House committees to hear Senate bills and the Senate committees to hear House bills.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

No report available on budget negotiations.

Senate budget proposal bills are **SB 1523 to SB1532** and House budget proposal bills are **HB 2852 to HB2861**.

Information on the **Senate bills** can be found on links at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp?FirstBill=SB1501&LastBill=SB1550>

and information on the **House bills** at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/Bills.asp?FirstBill=HB2851&LastBill=HB2900>.

The **Governor's** budget information is posted at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/Priorities/BudgetInfo.asp>

**JLBC Budget Proposal as Introduced** summary is provided at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/budgetproposalasintroduced022112rev.pdf>

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### Legislation:

Legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets and summaries from the Arizona State Legislature. (Summaries are provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports-LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**, too.)

**H2199: I Didn't Pay Enough Fund**; 3/1 referred to the Senate Finance Committee.

House Engrossed Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2199\\_02-29-12\\_houseengrossed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2199_02-29-12_houseengrossed.pdf)

**H2264: Retirement; ASRS; Employee; Employer Contribution Rate**, 3/1 from House Rules Committee with okay.

House Engrossed Version:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2264h.pdf>

**H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments**; 2/29 from House Rules Committee with okay.

House Engrossed Version:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2526h.pdf>

**H2560: Adult Protective Services, Attorney Fees**; 3/1 House Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with amendment. Passed House 37-18; ready for Senate.

House Engrossed Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2560\\_03-01-12\\_houseengrossed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2560_03-01-12_houseengrossed.pdf)

**H2674: Central Repository; Nonprofit Organization**; 2/29 referred to Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee.

House Engrossed Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674\\_02-28-12\\_houseengrossed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674_02-28-12_houseengrossed.pdf)

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults: Financial Exploitation**; referred to Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee.

House Engrossed Version:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2696h.pdf>

**H2713: Arizona Long-Term Care Trust**; 2/29 from House Rules Committee with okay.

House Engrossed Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713\\_02-28-12\\_caucuscow%20\(2\).pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713_02-28-12_caucuscow%20(2).pdf)

**S1189: Health Professionals; State Regulation; Exception**; 3/1 referred to House Health & Human Services Committee.

Senate Engrossed Version:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/sb1189s.pdf>

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### **Hearings next week:**

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation (tracked on the Council's **FULL LIST**) are listed below.

**H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization;** 3/7 Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee, 10 am, Senate Room 3.

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation;** 3/7 Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee, 10 am, Senate Room 3.

Be sure to check all the summaries and listing of hearings and committee meetings found at the **FULL LIST** link below.

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At the end of day 54 of the legislative session, 1,395 bills posted; 5 passed; 5 signed by the Governor; 143 memorials or resolutions posted; 16 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

### **FULL LIST:**

**<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>**

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to consider actions taken.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, March 5, 2012.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** **<http://www.azleg.gov/>** and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.4087**

#### **Prescription Drug Labeling Promotion Act of 2012**

Introduced on 2/24/2012 by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-7)

To provide for the development and dissemination of best practices to ensure that visually-impaired and blind individuals in the United States have safe, consistent, reliable, and independent access to the information in prescription drug labeling.

On 2/24/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce

### **H.R.4091**

#### **Coordination of Pro Bono Medically Recommended Dental Care Act**

Introduced on 2/27/2012 by Representative Diana DeGette (CO-1)

To assist low-income individuals in obtaining medically recommended dental care.

On 2/27/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

### **H.R.4114**

#### **Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012**

Introduced on 2/29/2012 by Representative Jon Runyan (NJ-3)

To increase, effective as of December 1, 2012, the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

On 2/29/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

Related bills: H.R.1407, S.894

### **H.R.4120**

#### **Removing Barriers to Colorectal Cancer Screening Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/1/2012 by Representative Charles W. Dent (PA-15)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to waive coinsurance under Medicare for colorectal cancer screening tests, regardless of whether therapeutic intervention is required during the screening.

On 3/1/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## **H.R.4127**

**Title: To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt certain requests by physicians for consultations by radiation oncologists from the limitation on certain physician referrals under Medicare.**

Introduced on 3/1/2012 by Representative Joseph J. Heck (NV-3)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to exempt certain requests by physicians for consultations by radiation oncologists from the limitation on certain physician referrals under Medicare.

On 3/1/2012, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce and to the Committee on Ways and Means.

## **H.RES.564**

**Title: Recognizing the critical importance of the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP), formerly called the food stamp program.**

Introduced on 2/27/2012 by Representative Janice D. Schakowsky (IL-9)

On 2/27/2012, referred to House Committee on Agriculture.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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## **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House at:** <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## **Other News:**

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality - AHRQ** *Healthcare Innovations Exchange* provides information on programs that provide individual and group education, coaching, and support sessions for patients with dementia and their caregivers.

<http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/>

Caregivers Count Too! Toolkit: <http://www.innovations.ahrq.gov/content.aspx?id=3393>

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National Council on Aging – Home Equity Advisor website:

[http://www.homeequityadvisor.org/?utm\\_source=NCOAWeek\\_120228&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=NCOAWeek](http://www.homeequityadvisor.org/?utm_source=NCOAWeek_120228&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=NCOAWeek)

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National Institutes of Health – *Blockade of Learning and Memory Genes may Occur Early in Alzheimer's Disease:*

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/feb2012/ninds-29.htm>

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In case you missed it in the last issue...

Administration on Aging has released *A Profile of Older Americans: 2011*. A link to the pdf file posted on their website is provided here:

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoAroot/Aging\\_Statistics/Profile/2011/docs/2011profile.pdf](http://www.aoa.gov/AoAroot/Aging_Statistics/Profile/2011/docs/2011profile.pdf)

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#### INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

**WHAT:** Arizona Housing Alliance Academy – *Affordable Housing Impact: Breaking Barriers, Creating Jobs, Stabilizing Neighborhoods*

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 22, 2012 from 8:30 am to 4:00 pm, Wells Fargo Conference Center, 100 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85003

For more information: <http://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/event?llr=aom6kddab&oeidk=a07e5ijypu1a12e0573>

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**WHAT:** 2012 AzTA/ADOT Transit Conference *Showcasing Value in Transit*

**WHEN:** April 23 - 24, 2012, High Country Conference Center, Northern Arizona University

For more information: <http://www.azta.org/conference/overview/2012-azta-adot-transit-conference/>

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Coming later this summer

**WHAT: 2012 Behavioral Health and Older Adults Conference;** Trends, Issues, Solutions

**WHEN: Friday, June 15, 2012,** Casino Del Sol Conference Center, 5655 W. Valencia Rd., Tucson, AZ

For more information, contact the Community Partnership of Southern Arizona at conference @bhacsa.com. (<http://www.cpsa-rbha.org/>)

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## **Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 16, 2012**

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### **2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE**

#### **Legislative Action**

During the past week, 774 floor actions were filed; 93 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

**Today marks the deadline** for House committees to hear Senate bills and the Senate committees to hear House bills.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

Both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, March 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

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#### **Legislation**

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature or summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports' LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

The Governor has signed several bills the Council has tracked. Some of the bills that may be of interest include:

#### **S1003: Homeopathic Board; Qualifications of Applicants**

House Summary 3.15.2012: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1003\\_03-15-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1003_03-15-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

#### **S1004: Dental Hygienists; Local Anesthetics**

House Summary 3.15.2012: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1004\\_03-15-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1004_03-15-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

#### **S1126: World War II Memorial**

House Summary 3.1.2012: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1126\\_03-01-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1126_03-01-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1293: Veterans' Organizations; Solicitations**

House Summary 3.9.2012: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1293\\_03-09-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1293_03-09-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

The following legislation has been signed resulting in the continuation of these boards or departments:

**S1002: Nursing Board; Continuation**

**S1005: Dispensing Opticians Board; Continuation**

**S1006: Medical Board; Continuation**

**S1007: Board of Chiropractic Examiners; Continuation**

**S1058: Department of Veterans' Services; Continuation**

**S1339: Department of Housing; Continuation**

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**Legislative Action**

**H2063: Community Health Centers; Walk-In Patients**, 3/15 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with rules tech amendment.

**H2259: Dental Board; Omnibus**, 3/15 passed Senate 25-5; ready for the Governor.

**H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments**, 3/15 from Senate Healthcare & Medical Liability Reform Committee with amendment.

**H2655: Developmental Disabilities Services; Providers; Monitoring**, 3/15 from Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee with do pass.

**H2674: Central Repository; Nonprofit Organization**, 3/15 from Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with floor amendment.

**H2713: Insurance Premiums; Long-Term Care; Deduction**, 3/14 from Senate Appropriations with amendment.

**S1177: DES Contractors; Unpaid Personnel; Fingerprinting**, 3/14 House Health & Human Services held.

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**Hearings next week:** Be sure to check the listing of hearings as they are scheduled next week on the Council's **FULL LIST** link provided below.

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At the end of day **68** of the legislative session, **1,395** bills posted; **65** passed; **40** signed by the Governor; **143** memorials or resolutions posted; **20** passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will continue to be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions taken.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Arizona's Official Transparency Web Site** - single point of reference for citizens to view information about the financial activities of the State of Arizona:

<http://www.openbooks.az.gov/>

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* **or** by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.4149**

**Title:** To amend title XVI of the Social Security Act to clarify that the value of certain funeral and burial arrangements are not to be considered available resources under the supplemental security income program.

Introduced on 3/6/2012 by Representative Steve Southerland (FL-2)

On 3/6/2012, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

### **H.R.4144**

**Strengthening Economic Development Through Affordable Housing Act of 2012** To amend the State Small Business Credit Initiative Act of 2010 to allow participating States to provide program funds to community development housing organizations for development of affordable housing.

Introduced on 3/6/2012 by Representative Joe Baca (CA-43)

Section 3003(c) of the State Small Business Credit Initiative Act of 2010 (12 U.S.C. 5702(c)) is amended to develop, acquire, construct, rehabilitate, maintain, operate, or manage housing projects that provide housing that is affordable for low- or moderate-income households, as determined by the Secretary, in consultation with the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development.

On 3/6/2012, referred to the House Committee on Financial Services.

### **S.1813**

Related bills: H.R.3810, H.R.3833, S.1816

On Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, the Senate passed their transportation bill S.1813; transportation advocates at Reconnecting America praised "bipartisan support for maintaining and strengthening the nation's infrastructure" and continuing current funding levels through FY 2013. Uncertainty surrounds the House bill draft.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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## **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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#### **Other News:**

#### **Administration on Aging**

**March 2<sup>nd</sup> announcement regarding funding for older adults:**

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press\\_Room/For\\_The\\_Press/pr/archive/2012/March/2012\\_03\\_02.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/For_The_Press/pr/archive/2012/March/2012_03_02.aspx)

**May is Older Americans Month:**

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press\\_Room/Observances/2012/Older\\_Americans.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx)

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Latest information on the **National Alzheimer's Project Act:**

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>

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**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)** Division of Community Health website: <http://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/>

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#### **National Institutes of Health**

***Halt the Hurt! Dealing with Chronic Pain:***

<http://newsinhealth.nih.gov/issue/Mar2012/Feature1>

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#### **From the National Council on Aging (NCOA)**

As part of National Nutrition Month, NCOA offers a map of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) resources at:

[http://www.benefitscheckup.org/cf/snap.cfm?utm\\_source=NCOAWeek\\_120313&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=NCOAWeek](http://www.benefitscheckup.org/cf/snap.cfm?utm_source=NCOAWeek_120313&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=NCOAWeek).

Arizona link:

[http://www.benefitscheckup.org/cf/snap\\_state.cfm?state=Arizona&partner\\_id=0&org\\_id=0](http://www.benefitscheckup.org/cf/snap_state.cfm?state=Arizona&partner_id=0&org_id=0)

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## **World Health Organization**

**World Health Day** focus on *Ageing and health*: <http://www.who.int/world-health-day/2012/en/index.html>

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pinal & Gila Elder Abuse Conference**

**WHEN: March 29 & 30, 2012**, Thursday 8 am to 5 pm, Friday 8 am to 12 pm, Apache Gold Casino Resort, 5 miles east of Globe on Hwy 70, San Carlos, AZ 85550

**For more information:** <http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/EASTConfBrochure2012.pdf>

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**WHAT: Free Diabetes Health Fair, *Healthy Living: Preventing & Managing Diabetes Every Day!***

**WHEN: Saturday, March 31, 2012**, 9 am to 12:00 pm, Midwestern University, 19555 North 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale AZ 85308

**For more information**, call 602-861-4731 Ext. 7094 or visit [diabetes.org/phoenix](http://diabetes.org/phoenix)

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**WHAT: Legal Options to Guardianship Trainings**

**WHEN: April 25, 2012** in Yuma, AZ; **May 2, 2012** in Tucson, AZ; **May 9, 2012** in Casa Grande, AZ and **July 25, 2012** in Flagstaff, AZ.

**For more information** including times and location, go to:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/LegalOptionsFlyersRuralCounties2012.pdf>

Also: Coming in **June & August 2012** at the Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 East Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ

- **June 13, 2012 from 9 to 11 am**
- **August 1, 2012 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm and Priorities Forum from 4 to 6 pm**

**For more information:**

**<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/LegalOptionsFlyersMaricopaCounty2012.pdf>**

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From *The Caregiver Connection* March 2012 Newsletter:

**HEALTH FAIR in Peeples Valley, March 24** from 10 am to 2 p.m.

Presented by Weaver Mountains Care Resources and the Community Presbyterian Church of Yarnell, this free event will feature informational booths and presentations in the categories of hospitals and education, end of life, service organizations, therapists, alternative medicine, medical service agencies, doctors, care for the aged, and pharmaceutical assistance. Location will be the Model Creek Elementary School, 18912 Hays Ranch Road. For information, call (928) 231-9341.

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Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:

**<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>**

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: **[gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov)**. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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We appreciate your patience with our formatting issues as we work to resolve them.  
**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 23, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Legislative Action

It appears the legislature is headed toward a mid April adjournment. During the past week, 611 floor actions were filed; 51 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of day 75 of the legislative session, 1,395 bills posted; 107 passed; 78 signed by the Governor; 143 memorials or resolutions posted; 27 passed. Out of the 1,395 bills posted, at least 875 did not see committee reference or action in the first house.

Next deadline is Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>; the last day for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House.

Senate Calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, March 26<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

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#### Legislation:

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature or summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports' LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

The Governor has signed more bills that the Council has been tracking. Some of the bills that may be of interest include:

**H2162: Nursing Care Board; Membership**, Modifies the membership of the Board of Examiners of Nursing Care Institution Administrators and Assisted Living Facility Managers and reduces the number of members to 9, from 11. Increases the length of the term for Board members who are the administrator of a nursing care institution or the manager of an assisted living facility to three years, from two. Signed by the Governor on 3/20.

**H2370: Death Certificates**, Allows certain medical facilities to designate a health care provider to complete and sign a medical certification of death. Health care providers who complete a medical certification of death in good faith are not subject to civil liability or

professional disciplinary action. The county medical examiner is entitled to all medical records of a person for whom the examiner is required to certify cause of death. Modifies several definitions relating to vital records.

**S1115: Retirement; PSPRS; Investment Contracts**, The Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board cannot enter into loans, guarantees, investment management agreements or investment contracts that involve investments in Sudan or Iran or otherwise provide support to terrorists or facilitate illegal immigration into the U.S

**S1131: Transportation Project Advancement Notes**, Municipalities, counties, regional planning agencies, metropolitan planning organizations, councils of governments, regional public transportation authorities and the Department of Transportation are authorized to enter into transportation project advance agreements with each other for the acceleration of a "transportation project" (defined as a project included in the State Transportation Plan or a regional transportation plan). If an agreement is entered into, the parties may advance monies to one another, issue and sell transportation project advancement notes, pledge revenues (including excise taxes) to the repayment of the notes, and use note proceeds for specified transportation advancement project purposes.

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#### **Legislative Action**

**H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights**, 3/22 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with floor amendment:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/2377biggs500.pdf>

**H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments**; 3/22 passed Senate 23-7; ready for House action on Senate amendment. House Summary 3/22:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2526\\_con\\_currefusememo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2526_con_currefusememo.pdf)

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation**, 3/21 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with rules tech amendment:

**S1166: Strike Everything Amendment/Burial Duties; Power of Attorney**, 3/22 House Appropriations Committee amended. Summary of S/E Amendment:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1166\\_03-22-12\\_caucuscow.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1166_03-22-12_caucuscow.pdf)

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#### **Hearings next week:**

**Some of the hearings on bills tracked by the Council thus far include:**

**H2165: Veterans; Employment Preference**, 3/26 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW)

**H2261: Emergency Medical Services**, 3/26 House Final Reading

**S1141: Public Fiduciaries; Investigatory Power**, 3/26 House Committee of the Whole (COW)

**S1152: Homeless Court; Establishment; Jurisdiction**, 3/26, House Rules Committee at 1 pm, House Room 4

Be sure to check the listing of hearings as scheduled next week on the Council's **FULL LIST** link provided below.

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Several of the bills posted this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will continue to be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill.** It does mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions taken.** The list has been modified to remove those bills that did not see committee reference or action in the first House. Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the Arizona Capitol Times.*

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

If you want to know who serves on the House and Senate Standing Committees, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp> and click on the committee name.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

*Federal Budget*

**Fiscal Year 2013 Budget Resolution** from Chairman Paul Ryan, House Budget Committee: <http://budget.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Pathtoprosperity2013.pdf>

**Congressional Budget Office (CBO)** calculations of long-term budgetary impact of paths for federal revenues and spending as requested and specified by Chairman Paul Ryan: <http://www.cbo.gov/publication/43023>

**CBO** Analysis of the President's 2013 Budget:

<http://www.cbo.gov/publication/43083>

**Kaiser Health News** discussion of the Ryan Budget:

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2012/March/20/ryan-budget-medicare-medicaid-republicans>

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### ***A Guide to the Supreme Court's Review of the 2010 Health Care Reform Law***

With the Supreme Court preparing to hear oral arguments about challenges to the 2010 Affordable Care Act, [this Kaiser Family Foundation brief](#) serves as a primer on the pending case and provides an overview of the pending case, the key constitutional questions, and the legal arguments made by the parties involved. It also outlines how the Court could decide each of the issues and the potential implications of the Court's decisions.

### **New Brief Examines Economic Security for Seniors Today and in the Future**

As part of broad deficit-reduction plans, policymakers are considering reforms to the nation's three major entitlement programs - Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security - that could significantly affect the economic security of seniors in their retirement years. A new [brief](#) from the **Kaiser Family Foundation** examines the role of these programs in ensuring seniors' financial security as well as the challenges facing current and future generations when it comes to economic and health security.

The Foundation also has updated its analysis of the household budgets of Medicare beneficiaries to reflect 2010 data. The analysis finds that Medicare beneficiaries on average spend 15 percent of their household budgets on health expenses, three times the share spent by non-Medicare households. Spending on premiums, cost sharing and services not covered by insurance are nearly twice as great among Medicare households as non-Medicare households. The updated analysis, *Health Care on a Budget: The Financial Burden of Health Spending by Medicare Households* is also available online.

## **S.2207**

### **Restoring Integrity and Good-Heartedness in Traveler Screening Act**

Introduced by Senator Charles E. Schumer (NY) on 3/20/2012.



## **Functions of the Office of the Ombudsman of the Transportation Security Administration**

- (1) record complaints from the general public regarding screening practices at the Transportation Security Administration (TSA)
- (2) determine best practices to resolve frequent passenger complaints and assist in training TSA agents regarding such practices;
- (3) resolve passenger complaints at airports accusing TSA employees of mistreatment; and
- (4) field advance notification calls from individuals with medical conditions or disabilities and arrange for airport screening procedures for such individuals that ensure flight safety without causing them undue hardship.

## **Passenger Advocates**

The Ombudsman shall appoint passenger advocates at each Category X airport from the ranks of existing TSA employees who--

- (1) have not been subject to disciplinary action by the TSA; and
- (2) shall receive- special training in conflict resolution; and

sufficient medical training to recognize frequent legitimate complaints based on medical conditions and disabilities.

Also required:

Not later than 1 year after the date of the enactment, every Category X airport shall always have at least 1 TSA passenger advocate on duty during operating hours. Every Category X airport shall place clearly visible signage at each gate that:

- (1) explains that a passenger advocate may be summoned if a passenger believes that a TSA employee has been mistreated on the basis of advanced age or disability; and
- (2) describes the procedures for summoning the passenger advocate.

On 3/20/2012 referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

## **H.R.4165 CT Colonography Screening for Colorectal Cancer Act of 2012**

Introduced by Representative Ralph M. Hall, (TX-4) on 3/8/2012.

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover screening computed tomography colonography as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program.

On 3/9/2012, referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Other News:**

#### **National Council on Aging (NCOA)**

**Virtual Advocacy Day** toolkit:

<http://www.ncoa.org/public-policy-action/advocacy-toolkit/>

**Tax Time Tips** for Seniors: [http://www.ncoa.org/press-room/press-release/ncoa-offers-6-tax-time-tips.html?utm\\_source=NCOAWeek\\_120320&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=NCOAWeek](http://www.ncoa.org/press-room/press-release/ncoa-offers-6-tax-time-tips.html?utm_source=NCOAWeek_120320&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=NCOAWeek)

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**National Institutes of Health** announced an online resource for behavioral and social science research methods called e-Source:

<http://www.esourceresearch.org/>

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Latest information on the **National Alzheimer's Project Act:**

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>

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**Center for Medicare & Medicaid (CMS)** announced **Graduate Nurse Education Demonstration** funding this week for up to five hospitals for "reasonable cost of providing clinical training to advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) students" in effort to provide clinical training for primary care, preventive care, transitional care, chronic care management, and other services suitable for Medicare beneficiaries. Information provided at: <http://innovation.cms.gov/initiatives/GNE/>

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### ***Save Your Vision Month***

American Optometric Association: <http://www.aoa.org/>

### ***National Poison Prevention Week*** (March 18-24)

Poison Prevention.org: <http://www.poisonprevention.org/poison.htm>

### ***National Nutrition Month®***

Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics: [www.eatright.org/nnm](http://www.eatright.org/nnm)

US Department of Agriculture Choose My Plate web page at:  
<http://www.choosemyplate.gov/>

### ***National Institutes of Health***

March is **National Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month** and those aged 50 and older are encouraged to be screened. More information is provided at:

<http://www.cancer.gov/cancertopics/types/colon-and-rectal>

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### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

#### **WHAT: 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Pinal & Gila Elder Abuse Conference**

**WHEN: March 29 & 30, 2012**, Thursday 8 am to 5 pm, Friday 8 am to 12 pm, Apache Gold Casino Resort, 5 miles east of Globe on Hwy 70, San Carlos, AZ 85550

**For more information:** <http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/EASTConfBrochure2012.pdf>

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#### **WHAT: Free Diabetes Health Fair, *Healthy Living: Preventing & Managing Diabetes Every Day!***

**WHEN: Saturday, March 31, 2012**, 9 am to 12:00 pm, Midwestern University, 19555 North 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale AZ 85308

**For more information**, call 602-861-4731 Ext. 7094 or visit [diabetes.org/phoenix](http://diabetes.org/phoenix)

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Special Centennial Event**, Arizona's Constitution and Our Political Culture: The Progressive Roots

**WHEN: April 11, 2012**, 6:30 pm, Steele Auditorium, Arizona History Society, 1300 N. college Avenue, Tempe AZ

**For more information:** <http://morrisoninstitute.asu.edu/events/april-11-event-arizonas-constitution-and-our-political-culture-the-progressive-roots>

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**WHAT: Legal Options to Guardianship Trainings**

**WHEN: April 25, 2012** in Yuma, AZ; **May 2, 2012** in Tucson, AZ; **May 9, 2012** in Casa Grande, AZ and **July 25, 2012** in Flagstaff, AZ.

**For more information** including times and location, go to:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/LegalOptionsFlyersRuralCounties2012.pdf>

Also: Coming in **June & August 2012** at the Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 East Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ

· **June 13, 2012 from 9 to 11 am**

· **August 1, 2012 from 6:30 to 8:00 pm and Priorities Forum from 4 to 6 pm**

**For more information:**  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/LegalOptionsFlyersMaricopaCounty2012.pdf>

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Just in case you're interested:

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 30, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Legislative Action

During the past week, 376 floor actions were filed; 34 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of **day 82** of the legislative session, **1,395 bills** posted; **191 passed**; **155 signed** by the Governor; **2 vetoed**; **144 memorials or resolutions** posted; **31 passed**. Four bills tracked by the Council remain on the list of bills passed and awaiting signing. The Governor may choose to sign, veto or allow a bill to become law without signature.

Next deadline is Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup>; the last day for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House.

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 2nd at 1:30 p.m.

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#### Fiscal News

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee released their *JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights March 2012* report that indicates "The February forecast shortfall was largely due to higher than expected individual income tax refunds." The report is available at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-mar-12.pdf>

The latest JLBC *Tracking Arizona's Recovery* is available at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0312.pdf>

#### Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature or summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports'* LOLA and found on the **FULL LIST**.

Bills signed by the Governor that the Council has been tracking:

**H2534: AHCCCS: Payment Methodology**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2534\\_02-16-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2534_02-16-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**H2655: Developmental Disability Services; Providers; Monitoring**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2655\\_03-30-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2655_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**H2807: Redistricting Commission; Open Meeting Law**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2807\\_03-27-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2807_03-27-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1116: Retirement; PSPRS; Corp; EORP Amendments**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1116\\_03-27-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1116_03-27-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1152: Homeless Court; Establishment; Jurisdiction**

Senate engrossed version of bill:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/sb1152s.pdf>

**S1188: Medical Board; Duties; Meetings; Procedures**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1188\\_03-30-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1188_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

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**Legislative Action**

**H2165: Veterans; Employment Preference**, 3/28, passed Senate; ready for the Governor.

**H2560: Adult Protective Services; Attorney Fees**, 3/29, House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading; ready for the Governor.

**S1141: Public Fiduciaries; Investigatory Power**, 3/27, passed House; ready for the Governor.

**S1152: Homeless Court; Establishment; Jurisdiction**; passed House; ready for the Governor.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Hearings next week on bills tracked by the Council:**

**H2160: HOAs; Condos; Election Procedures**, 4/2 Senate Rules Committee at 1:00 pm, Senate Caucus Room.

**H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights**, 4/2 Senate Third Reading.

**H2428: Veteran Benefits; Reservists**, 4/2 Senate Third Reading.

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation**, 4/2 Senate Third Reading.

**H2713: Insurance Premiums; Long-Term Care; Deduction**, 4/2 Senate Rules Committee at 1:00 pm, Senate Caucus Room.

**H2745: Retirement; PSPRS: Employer Contributions**, 4/2 Senate Rules Committee at 1:00 pm, Senate Caucus Room.

Be sure to check the listing of hearings as scheduled next week on the Council's **FULL LIST** link provided below.

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Several of the bills posted this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will continue to be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page.

**Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does *not* represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It *does* mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

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***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions taken.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

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If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

*Legislation*



The Senate passed the extension of the federal highway funding passed by the House on Thursday. **H.R.4281** extends current funds for road and transit projects until June 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **H.R.4245**

### **Veterans Co-Pay Fairness Act**

Introduced on 3/22/2012 by Representative Peter A. DeFazio (OR-4)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to require the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to reimburse eligible veterans who are entitled to Medicare benefits for Medicare deductibles and other expenses that are owed by the veterans for emergency medical treatment provided in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.

On 3/22/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## **H.R.4246**

### **VA Enrollment Act**

Introduced on 3/22/2012 by Representative Peter A. DeFazio (OR-4)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for the expansion of eligibility for veteran reimbursement for emergency treatment provided in non-Department of Veterans Affairs facilities.

On 3/22/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

## **H.R.4254**

### **Medicare Advantage Program Integrity Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/22/2012 by Representative Fortney Pete Stark (CA-13)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to enhance Medicare Advantage program integrity.

3/22/2012 referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

## **H.R.3626**

### **LIHEAP Protection Act**

Introduced on 12/8/2011 by Representative Chellie Pingree (ME-1)

LIHEAP Protection Act - Makes appropriations for FY2012 for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP).

Expresses the sense of Congress that this Act should be implemented in a manner consistent with the Budget Control Act of 2011, and that the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) should:

- (1) continue and expedite efforts to identify best practices used by LIHEAP grant recipients;
- (2) provide training and technical assistance to such grant recipients;
- (3) recommend policy changes, and assess and mitigate risk at governmental levels in order to eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse; and
- (4) strengthen the Program so all funds reach the households who need them the most.

On 3/29/2012, referred to the House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

Related bills: S.1961.

### **H.R.3749**

#### **Expanding Opportunities for Older Americans Act of 2011**

Introduced on 12/20/2011 by Representative Laura Richardson (CA-37)

Expanding Opportunities for Older Americans Act of 2011 - Amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to expand the Senior Community Service Employment (SCSE) Program.

Lowers the age of eligibility from 55 to 52.

Repeals the requirement that the eligible individual be unemployed.

Increases from 125% to 200% of the poverty line the maximum income for eligibility. Excludes from the counting of an eligible individual's income any income received by another member of the eligible individual's household.

Prohibits any limit of fewer than 40 hours per week on the number of hours per week a grant recipient may permit a participant to work in a job assisted under the grant.

Declares the sense of Congress that necessary sums should be appropriated to carry out the SCSE Program in each of FY2012-FY2017.

On 3/29/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

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[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the Senate.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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#### *Federal Budget*

This week, the **House** approved the Ryan Budget Plan:  
<http://budget.house.gov/UploadedFiles/Pathtoprosperity2013.pdf>

**Kaiser Health News'** Daily Report summary of health policy coverage from more than 300 news organizations, about the plan:

[http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Daily-Reports/2012/March/30/ryan-budget.aspx?utm\\_source=khn&utm\\_medium=internal&utm\\_campaign=widget](http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Daily-Reports/2012/March/30/ryan-budget.aspx?utm_source=khn&utm_medium=internal&utm_campaign=widget)

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#### ***A Guide to the Supreme Court's Review of the 2010 Health Care Reform Law***

In case you missed this last week, a link to the Kaiser Family Foundation brief is provided here:

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/upload/8270-2.pdf>

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#### **Other News:**

On March 28<sup>th</sup>, 14 Senators joined Senator Bernie Sanders during a Capitol Hill briefing in support of **reauthorization of the Older American Act**.

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#### **Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

*Flex Strategies to Attract, Engage & Retain Older Workers - Executive Case Report:*

[http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/research/agingandwork/archive\\_pubs/flex\\_case.html](http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/research/agingandwork/archive_pubs/flex_case.html)

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From the **Administration on Aging AoA News & Info**

**2012 National Public Health Week** focuses on prevention and wellness; the

APHA National Public Health Week webpage offers free resource materials at:  
<http://www.nphw.org/>

The **Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS)** announced the availability of federal funding for the agency's RSVP program, part of Senior Corps. CNCS will award funds to new RSVP programs in the agency's six focus areas outlined in the CNCS's Strategic Plan: disaster services, economic opportunity, education, environmental stewardship, healthy futures, and veterans and military families. CNCS will invest in organizations in geographic areas where RSVP projects were voluntarily discontinued by the previous sponsor. The effected geographic service areas can be found in the Senior Corps Notice of Funding Opportunity. All applications must be submitted via egrants, CNCS's grants system at: <https://egrants.cns.gov/espan/main/login.jsp>

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#### **National Alzheimer's Project Act:**

Information about the April 17 meeting of the Advisory Council is available at  
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#Apr2012Mtg>.

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Start Smart: Aging, Caregiving and Health** by Georgia G. Hall, PhD, MPH

**WHEN: Thursday, April 12, 7:30 to 8:30 am**, University of Arizona, Building 4, Room 115,  
714 E. Van Buren Street, Phoenix, AZ 85006

**For more information or to register for this or other free lectures, go to:**  
<http://uacomphx-lectureseries.eventbrite.com/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Information on the Arizona Direct Care Initiative: TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOPS**  
for Direct Care Worker Instructors

**For more information:**  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/DCWAnnouncementForTrainTheTrainerWorkshops.pdf>

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Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 6, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Legislative Action

During the past week, 252 floor actions were filed; 22 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of **day 89** of the legislative session, **1,395 bills** posted; **251 passed**; **186 signed** by the Governor; **5 vetoed**; **144 memorials or resolutions** posted; **32 passed**.

Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House. Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> marks the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the session.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 9th at 1:30 p.m.

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#### Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature or summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports' LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

Bills tracked by the Council and signed by the Governor recently:

##### **H2369 Electronic Medical Records**

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2369\\_03-30-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2369_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

##### **H2560 Adult Protective Services; Attorney Fees**

Chapter Version: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/laws/0163.pdf>

##### **H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments**

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2526\\_03-30-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2526_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1136: Fingerprinting; Central Registry; Background Checks**

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1136\\_03-29-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1136_03-29-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1141: Public Fiduciaries; Investigatory Power**

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1141\\_04-02-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1141_04-02-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**S1152: Homeless Court; Establishment; Jurisdiction**

House Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1152\\_03-29-12\\_houseengrossed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1152_03-29-12_houseengrossed.pdf)

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**Legislative Action**

**H2126: Handyman Exemptions; Applicability**, 4/5 from Senate Rules Committee with a technical amendment.

**H2160: HOAs; Condos; Election Procedures**, 4/5 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with floor amendment.

**H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights**, 4/5 House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 58-1; ready for the Governor.

**H2513: HOAs; Condos; Rental Properties**, 4/5 passed Senate 26-3; ready for the Governor.

**H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization**, 4/5 passed Senate 29-0; ready for House action on Senate amendment.

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**Hearings next week on bills tracked by the Council:**

**H2428: Veteran Benefits; Reservists**, 4/9 House Final Reading.

\*\*\*\*\*

Several of the bills posted this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourned. These bills appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council has been tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions to the adjournment of the session.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.4281**

#### **Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/28/2012 by Representative John L. Mica (FL-7)

*To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs.*

Sec. 306 - Extends for that same period the authorization appropriations from the HTF Mass Transit Account for: (1) formula and bus grant projects, including allocations for specified projects; (2) capital investment grants, (3) transit research, including allocations for transit cooperative research programs, the National Transit Institute, the university centers program, transportation projects to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the National Technical Assistance Center for senior transportation, and national research programs; and (4) administration expenses.

Sec. 307 - Extends, from October 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, certain SAFETEA-LU programs, including: (1) the contracted paratransit pilot program, (2) the public-private partnership pilot program, (3) project authorizations for final design and construction and



preliminary engineering of specified fixed guideway projects, and (4) the elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities pilot program.

On 3/30/2012, signed by the President; became Public Law No: 112-102

## **H.R.4305**

### **Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Steve Chabot (OH-1)

*To authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals.*

The Attorney General is authorized to award a grant to one eligible nonprofit organization to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals through the use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system.

#### *Specified Use of Funds*

The grant awarded under this subsection shall be used to:

(A) provide services to Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, in response to a request from such agencies, to promote the rapid recovery of a missing child, an elderly individual, or a disabled individual by utilizing rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;

(B) maintain and expand technologies and techniques to ensure the highest level of performance of such services;

(C) provide both centralized and on-site training, and distribute information, to Federal, State, and local law enforcement agency officials about missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals and use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system;

(D) provide services to Federal, State, tribal, and local Child Abduction Response Teams;

(E) assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking through the use of rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;

(F) share appropriate information on cases with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the AMBER Alert, Silver Alert, and Blue Alert programs, and appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies; and

(G) assist appropriate organizations, including Federal, State, tribal and local law enforcement agencies, with education and prevention programs related to missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals.

#### *Eligibility*

To be an eligible nonprofit organization for purposes of the grant under this subsection, a nonprofit organization shall:

(A) have 5 or more years of experience providing rapid telephone and cellular alert calls on behalf of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to find missing children and elderly adults;

(B) provide documentation of safe recoveries of missing children and elderly individuals assisted by the organization; and

(C) have the ability to provide services and educational assistance to Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in every State.

On 3/29/2012, the bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

### **H.R.4299**

#### **Quality Housing for Veterans Act**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Jerry McNerney (CA-11)

*To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide specially adapted housing assistance to individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.*

On 3/29/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

### **H.R.4300**

#### **Veterans' Work Study Opportunities Act**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Jerry McNerney (CA-11)

*To amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority to provide work-study allowance for certain activities by individuals receiving educational assistance by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.*

On 3/29/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

### **S.2256**

#### **Community-Based Mental Health Infrastructure Improvements Act**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator Jack Reed (RI)

*To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants for community-based mental health infrastructure improvement.*

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### **S.2259**

## **Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator Jon Tester

*To provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2012, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.*

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

### **S.2265**

**A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover screening computed tomography colonography as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program.**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator James M. Inhofe (OK)

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

Also may be of interest:

### **S.2038**

**Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012 or STOCK Act**

Introduced on 1/26/2012 by Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (CT)

*To prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes.*

On 4/4/2012, signed by President; became Public Law No: 112-105

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

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**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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**Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

Blog: *How the Health Care Sector Can Prepare for the Aging of Its Workforce:*

<http://agingandwork.bc.edu/blog/>

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**National Volunteer Week is April 15 - 21**

2012 Resource Guide from the **Points of Life Institute:**

[http://www.handsonnetwork.org/files/nvw\\_resourceguide\\_2012.pdf](http://www.handsonnetwork.org/files/nvw_resourceguide_2012.pdf)

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From the **Administration on Aging**

Resources to help plan for **Older Americans Month in May** can be found at:

[http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press\\_Room/Observances/2012/Older\\_Americans.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx)

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**National Council on Aging (NCOA)** Center for Healthy Aging – Fall Prevention Updates:

<http://www.ncoa.org/improve-health/center-for-healthy-aging/falls-prevention/>

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**Information from the Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Arizona:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SocialSecurityInfo.pdf>

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SSAShortStoryDEBRA.pdf>

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: What YOU DON'T KNOW MAY SURPRISE YOU AT RETIREMENT; *What To Know And Where To Go***

**WHEN: Saturday, May 5, 2012, 8 am to 1 pm, Paradise Valley Community College  
Division of Continuing Education, 17811 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Building Q, Phoenix, AZ 85032**

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/Flyer5512.pdf>

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**WHAT: Arizona Elder Law Day** presented by DES Division of Aging & Adult Services and Glencroft Retirement Community

**WHEN: Wednesday, May 16, 2012**, Glencroft Retirement Community, 8611 N. 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85302

**For more information:** <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ElderLawDayAgenda052012.pdf>

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**WHAT: Education Workshop on Aging, Dementia, and Developmental Disabilities: National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices Pre-Conference**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 17, 2012** 9 am to 5 pm, Desert Willow Conference Center, 4340 East Cotton Center Blvd., Phoenix AZ

**For agenda information:** <http://aadmd.org/page/ntg-dementia-pre-conference-agenda>

**For registration information:** <http://aadmd.org/articles/annual-conference-pricing-and-registration>

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**Information on the Arizona Direct Care Initiative: TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOPS** for Direct Care Worker Instructors

**For more information:**  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/DCWAnnouncementForTrainTheTrainerWorkshops.pdf>

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From the **April 2012 issue** of *By the Seat of Our Pants* Nonprofit Management Newsletter - Stewart Communications, [NonprofitNet@gwi.net](mailto:NonprofitNet@gwi.net)

NONPROFITS & THE COMMUNITY is the name of a forum with the candidates running for Flagstaff City Council and Mayor. The event will occur on Thursday, April 12 from 5- 8:30 p.m. at the Coconino Center for the Arts, 2300 N Fort Valley Rd. All six candidates for council and both mayoral candidates will attend. Voters will have the opportunity to hear each candidate's views on a variety of issues relating to nonprofit organizations' impact on the community's economic and social health. A reception from 5-6 will provide an opportunity for attendees to speak with the candidates in an informal setting. The Mayor Candidate Forum will begin at 6 p.m. and the Council Candidate Forum at 7 p.m. The event will be streaming online live at [culturalpartners.org](http://culturalpartners.org) and other locally based websites. The video of the Forum will remain available until election day, which is May 15. The Forum will be presented in partnership by Flagstaff Cultural Partners and NAU's Philosophy in the Public Interest. Info: 779-2300 or <http://www.culturalpartners.org/>.

AHHC (Affordable Housing and Homeless Coalition) will next meet on May 15 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Prescott Habitat for Humanity office, 1230 Willow Creek Road. For information contact Marielle LaMar at [m.lamar@wygc.org](mailto:m.lamar@wygc.org) or (928) 445-5211 Ext 2068.

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Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy your holiday weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 13, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Legislative Action

Today, Friday, April 13<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House, and Tuesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> marks the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the session. The Speaker of the House and Senate President can extend the session up to seven days; further extension requires majority vote of the members.

Since last Thursday, 302 floor actions were filed; 15 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of **day 96** of the legislative session, **1395 bills** posted; **303 passed**; **263 signed** by the Governor; **14 vetoed**; **145 memorials or resolutions** posted; **32 passed**.

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

#### Fiscal News

While no budget updates to report, the **JLBC: Finance Advisory Committee Revenue and Budget Update 4.12.2012** is posted at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/revenuebudgetupdatepres041212.pdf> and the Governor's comments about budget revenue can be viewed at:  
[http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041112\\_BudgetRevenue.pdf](http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041112_BudgetRevenue.pdf).

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#### Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries or fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature.

Bills tracked by the Council and signed by the Governor this week:

#### **H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights**

Chaptered version: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/laws/0223.pdf>

#### **H2428: Veteran Benefits; Reservists**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2428\\_04-09-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2428_04-09-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**\*\*\*Passed and awaiting the Governor's decision:**

**H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation**

House engrossed version of the bill:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2696h.pdf>

**\*\*\*Also: Vetoes this week:**

**H2513: Condominiums; Planned Communities; Rental Properties**

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2513\\_04-05-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2513_04-05-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

Governor's veto letter:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041212\\_HB2513VetoLtr.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041212_HB2513VetoLtr.pdf)

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**Legislative Action**

**H2160: HOAs; Condos; Election Procedures**, 4/12 failed to pass Senate 9-21.

**H2170: HOAs; Declaration Amendments; Construction**, 4/10 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with amendment #5037 and floor amendment #5349. (Note: short title change) Floor amendment:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/2170murphy835.pdf>

**H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization**, 4/12, House refused to concur in Senate amendments and named Conference Committee.

House summary: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674\\_concurrefusememo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674_concurrefusememo.pdf)

**H2713: Insurance Premium; Long Term Care; Deduction**, 4/11, Senate Committee of the Whole approved with amendment.

Amendment: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/s.2713approps.pdf>

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Several of the bills this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourns. These bills appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list**



does ***not*** represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It ***does*** mean that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council has been tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note:** The **FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.**

***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions up through the adjournment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, you may voice your thoughts at any time by contacting the:

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If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.4315**

#### **Veterans Mental Health Accessibility Act**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Russ Carnahan (MO-3)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for unlimited eligibility for health care for mental illnesses for veterans of combat service during certain periods of hostilities and war.

On 4/10/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R.4333**

#### **Enhancing Nutrition Services to the Elderly and Disabled Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Erik Paulsen (MN-3)

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit providers of eligible food purchasing and delivery services to be approved as retail food stores that accept and redeem supplemental nutrition assistance benefits.

On 3/29/2012, referred to House Committee on Agriculture.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

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**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **Kaiser Family Foundation**

Two newly updated Kaiser Family Foundation briefs provide an in-depth look at the nearly 9 million low-income seniors and younger people with disabilities in the United States who are covered by both Medicare and Medicaid, as well as examining the role that each program plays in financing their care.

**Medicare's Role for Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries** is found at:  
<http://www.kff.org/medicare/8138.cfm>

**Medicaid's Role for Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries** is found at:  
<http://www.kff.org/medicaid/7846.cfm>

Note: The Foundation also has a broader collection of resources on dual-eligible beneficiaries available at: <http://www.kff.org/medicare/resources-dual-eligibles.cfm>.

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The **Roadmaps to Health Prize** is part of the **County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program**, a collaboration of the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** and the **University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute**. From the webpage: *Throughout the country, people are coming together with a shared vision, strong leadership and commitment to making needed and lasting changes that broadly improve community vitality. This is happening in large urban settings and small rural ones; it's happening in places with tremendous resources and in places with few resources to draw from; it's happening in places with relatively few health challenges and in places where the challenges are many and daunting. The **Roadmaps to Health Prize** is intended to honor these successful efforts and to inspire and stimulate similar activities in communities across the country. The invitation to apply for this prize is being extended to all communities throughout the U.S.*

For information on the initiative:

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/roadmaps/prize>

For information about grant funding including the Call for Applications, go to:

[http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/chrr\\_prize\\_cfa\\_updated.pdf](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/chrr_prize_cfa_updated.pdf)

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**Never Too Old to Play** is the theme of **Older Americans Month in May** that encourages older Americans to stay engaged, active and involved in their own lives and in their communities. Resources for planning your event can be found at:

[http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press\\_Room/Observances/2012/Older\\_Americans.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx)

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### **Social Security Announces New Conditions for Compassion Allowance Program**

The press release is posted at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/compassionate-allowances-0412-pr.htm>

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### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: What YOU DON'T KNOW MAY SURPRISE YOU AT RETIREMENT; What To Know And Where To Go**

**WHEN: Saturday, May 5, 2012**, 8 am to 1 pm, Paradise Valley Community College Division of Continuing Education, 17811 N. 32<sup>nd</sup> Street, Building Q, Phoenix, AZ 85032

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/Flyer5512.pdf>

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**WHAT: Arizona Elder Law Day** presented by DES Division of Aging & Adult Services and Glencroft Retirement Community

**WHEN: Wednesday, May 16, 2012**, Glencroft Retirement Community, 8611 N. 67<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85302

**For more information:** <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ElderLawDayAgenda052012.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Education Workshop on Aging, Dementia, and Developmental Disabilities: National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices Pre-Conference**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 17, 2012** 9 am to 5 pm, Desert Willow Conference Center, 4340 East Cotton Center Blvd., Phoenix AZ

**For more information and to register, go to:**  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AgingDementiaFlyer051712.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mark your calendar for later this fall...**

**WHAT: 2012 National Adult Protective Services Association Conference *Ending Adult Abuse: On the Horizon?***

**WHEN: October 16 - 18, 2012, Squaw Peak Hilton, Phoenix, AZ**

**Email for more information:** [info@apsnetwork.org](mailto:info@apsnetwork.org)

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**Did you know? Az.Gov - Arizona's Official Website** offers a wide array of information, links to online services and assistance. <http://az.gov/>

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Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 20, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Legislative Action

Since the last report, 206 floor actions were filed; 9 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. At the end of **day 103** of the legislative session, **1395 bills posted; 312 passed; 287 signed** by the Governor; **18 vetoed; 146 memorials or resolutions posted; 38 passed.**

Today, Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup> marks the 103rd day of the session. With no bills being signed until the budget is resolved, the session continues. According to House Rule 2A: . . . regular sessions shall be adjourned sine die no later than the Saturday of the week in which the 100th day (April 17) of session falls. (The Speaker and the President may extend the session for a period not to exceed seven additional days. Thereafter, the session can be extended only by a majority vote of the Members.)

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30 p.m.

#### Fiscal News

From the **JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights April 2012**: "The Finance Advisory Committee (FAC) met on April 12, 2012 to update its 4-sector revenue forecast." The report is available for review at: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-apr-12.pdf> and the *Finance Advisory Committee Revenue and Budget Update* is available at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/revenuebudgetupdatepres041212.pdf>

The **Governor's** comments about job growth can be viewed at:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041912\\_MarchEmployment.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041912_MarchEmployment.pdf)

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#### Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries or fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature. Bills tracked by the Council and signed by the Governor this week:

##### \*\*\* Vetoed this week:

##### **H2513: HOAs; Condos; Rental Properties**

Senate Fact Sheet as Vetoed: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2513qr\\_asvetoed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2513qr_asvetoed.pdf)

##### **H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation**

House engrossed version of the bill:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2696h.pdf>

The Governor's letter regarding the veto:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041712\\_HB2696VetoLtr.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041712_HB2696VetoLtr.pdf)

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**\*\*\*Legislative Action**

**H2126: Handyman Exemptions; Applicability**, 4/18 passed Senate 18-10; ready for House action on Senate amendments

Senate Fact Sheet: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2126ce\\_aspassed.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2126ce_aspassed.pdf)

**H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization**, 4/16 Senate named members to Conference Committee.

House Summary 4/18: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674\\_cc\\_memo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674_cc_memo.pdf)

**H2713: Insurance Premium; Long Term Care; Deduction**, 4/18 passed Senate 28-1; ready for House action on Senate amendments.

House Summary 4/18: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713\\_concurrusememo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713_concurrusememo.pdf)

**\*\*\*Hearing scheduled next week:**

**H2264: Retirement; ASRS; Employer Contributions; Rate**, 4/23 at 1:00 pm, Senate Room 1. Senate Fact Sheet:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2264fin.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

Several of the bills this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourns. These bills appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council has been tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and **is available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.** *This list will continue to be edited as we track actions up through the adjournment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature.* Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, you may voice your thoughts *at any time* by contacting the: **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area.**

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

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### **Other News**

Today, a special ceremony marked the arrival by train of the historic gun barrels from the U.S.S. Arizona and U.S.S. Missouri which will be incorporated into the **WWII Memorial** at Wesley Bolin Memorial Plaza. For more information:

[http://gunstosalutethefallen.com/Home\\_Page\\_G1VS.html](http://gunstosalutethefallen.com/Home_Page_G1VS.html)

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### **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

#### **S.2243**

#### **Medicare Better Health Rewards Program Act of 2012**

Introduced on 3/28/2012 by Senator Ron Wyden (OR)

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to direct the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to establish a three-year Better Health Rewards Program under which incentives are provided to Medicare beneficiaries who voluntarily agree to participate in the Program.

Directs the Secretary to establish standards for measuring better health targets and points for achieving them for participating Medicare beneficiaries, including those for:

- (1) an annual wellness visit,
- (2) tobacco cessation,
- (3) Body Mass Index (BMI),
- (4) a diabetes screening test,
- (5) cardiovascular disease screening,
- (6) cholesterol level screening, and
- (7) screening tests and specified vaccinations.

Requires the Secretary to make specified incentive payments to each participating Medicare beneficiary who achieves at least 20 points during a year.

Authorizes Medicare Advantage Plans, "Section 1876" health maintenance organization and competitive medical cost plans, and programs of all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) to make incentives to their enrollees to participate in a Better Health Rewards Program.

Amends the Internal Revenue Code to exclude from gross income any payment made under:

- (1) the Medicare Better Health Rewards Program; and
- (2) any other Better Health Rewards Program.

On 3/28/2012, referred to Senate Committee on Finance.

#### **H.R.4348**

#### **Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012, Part II**



Introduced on 4/16/2012 by Representative John L. Mica (FL-7)

Result of bipartisan action on transportation reauthorization by the House

On 4/19/2012, received in the Senate.

Update to previously reported legislation

**H.R. 4305: Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program**

On 4/16/2012, referred to the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

**Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and [http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

\*\*\*\*\*

This week, the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)** announced the creation of the **Administration on Community Living (ACL)**

**ACL** was created with the goal of increasing access to community supports and full participation, while focusing attention and resources on the unique needs of older Americans and people with disabilities.

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/04/20120416a.html>

For more information on **ACL**, go to: <http://www.hhs.gov/acl/>.

Also from **HHS**:

**Calling out Medicare scams**

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/healthbeat/2012/04/20120417a.html>

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**Kaiser Family Foundation**

***The Diversity of Dual Eligible Beneficiaries: An Examination of Services and Spending for People Eligible for Both Medicaid and Medicare:***

<http://www.kff.org/medicaid/7895.cfm>

Issues Brief: <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/upload/7895-02.pdf>

**Federal Funding Under the Affordable Care Act** fact sheet:

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/upload/8301.pdf>

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### **Family Caregiver Alliance**

**Family Caregiving 2011: Year in Review** can be viewed at:

[http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content\\_node.jsp?nodeid=2324&chcategory=43&chitem=715](http://caregiver.org/caregiver/jsp/content_node.jsp?nodeid=2324&chcategory=43&chitem=715)

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### **Comparing Cost of Care**

**Genworth 2012 Cost of Care Survey**

[http://reversepartner.genworth.com/content/etc/medialib/genworth\\_v2/pdf/ltc\\_cost\\_of\\_care.Par.38432.File.dat/Methodology\\_gnw.pdf](http://reversepartner.genworth.com/content/etc/medialib/genworth_v2/pdf/ltc_cost_of_care.Par.38432.File.dat/Methodology_gnw.pdf)

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### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Geriatrics Society Spring Geriatric Multi-Disciplinary Conference** --"EXPANDING YOUR GERIATRIC TOOLBOX: Brief Screening Tools for Use at Bedside or in Clinic"

**WHEN: Four Saturday Half-Day Conferences:**

**May 5** Yavapai College, Prescott AZ

**May 12 (morning)** Banner Boswell Medical Center, Sun City, AZ

**May 12 (afternoon)** Banner Desert Medical Center, Mesa, AZ

**May 19** University of Arizona Medical Research Building, Tucson, AZ

For more information or to register for the conference, visit the AzGS website

(<http://www.arizonageriatrics.org/>) mail or fax the registration form or call the AzGS office at (602) 265-0211. The conference brochure is provided at:

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\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Education Workshop on Aging, Dementia, and Developmental Disabilities: National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices Pre-Conference**

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**For more information and to register, go to:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AgingDementiaFlyer051712.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: safeTALK suicide alertness for everyone**

**WHEN: May 24, 2012**, 8:30 to 11:30 am, Pima Council on Aging, 8467 E. Broadway Blvd., Tucson, AZ

**For more information** including pre-registration instructions, go to:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SafeTalkFlyerMay2012.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Mark your calendar for later this fall**

**WHAT: 21<sup>st</sup> Annual NACOG AAA Conference *Creating Caring Communities: Hope For The Challenges Ahead***

**WHEN: Thursday, October 4, 2012**, 8 am to 5 pm, The High Country Conference Center, 201 W. Butler Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**Information posted at:** <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1055873>

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: 2012 National Adult Protective Services Association Conference Ending Adult Abuse: On the Horizon?**

**WHEN: October 16 – 18, 2012, Squaw Peak Hilton, Phoenix, AZ**

**Email for more information:** [info@apsnetwork.org](mailto:info@apsnetwork.org)

\*\*\*\*\*

Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the ***Legislative Updates*** are linked on the Council website at:

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\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 27, 2012

This *abbreviated version* of our e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### 2<sup>nd</sup> REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> LEGISLATURE

#### Budget Announcement

This afternoon, a joint statement by the Governor, the Speaker of the House and the Senate President was issued indicating an agreement on an FY 2013 state budget plan. Check [www.azgovernor.gov](http://www.azgovernor.gov) for posting of the press release.

#### Legislative action

Action has slowed as the session reaches day 110. Since the last report, 103 floor actions were filed; six (6) of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. At the end of **day 110** of the legislative session, **1395 bills posted; 329 passed; 287 signed** by the Governor; **18 vetoed; 147 memorials or resolutions posted; 43 passed**.

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 30th at 1:30 p.m.

#### Fiscal Updates

From the **JLBC - Tracking Arizona's Recovery April 2012:**  
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0412.pdf>

A comparison in revenue estimates is provided on pages 2 through 4 of the *JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights - April 2012* provided here again at: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-apr-12.pdf>. The JLBC **Comparison of Legislative and Executive Revenue Estimates: Methodology Difference** can be viewed at:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/CompLegExecRev.pdf>

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#### Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries or fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature.

**H2264: Retirement; ASRS: Employee; Employer Contributions; Rate**, 4/24 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved; passed Senate 28-0; ready for the Governor.

**Senate Summary 4/20:**  
<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.2264fin.pdf>

**S1388: Return to Work Program**, 4/24 Passed House 36-16; ready for Senate action on House amendments.

Senate Fact Sheet: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1388cc%20memo.pdf>

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Several of the bills this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourns. These bills appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the bill topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council has been tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

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***This list will continue to be edited as we track actions up through the adjournment of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, you may voice your thoughts *at any time* by contacting the:

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If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

\*\*\*\*\*

This week, the **U.S. Supreme Court** heard arguments related to Arizona's SB1070. The Court's decision is expected later in June.

#### **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

##### **H.R.4846**

To prevent mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors in the United States, to

promote efforts to increase public awareness of the enormous impact that mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud have on seniors, to educate the public, seniors, their families, and their caregivers about how to identify and combat fraudulent activity, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 4/26/2012 by Representative Tammy Baldwin (WI-2)

On 4/26/2012, referred to House Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

Note: posting of legislative text on Thomas is pending.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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**You can contact the White House at:** <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **OTHER NEWS**

**National Prescription Drug Take Back Day is tomorrow, April 28<sup>th</sup>.** Locations are posted at: <http://www.dea.gov/> at this webpage:  
[http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug\\_disposal/takeback/index.html](http://www.deadiversion.usdoj.gov/drug_disposal/takeback/index.html)

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**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)** announced options for community care: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/04/20120426a.html>

**Independence at Home Demonstration Fact Sheet April 2012:**  
<http://innovation.cms.gov/Files/fact-sheet/IAHfactsheet.pdf>

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**National Council on Aging - NCOA** presentations from the **2012 ASA Aging in America Conference** are available for download at:

[http://www.ncoa.org/about-ncoa/conferences/ncoa-2012-sessions.html?utm\\_source=NCOAWeek\\_120424&utm\\_medium=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=NCOAWeek](http://www.ncoa.org/about-ncoa/conferences/ncoa-2012-sessions.html?utm_source=NCOAWeek_120424&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_campaign=NCOAWeek)

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**From the Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Arizona:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/SocialSecurityColumn.pdf>

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**The Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

To view the ***Fact of the Week*** regarding the percentage of older adults 50 – 64 years of age who are uninsured as well as archived Facts & Literature, go to:

[http://www.bc.edu/research/agingandwork/facts.html?utm\\_source=Huong+fact+of+the+week+else+12-04-23&utm\\_campaign=FOTW+12-04-23+ELSE&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.bc.edu/research/agingandwork/facts.html?utm_source=Huong+fact+of+the+week+else+12-04-23&utm_campaign=FOTW+12-04-23+ELSE&utm_medium=email)

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Arizona Geriatrics Society Spring Geriatric Multi-Disciplinary Conference** --"EXPANDING YOUR GERIATRIC TOOLBOX: Brief Screening Tools for Use at Bedside or in Clinic"

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For more information including pre-registration instructions, go to:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SafeTalkFlyerMay2012.pdf>

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## Updated News

**WHAT: 2023 Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference** *Trends, Issues, Solutions*

**WHEN: June 15, 2012**, 8 am to 5:00 pm, Casino Del Sol Convention Center, 5655 W. Valencia Road, Tucson AZ 85757

For more information: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/BHOAConfBrochure2012.pdf>

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## Mark your calendar for later this summer and fall

**WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association (ASCA) Annual Conference**

**WHEN: Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**, Prescott Resort

For more information, visit the ASCA website:

<http://www.arizonaseniors.net/>

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: 21<sup>st</sup> Annual NACOG AAA Conference** *Creating Caring Communities: Hope For The Challenges Ahead*

**WHEN: Thursday, October 4, 2012**, 8 am to 5 pm, The High Country Conference Center, 201 W. Butler Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Information posted at: <http://www.regonline.com/builder/site/Default.aspx?EventID=1055873>

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Just in case you're interested

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\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enjoy your weekend!**

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## **Welcome to the Legislative Update for May 4, 2012**

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature during session and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature Ends**

On Thursday evening, **the Legislature adjourned Sine Die** ending the 2<sup>nd</sup> regular session. This session lasted **116 days; 1395 bills** were **posted; 387 passed; 288** have been **signed** by the Governor thus far and **18 vetoed; 149** memorials **or resolutions were posted; 48 passed.**

For those remaining bills passed, the Governor has 10 days to sign, veto or allow them to go into law without signature.

### **Budget**

Part of the last actions included the passing of the budget package. The bills include:

**S1523:** Budget; General Appropriations; FY2012-13

**S1524:** Budget; Capital Outlay; FY2012-13

**S1525:** Budget; Budget Procedures; FY2012-13

**S1526:** Budget; BRB; Revenue; FY2012-13

**S1527:** Budget: BRB: Government; FY2012-13

**S1528:** Budget: BRB: Health; Welfare; FY2012-13

**S1529:** Budget; BRB; K-12 Education; FY2012-13

**S1530:** Budget: BRB; Higher Education; FY2012-13

**S1531:** Budget BRB; Criminal Justice; FY2012-13

**S1532:** Budget; BRB; Environment; FY2012-13.

Summaries of each of these can be found as part of the bills listed in the **SHORT List** link provided here:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24920&listid=45824&print=true>.

Thanks to advocacy and agreements reached, aging services funding avoided further cuts.

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## Legislation

Final action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined below.

**H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization**, Senate adopted conference report and passed on final reading 29-1; ready for the Governor.

House Summary: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674\\_05-01-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674_05-01-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**H2713: Insurance Premiums; Long-Term Care; Deduction**, 5/1 House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 60-0; ready for the Governor.

House Summary: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713\\_04-20-12\\_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2713_04-20-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf)

**H2745: Retirement; ASRS: PSPRS: Amendments**, 5/3 House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 56-0; ready for the Governor.

House Summary: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2745\\_concurrefusememo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2745_concurrefusememo.pdf)

**H2815: Employment; Incentives; Regulatory Tax Credit**, 5/3 Passed Senate 19-9; House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 39-16; ready for the Governor

**S1036: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services**, 5/3 passed House 56-0; Senate concurred in House amendments and passed on final reading 23-0; ready for the Governor.

Senate Fact Sheet: [http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1036bi\\_housechanges.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1036bi_housechanges.pdf)

## Also:

**H2571: State Personnel System**, 5/3 House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 38-18; ready for the Governor.

House Summary:

[http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2571\\_concurrefusememo.pdf](http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2571_concurrefusememo.pdf)

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Some of the bills tracked this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It does mean** that the topic may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council tracked the bill's progress.

**Final FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note: The FULL LIST website link** above provides you with the final status of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging. ***This list will remain posted until the start of the First Regular Session of the 51<sup>st</sup> Legislature or until any special session is called.*** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, you may voice your thoughts ***at any time*** by contacting the:

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may **contact the legislator from your area**.

You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** <http://www.azleg.gov/> and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

Follow up to **H.R. 4846**

## **Senior Financial Empowerment Act of 2012**

Findings:

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) The proportion of the population of the United States age 60 years or older is predicted to drastically increase in the next 30 years as more than 76,000,000 Baby Boomers approach retirement and old age.

(2) It is estimated that between 500,000 and 5,000,000 seniors in the United States are abused, neglected, or exploited each year.

(3) Abuse, neglect, and exploitation of seniors crosses racial, social class, gender, and geographic lines.

(4) Each year millions of individuals in the United States are victims of financial exploitation, including mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud. Many of those who fall prey to such exploitation are seniors.

(5) It is difficult to estimate the prevalence of fraud that targets seniors because cases are severely underreported and national statistics on senior fraud do not exist.

(6) The Federal Bureau of Investigation notes that seniors in the United States are less likely to report fraud because they do not know to whom to report, they are ashamed to have been a victim of fraud, or they do not know that they have been a victim of fraud. In some cases, a senior who has been a victim of fraud may not report the crime because he or she is concerned that relatives may conclude that the senior no longer has the mental capacity to take care of his or her own financial affairs.

(7) According to a 2009 report by the MetLife Mature Market Institute, the annual financial loss by victims of senior financial abuse is estimated to be at least \$2,600,000,000.

(8) Perpetrators of mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud frequently target seniors because seniors are often vulnerable and trusting people.

(9) As victims of such fraudulent schemes, many seniors pay a financial cost, having been robbed of their hard-earned life savings, and frequently pay an emotional cost, losing their self-respect and dignity.

(10) Perpetrators of fraud targeting seniors often operate outside the United States, reaching their victims through the mail, telephone lines, and the Internet.

(11) The Deceptive Mail Prevention and Enforcement Act increased the power of the United States Postal Service to protect consumers against persons who use deceptive mailings, such as those featuring games of chance, sweepstakes, skill contests, and facsimile checks.

(12) During fiscal year 2007, Postal Inspection Service analysts prepared more than 27,000 letters and informative postcards in response to mail fraud complaints. During that same year, postal inspectors investigated 2,909 mail fraud cases in the United States and arrested 1,236 mail fraud suspects, of whom 1,118 were convicted. Postal inspectors also reported 162 telemarketing

fraud investigations, with 83 arrests and 61 convictions resulting from such investigations.

(13) In 2000, the United States Senate Special Committee on Aging reported that consumers lose approximately \$40,000,000,000 each year to telemarketing fraud, and estimated that approximately 10 percent of the Nation's 14,000 telemarketing firms were fraudulent. Some researchers estimate that only one in 10,000 fraud victims reports the crime to the authorities.

(14) A 2003 report by AARP found that, though the crime of telemarketing fraud is grossly underreported among seniors who have been victims of such fraud, seniors who are properly counseled by trained peer volunteers are less likely to fall victim to fraudulent practices.

(15) The Federal Bureau of Investigation reports that the threat of fraud to seniors is growing and changing. This is largely due to the fact that many younger Baby Boomers have considerable computer skills and criminals have responded by targeting seniors through online scams like phishing and email spamming, in addition to traditional telephone calls and mass mailings.

(16) The Internet Crime Complaint Center (hereinafter referred to in this paragraph as 'IC3') is a partnership between the National White Collar Crime Center and the Federal Bureau of Investigation that serves as a vehicle to receive, develop, and refer criminal complaints regarding cybercrime. The IC3 processed more than 219,553 complaints of Internet crime in 2007. From these submissions, the IC3 referred 90,008 complaints of Internet crime, representing a total dollar loss of \$239,090,000, to Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies in the United States for further consideration.

(17) Consumer awareness is the best protection from fraud.

#### Centralized Service-

REQUIREMENT- The Federal Trade Commission, after consultation with the Attorney General, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector for the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, shall—

- periodically disseminate to seniors, and families and caregivers of seniors, general information on mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors, including descriptions of the most common fraud schemes;
- periodically disseminate to seniors, and families and caregivers of seniors, information on methods available to report fraud targeting seniors, such as--

(1) referring complaints to law enforcement agencies, including the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and State attorneys general; and

(2) calling a national toll-free telephone number established by the Federal Trade Commission for reporting mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud;

- in response to a specific request by a party to the Federal Trade Commission inquiring about any history of fraud committed by a particular entity or individual, provide to such party any publically available information on any record of law enforcement action for fraud against such entity or individual--

(1) by the Federal Trade Commission; and

(2) by any other agency that reports such actions to the Federal Trade Commission; and

- maintain a Web site to serve as a resource for information for seniors, and families and caregivers of seniors, regarding mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud targeting seniors.

PROCEDURES AND COMMENCEMENT- The Federal Trade Commission shall establish and implement procedures to carry out the requirements of paragraph (1), including procedures--

- with respect to the frequency and mode of dissemination of information under subparagraphs (A) and (B) of such paragraph;

- that provide for the implementation of the requirements of such paragraph not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act.

Authorization of Appropriations- There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$10,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2013 through 2017.

Grant Program Authorized- Subject to the availability of funds authorized to be appropriated under this section, the Attorney General, after consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the Postmaster General, the Chief Postal Inspector for the United States Postal Inspection Service, and the Director of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, shall establish and administer a competitive grant program to award grants to eligible organizations to carry out mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud prevention education programs for seniors.

- Eligible Organizations- The Attorney General may award grants under this section to State Attorneys General, State and local law enforcement agencies and groups, senior centers, and other local nonprofit organizations that provide assistance to seniors, as determined by the Attorney General.

- Authorization of Appropriations- There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$20,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2013 through 2017.

It is the sense of the Congress that--

- there is a need to increase public awareness of the enormous impact that mail, telemarketing, and Internet fraud have on senior citizens in the United States;

- a week should be designated as 'National Senior Fraud Awareness Week';

- the people of the United States should observe National Senior Fraud Awareness Week with appropriate educational activities; and
- the President is encouraged to issue a proclamation supporting increased public awareness of the impact of, and the need to prevent, fraud committed against seniors.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting:  
<http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include:  
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and  
[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House at:**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

#### **May is Older Americans Month**

**To read the President's Proclamation, go to:**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/the-press-office/2012/05/01/presidential-proclamation-older-americans-month-2012>

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#### **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)**

***National Women's Health Week May 13 – 19, 2012***

<http://www.womenshealth.gov/whw/>

***National High Blood Pressure Awareness & Stroke Awareness Month***



<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/05/20120502a.html>

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**Centers for Disease Control and Prevention - CDC**

***May is Asthma Awareness Month:***

<http://www.cdc.gov/Features/AsthmaAwareness/>

***Arthritis Awareness Month:*** <http://www.cdc.gov/Features/ArthritisAwareness/>

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**National Eye Institute, National Institutes of Health**

***Healthy Vision Month***

<http://www.nei.nih.gov/hvm/>

**American Speech-Language-Hearing Association**

***May is Better Hearing and Speech Month***

<http://www.asha.org/bhsm/>

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**WOW - Wider Opportunities for Women**

***Economic Insecurity and Elder Women:***

<http://www.wowonline.org/documents/OlderAmericansGenderbriefFINAL.pdf>

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**EPA hot weather safety tips**

***Planning for Extreme Heat webpage:***

<http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/factsheets/itdhpfehe/index.htm>

***Beat the Heat flyer:***

[http://www.epa.gov/aging/pdfs/resources/beat\\_the\\_heat\\_2005\\_1006.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/aging/pdfs/resources/beat_the_heat_2005_1006.pdf)

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

## Updated News

**WHAT: 2012 Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference** *Trends, Issues, Solutions*

**WHEN: June 15, 2012**, 8 am to 5:00 pm, Casino Del Sol Convention Center, 5655 W. Valencia Road, Tucson AZ 85757

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/BHOAConfBrochure2012.pdf>

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### **Mark your calendar for later this summer and fall**

**WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association (ASCA) Annual Conference**

**WHEN: Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Prescott Resort.**

**For more information, visit the ASCA website: [www.arizonaseniors.net](http://www.arizonaseniors.net)**

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Did you know? **Senior Connections** (Prescott, AZ) offers a Speaker's Bureau; for more information, go to:

<http://www.seniorconnection.us/SpeakersBureau.html>

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Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Now that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the 50<sup>th</sup> Legislature has adjourned, it is our intent to offer our email news on a monthly basis.**

**Thank you! ~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

(We appreciate your patience with the newsletter's formatting issues.)



## Welcome to the Legislative Update for June 4, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

*NOTE: Between legislative sessions, the **Legislative Update** is provided monthly with a federal focus.*

### Fiscal News

From the **JLBC - Monthly Fiscal Highlights May 2012**

"In total, year-to-date General Fund collections are \$69.5 million above the January forecast."

To review the entire report, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-may-12.pdf>.

The **JLBC Budget Proposal Summary** is available at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/043012budget.pdf>.

**Tracking Arizona's Recovery May2012:** (5/18/2012) is posted at:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0512.pdf>.

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If you're interested in viewing the bills tracked this past session by the Council, a link to the *Legislative Update* web page is provided below. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition. It does mean** that the topic may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

**Final FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

**Note:** Information found on the tracking list is made available as a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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With August primaries ahead, a list of 2012 Arizona Statewide and Legislative Candidate List is posted on the *Arizona Capitol Times* at:

<http://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2012/05/31/2012-arizona-statewide-legislative-candidate-campaigns/>.

Congressional candidates are posted at:

<http://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2012/05/31/2012-arizona-congressional-candidate-campaigns/>.

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.4979**

#### **End Abuse in Later Life Act of 2012**

Introduced on 4/27/2012 by Representative Tammy Baldwin (WI-2), H.R.4979:

Amends the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 to authorize appropriations for and revise provisions governing the grant program to end abuse of individuals age 50 and over that is authorized to be conducted by the Attorney General through the Director of the Office of Violence Against Women.

Makes currently listed activities mandatory for grant recipients and sets forth as additional permissible activities:

- (1) providing training programs to assist attorneys, health care providers, faith-based leaders, or other community-based organizations in recognizing and addressing instances of such abuse; and
- (2) conducting outreach activities and public awareness campaigns to ensure that abuse victims receive appropriate assistance.

Includes as eligible entities:

- (1) a population-specific organization with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals over 50 years of age;
- (2) a victim service provider with demonstrated experience in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; or
- (3) a state, tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition.

Requires each eligible entity to demonstrate that it is a part of a multidisciplinary partnership that includes a law enforcement agency, a prosecutor's office, a victim service provider, and a nonprofit program or government agency with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals in later life.

Directs the Attorney General to give priority to proposals providing population-specific services to racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations.

Amends the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 to replace the term "elder law" with "abuse in later life."

On 5/18/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

#### **H.CON.RES.120**

Supporting the goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025, as articulated in the draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Introduced on 4/24/2012 by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-7),

Expresses support for: (1) the groundbreaking national goal of preventing and treating Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025 and the other goals of the draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, and (2) increased assistance for people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers and families.

Finds that basic science, medical research, and therapy development are necessary for reaching that goal and identifying a definitive cure.

Calls for further public awareness and understanding of Alzheimer's.

Encourages early diagnosis and access to high-quality care for people with Alzheimer's.

4/26/2012 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

#### **Related legislation: S.RES.434**

#### **H.R.4114**

#### **Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012**

UPDATE: Introduced on 2/29/2012 by Representative Jon Runyan (NJ-3)

H.R.4114 was placed on the Union Calendar on 5/18/2012.

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**You can contact the White House at:** <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

#### **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15th**

Administration on Aging (AoA) **National Center on Elder Abuse** offers resources and ideas on building awareness of elder abuse. For more information, go to:  
[http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/ncearoot/Main\\_Site/About/Initiatives/Take\\_A\\_Stand.aspx](http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/ncearoot/Main_Site/About/Initiatives/Take_A_Stand.aspx).

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From **Administration for Community Living**

***Tuesday, May 29, 2012 ACL News & Information:***

*Bridging Aging and Developmental Disabilities Service Networks Report*

Produced by the Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging Aging and Developmental Disabilities Service Networks, identifies policy and service delivery issues pertaining to older adults with developmental disabilities and their families and recommends opportunities to enhance collaboration among the aging, disability and long-term care networks. Key policy initiatives addressed include the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, the Lifespan Respite Act, the National Alzheimer's Project Act, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The report is available at:  
[http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/add/bridgingreport\\_3\\_15\\_2012.pdf](http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/add/bridgingreport_3_15_2012.pdf).

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## **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)**

**The National Alzheimer's Plan** was released on May 15<sup>th</sup>; a link to the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease is provided here:

[http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatlPlan.shtml#goal3?utm\\_source=PD+5.16.12&utm\\_campaign=pd.5.16&utm\\_medium=email](http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatlPlan.shtml#goal3?utm_source=PD+5.16.12&utm_campaign=pd.5.16&utm_medium=email).

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## **U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)**

### **Consumer Fact Sheet**

<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf11/fallsprevention/fallsprevfact.pdf>

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## **National Council on Aging – NCOA**

**Hearing Loss is a Family Affair** brochure is posted at:

<http://www.ncoa.org/assets/files/pdf/NCOA-Hearing-Loss-Brch-5.pdf>

Also, in case you missed this resource, the **Home Equity Advisor** tool is provided here:  
<http://www.homeequityadvisor.org/>.

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One more time based on current weather conditions...

### **EPA hot weather safety tips**

**Planning for Extreme Heat** webpage:

<http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/factsheets/itdhpfhe/index.htm>

**Beat the Heat** flyer:

[http://www.epa.gov/aging/pdfs/resources/beat\\_the\\_heat\\_2005\\_1006.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/aging/pdfs/resources/beat_the_heat_2005_1006.pdf)

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: 2012 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Event in Maricopa County**



**WHEN: Friday, June 15, 2012**, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, Boy Scouts of America, 2969 North Greenfield Rd., Phoenix, AZ

**For more information:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/newsletter/2012/ElderAbuseDay2012Flyer.pdf>

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## **Updated News**

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**WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association (ASCA) Annual Conference**

**WHEN: Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, Prescott Resort**

**For more information**, visit the ASCA website: [www.arizonaseniors.net](http://www.arizonaseniors.net) and look for the **events** tab.

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## **From AHCCCS**

The AHCCCS Administration announced it has submitted the Dual Integration Demonstration proposal to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review. After considering the feedback received through the statewide stakeholder engagement process, the submitted proposal reflects AHCCCS' most current design. However, the proposal remains subject to further revision through continued stakeholder feedback and negotiations with CMS.

On **Friday, June 8, 2012**, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm, AHCCCS will conduct a public meeting to review the submitted proposal and respond to questions. The final proposal, the agenda for the public meeting and other information are available on the AHCCCS website at:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.aspx?ID=reporting#dual>.

Additional information, including public comments received on the draft proposal, is also available on the Duals website, at

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/integration/Duals.aspx>.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted to CMS through July 1, 2012. Send comments **online** at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-and-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination-Office/FinancialModelstoSupportStatesEffortsInCareCoordination.html> or via **e-mail** at [AZ-MedicareMedicaidCoordination@cms.hhs.gov](mailto:AZ-MedicareMedicaidCoordination@cms.hhs.gov).

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**Now that the Legislature has adjourned, it is our intent to offer our email news on a monthly basis.**

**Thank you! Have a safe & enjoyable summer!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for July 9, 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Between sessions, it is our intent to offer our email news on a monthly basis.

### Fiscal News

*JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights June 2012 reports:*

"In total, year-to-date General Fund collections through May are \$60.2 million above the budget forecast."

The entire report is linked [here](#).

The latest [Tracking Arizona's Recovery June 2012](#) is posted at the legislature's website.

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2012 General Election ballot information

Arizona Legislative Council - [Ballot Measures Analyses](#)

### [Arizona Secretary of State](#)

The JLBC report, *Fiscal Impact Analysis of November 2012 Ballot Propositions* can be found [here](#).

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Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, *you may voice your thoughts at any time* by contacting the:

Governor's Office of Constituent Services at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or you may contact the legislator from your area.

You can locate your legislator by going to the Arizona State Legislature [website](#) and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the

instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

District maps are posted at: <http://azredistricting.org/Maps/Final-Maps/default.asp>

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

On June 29<sup>th</sup>, Congress passed the reauthorization bill for surface transportation programs.

Included in the legislation is the formal designation of Interstate 11 between Phoenix and Las Vegas expanding the eligibility for federal funding for planning and construction along the corridor. The Governor's press release related to Interstate 11 is provided [here](#).

## **S.3294**

### **SAVE Elders Act of 2012**

S.3294 was introduced on June 14, 2012 by Senator Scott P. Brown (MA).

Stop Abuse, Violence, and Exploitation of Elders Act of 2012 or SAVE Elders Act of 2012

- Amends the Victims of Crime Act of 1984.
- Defines elder abuse as "abuse, exploitation or neglect of an individual who is age 65 or older and lawfully present in the United States.
- Makes grants to states to support eligible crime victim assistance programs.
- Establishes process for periodic investigations, audits and reviews of grants.

On 6/14/2012, S.3294 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## **S.RES.492**

Introduced on 6/12/2012 by Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)

Designates June 15, 2012, as **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day**.

Recognizes professionals and agencies for their efforts to advance awareness of elder abuse.

Encourages members of the public and professionals who work with older adults to act as catalysts to promote awareness and long-term prevention of elder abuse by reaching out to local adult protective services agencies and by learning to recognize, report, and respond to elder abuse.

On 6/12/2012, S.RES.492 was passed/agreed to in Senate, submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

### **S.RES.453**

Introduced on 5/10/2012 by Senator Tom Harkin (IA)

A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate that supporting seniors and individuals with disabilities is an important responsibility of the United States, and that a comprehensive approach to expanding and supporting a strong home care workforce and making long-term services and supports affordable and accessible in communities is necessary to uphold the right of seniors and individuals with disabilities in the United States to a dignified quality of life.

On 5/10/2012, the resolution was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### **H.R.5972**

#### **Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013**

Introduced on 6/20/2012 by Representative Tom Latham (IA-4)

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 - Department of Transportation Appropriations Act, 2013 – makes appropriations for FY2013 to the Department of Transportation (DOT).

Department of Housing and Urban Development Appropriations Act, 2013 –

makes appropriations for FY2013 to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Makes appropriations for FY2013 to:

- (1) the Access Board,
- (2) the Federal Maritime Commission (FMC),
- (3) the Office of Inspector General for the National Railroad Passenger Corporation (Amtrak),
- (4) the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB),
- (5) the Neighborhood Reinvestment Corporation, and
- (6) the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Specifies certain uses and limits on or prohibitions against the use of funds appropriated by this Act.

On 6/29/2012, H.R.5974 was received in the Senate, read twice and placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 440.

Related bills: H.RES.697, S.2322

**S.3295**

**Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013**

Introduced on 6/14/2012 by Senator Tom Harkin (IA)  
Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2013 - Department of Labor Appropriations Act, 2013 - makes appropriations for FY2013 to the Department of Labor (DOL).

Department of Health and Human Services Appropriations Act, 2013 - makes appropriations for FY2013 to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS).

Department of Education Appropriations Act, 2013 - makes appropriations for FY2013 to the Department Education.

Makes appropriations for FY2013 to:

- (1) the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled,
- (2) the Corporation for National and Community Service,
- (3) the Corporation for Public Broadcasting,
- (4) the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service (FMCS),
- (5) the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission,
- (6) the Institute of Museum and Library Services,
- (7) Medicaid and SCHIP Payment and Access Commission,
- (8) the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission;
- (9) the National Council on Disability,
- (10) the National Health Care Workforce Commission,
- (11) the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB),
- (12) the National Mediation Board,
- (13) the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission,

(14) the Railroad Retirement Board, and

(15) the Social Security Administration (SSA).

Specifies certain uses and limits on or prohibitions against the use of funds appropriated by this Act.

On 6/14/2012, Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 428.

Related bills: H.R.3070, S.1599

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ALSO -  
Kaiser Family Foundation

### **[A Guide to the Supreme Court's Affordable Care Act Decision July 2012](#)**

From the JLBC:

### **[Possible Impacts of Supreme Court Ruling on Arizona Medicaid Costs](#)**

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting:  
<http://www.house.gov/> for the House or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the Senate. Links to the membership lists include:  
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the House and  
[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the Senate.

You can contact the White House at:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

Social Security [Information](#) and [Press Release](#)

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Latest information on the National Alzheimer's Plan can be found at:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#Jul2012Mtg>.

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From the National Institutes of Health

[NIHSeniorHealth](#)

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Creation of the Administration for Community Living

The American society on Aging is hosting a webinar *Recent Changes at the Administration on Aging: Impact on Aging and Disability Networks* that features Kathy Greenlee, Administrator of the Administration for Community Living and Assistant Secretary for Aging.

When: Tuesday, July 17, 2012 11:00 am to 12:00 pm.

Register online at [Grantmakers in Aging](#).

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The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) statement regarding the signing of S. 3187, the *Food and Drug Administration Safety and Innovation Act* is provided [here](#).

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From *ACL News & Info* July 9, 2012 issue

*Employment for People with Disabilities: Little Is Known about the Effectiveness of Fragmented and Overlapping Programs*

<http://www.gao.gov/assets/600/592074.pdf>

Source: US Government Accountability Office, GAO Report to Congressional Committees

Date: June 2012

*Financial Capacity in an Aging Society*

<http://www.asaging.org/blog/financial-capacity-aging-society-0>

Source: American Society on Aging



Date: July 2, 2012

*Parity for Patriots: The Mental Health Needs of Military Personnel, Veterans and Their Families*

[http://www.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Inform\\_Yourself/About\\_Public\\_Policy/Policy\\_Reports/ParityforPatriots.pdf](http://www.nami.org/Content/NavigationMenu/Inform_Yourself/About_Public_Policy/Policy_Reports/ParityforPatriots.pdf)

Source: National Alliance of Mental Illness

Date: June 2012

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USA.gov - [Help for Difficult Financial Times](#)

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The Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College

*Aging Today: Family Caregiving & the Older Worker* - [Fact Sheet](#)

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U.S. Department of Labor and U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs

[New Benefits for Unemployed Veterans](#)

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

### **WHAT: Warning Signs of Senior Suicide**

**WHEN: Saturday, July 21, 10:30 to 11:30 am**, Prescott Christian Church, 501 Senator Highway, Prescott, AZ.

**For more information:** please contact Debbie Stewart at [Debbie@SeniorConnection.us](mailto:Debbie@SeniorConnection.us) or (928) 778-3747 or visit <http://www.seniorconnection.us/SpeakersBureau.html>

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### **WHAT: Valley Center of the Deaf American Sign Language Classes**

**WHEN: Six Weeks starting on July 24<sup>th</sup> through August 30<sup>th</sup>**, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 6 pm to 8 pm, Disability Empowerment Center, 5025 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ

The class flyer is provided [here](#).

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**WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association (ASCA) Annual Conference**

**WHEN: Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup>**, Prescott Resort,  
Prescott, AZ.

The conference flyer with more information is provided [here](#).

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**WHAT: NACOG Area Agency on Aging 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Elder Issues  
Conference *Creating Caring Communities: Hope for the Challenges  
Ahead***

**WHEN: October 4, 2012**, High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff AZ

More information is provided [here](#).

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**Arizona Living Well Institute** has announced that scholarships are available  
for the AZ Chronic Disease Self-Management Program (CDSMP) Master  
Training Updates. For more information, go to their website [announcement](#).

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Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the ***Legislative Updates*** are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for  
consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov).  
Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging  
service advocates.

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**Enjoy the rest of your summer!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for July 31, 2012

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Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer our email news on a *monthly* basis.

### Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee:**

The ***JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights July 2012 [report](#)*** and the ***[Tracking Arizona's Recovery July 2012](#)*** are posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website.

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### Voter Information and Resources

The **Arizona Secretary of State [web page](#)**

The **Arizona Prosperity Project [webpage](#)**

**Approval of ballot language** is posted at:

**[http://www.azsos.gov/election/2012/General/2012\\_Ballot\\_Language\\_Approval.pdf](http://www.azsos.gov/election/2012/General/2012_Ballot_Language_Approval.pdf)**

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee** report, ***Fiscal Impact Analysis of November 2012 Ballot Propositions*** is provided **[here](#)**.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** by contacting the:

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**District maps** are posted [here](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.5861**

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant pilot program to provide housing to elderly homeless veterans.

Introduced on May 30, 2012 by Representative Bob Filner (CA-51)

A bill to direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant pilot program to provide housing to elderly homeless veterans.

Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development shall jointly establish a pilot program to award grants to nonprofit organizations to provide homeless veterans with non-transitional housing.

Use of Grant

A nonprofit organization may use a grant awarded under this section to--

- purchase real property within a single geographical area to be used to provide up to 200 eligible homeless veterans with non-transitional housing; and
- refurbish or renovate such property.

## Eligible Homeless Veterans

A homeless veteran is eligible for housing provided pursuant to this section if the Secretary of Veterans Affairs determines that the homeless veteran--

- has been continuously homeless for a year or more; or during the last three years, had at least four separate, distinct, and sustained periods during which the veteran lived or resided on the streets, in an emergency shelter for homeless persons, or a combination of both;

- has a condition that limits the veteran's ability to work or perform activities of daily living, including conditions related to a diagnosable substance abuse disorder; a serious mental illness; a developmental disability; or

a chronic physical illness or disability; and

- has attained the age of 55.

On 7/11/2012, referred to the Subcommittee on Insurance, Housing and Community Opportunity.

## **H.R.5909**

### **Comprehensive Dental Reform Act of 2012**

Introduced on 6/7/2012 by Representative Elijah E. Cummings (MD-7)

Comprehensive Dental Reform Act of 2012 - Amends titles XVIII (Medicare) and XIX (Medicaid) of the Social Security Act to cover dental services.

Increases the federal medical assistance percentage (FMAP) for funding under Medicaid for dental services.

Directs the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award grants to states and eligibility entities to develop certain case management programs that: (1) identify eligible individuals in need of dental services, with a particular focus on pregnant women, individuals with disabilities, and older adults, and provide them with information regarding dental providers in proximity to their residence; (2) recruit licensed dental providers and coordinate their voluntary provision of medically recommended dental services at no charge; (3) provide community-level oral health education; and (4) identify and coordinate transportation necessary to overcome mobility impairments and transportation barriers.

**Title II: Public Health Programs** - Amends the Public Health Service Act to establish, revise, and extend funding for grant programs for: (1) educating nondental medical and other professionals about oral health care;

(2) providing dental services in hospital emergency rooms or in community settings; (3) providing scholarships and education loans for dental therapists and oral health professional students; (4) providing comprehensive oral health services to low-income individuals and individuals in underserved areas; (5) building, operating, or expanding dental clinics in schools; (6) funding research by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to prevent and manage oral health diseases; and (7) providing rural health clinics with mobile and portable, comprehensive dental services and outreach for senior-care facilities and facilities that provide federal health care and nutrition benefits for women and children.

**Title III: Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense Matters** - Removes restrictions on the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs (VA) to provide dental care to veterans (thereby requiring such care on the same basis as other VA-provided medical care and services). Authorizes such Secretary to carry out a demonstration program to train and employ alternative dental health care providers (providers) in order to increase access to dental health care services (dental services) for veterans in rural and other underserved communities.

Authorizes the Secretary of Defense (DOD) to carry out a similar demonstration program to train and employ such providers in order to increase access to dental services for members of the Armed Forces and their dependents who lack ready access to such services.

**Title IV: Federal Bureau of Prisons** - Authorizes the Director of the Bureau of Prisons to carry out a demonstration program to establish programs to train and employ alternative dental health care providers to increase access to dental health services for prisoners within the custody of the Bureau of Prisons.

Allows dental services provided under the demonstration program to be administered by alternative dental health care providers and any other dental care providers who are licensed to provide clinical care, through telehealth-enabled collaboration and supervision.

**Title V: Indian Health Service** - Authorizes the Secretary of HHS, through the Indian Health Service, to carry out a demonstration program to establish programs to train and employ alternative dental health care providers to help eliminate oral health disparities and increase access to dental services through health programs operated by the Indian Health Service, Indian tribes, tribal organizations, and Urban Indian organizations.

Allows dental services provided under the demonstration program to be administered by alternative dental health care providers and any other dental care providers who are licensed to provide clinical care, through telehealth-enabled collaboration and supervision.

**Title VI: Reports to Congress** - Directs the Secretary of HHS, by October 1, 2016, to submit a report that provides a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis regarding the expansion of coverage for dental services pursuant

to this Act, including whether the provision of such services resulted in a reduction in total health care costs for individuals under the Medicare and Medicaid programs.

Directs the Comptroller General (GAO): (1) by October 1, 2015, to submit a report that provides a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the implementation and utilization of the expanded coverage for dental services under this Act for individuals enrolled in Medicare and Medicaid, and (2) by October 1, 2016, to submit a report that provides a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of the demonstration programs authorized by this Act for the training and employment of alternative dental health care providers.

**Title VII: Funding** - Amends the Internal Revenue Code to impose an 0.025% excise tax on the purchase of a security: (1) if such purchase occurs on a trading facility located in the United States, or (2) the purchaser or seller is a U.S. person.

Defines "security" to include: (1) stocks, partnership interests, notes, bonds, debentures, or other evidences of indebtedness; and (2) interests in a derivative financial instrument (i.e., any option, forward contract, futures contract, notional principal contract, or any similar financial instrument).

Exempts from such tax: (1) initial issues of securities; (2) any note, bond, debenture, or other evidence of indebtedness which has a fixed maturity of not more than 100 days; and (3) securities traded pursuant to certain lending arrangements.

On 6/18/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Health.

*Related bills:* **H.R.3313, S.1787, S.3272**

### **H.R.5999** **Housing for Blinded Veterans Act**

Introduced on 6/21/2012 by Representative Bruce L. Braley, (IA-1)

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide specially adapted housing assistance to blind veterans.

On 7/6/2012, referred to the Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity.

### **H.R.6142** **Assuring Medicare Stability and Access for Seniors Act of 2012**

Introduced on 7/18/2012 by Representative Michael C. Burgess (TX-26)

A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to extend Medicare physician payment rates for 1 year.

On 7/18/2012, referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Update on previously reported legislation:

**S.1744**

**Guardian Accountability and Senior Protection Act**

Introduced on 10/20/2011 by Senator Amy Klobuchar (MN)

Guardian Accountability and Senior Protection Act

Amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize the Assistant Secretary of Aging to make grants to and enter into contracts with states and other specified public and private recipients for: (1) assessing the fairness, effectiveness, timeliness, and accessibility of adult guardianship and conservatorship proceedings; (2) implementing necessary changes as a result of the assessments; and (3) collecting necessary data regarding those proceedings and the impact of the necessary changes.

Requires the Assistant Secretary of Aging to make grants to enable the highest court of a state to: (1) conduct its own assessments of the role, responsibilities, and effectiveness of state courts in carrying out state laws requiring proceedings with respect to guardianship and conservatorship; and (2) implement necessary changes in light of them.

Directs the Attorney General to establish a pilot program to identify efficient, effective, and economical procedures for state courts to conduct background checks on prospective guardians and conservators.

Authorizes the State Justice Institute to award grants to eligible highest state courts to assist in improving conservator monitoring efforts through electronic filing.

On 7/12/2012, placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 450.

ALSO: **U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations** press release of July 17, 2012 that includes a change in Administration on Aging funding is provided [here](#).

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

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**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

From the **Kaiser Health News Capsules The KHN Blog:**

***Report: Nation Isn't Ready to Meet Elderly Patients' Mental Health Care Needs***

<http://capsules.kaiserhealthnews.org/index.php/2012/07/report-nation-isn't-ready-to-meet-elderly-patients-mental-health-care-needs/>

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**Latest information on the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* can be found [here](#).**

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**Social Security** articles are provided [here](#).

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**From *ACL News & Info* July 16, 2012 issue**

## **Research and Demonstration Program to Improve Coordinated Transportation Systems for People with Disabilities and Older Adults**

The goal of this 5 year project is to identify proven models and approaches that can be used by states and communities across the country to empower people with disabilities and older adults to be actively involved in the design and implementation of coordinated transportation systems in ways that successfully make those systems responsive to the needs of these populations. Applicants seeking funding under this announcement may find it helpful to subcontract out some of the activities undertaken to implement this project to one or more national organizations with a successful track record and demonstrated experience in empowering people with disabilities and older adults to improve systems, such as making transportation systems responsive to meet the needs of people with disabilities and older adults.

The application deadline is August 14, 2012.

To learn more about this funding opportunity and to download the application, go to

<http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Grants/Funding/docs/2012/FY2012>

[Transportation\\_FOA.pdf](#) or [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). The Funding Opportunity Number: HHS-2012-ACL-TC-1216.

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From the **National Council on Aging**

**8 Myths about Reverse Mortgages** is linked [here](#).

**Flu + You** information is provided [here](#).

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From the **U.S. Census Bureau**

**Older Populations to Exceed Children in Most World Regions by 2050, Census Bureau Reports** is found [here](#).

**[July 25, 2012](#) Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act**

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**AARP Public Policy Institute *Assessing Family Caregiver Needs: Policy & Practice Considerations*** can be found [here](#).

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Report from the **Milken Institute:**

[Best Cities for Successful Aging](#)

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#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**Tomorrow, August 1<sup>st</sup>** marks the launch of the **Caregiver Resource Line (CRL)**. More information is provided [here](#).

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**WHAT: Veteran's Mental Health Project**, Continuing education for providing care to service members, veterans & their families

**WHEN: Wednesday, August 29, 2012**, 0900 - 1600 (9:00 am to 4:00 pm)

Windemere Hotel, Sierra Vista, AZ

More information is provided at <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/MilVetTrainingSierraVista.pdf>.

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**WHAT: Veterans with Hearing Loss - Workshop**; hosted by Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

**WHEN: September 4, 2012; 0900 - 1145 Hours**, 100 N. 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 104, Phoenix, AZ 85007

For more information, go to: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/HearingLossVeteransFlyerInviteProposalFinal.pdf>

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**WHAT: NACOG Area Agency on Aging 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Elder Issues Conference *Creating Caring Communities: Hope for the Challenges Ahead***

**WHEN: October 4, 2012, High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff AZ**

More information is provided [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of The National Adult Protective Services Association *Ending Adult Abuse: On the Horizon?* Elder Financial Exploitation Summit**

**WHEN: Conference - October 16 - 18; Summit - October 19<sup>th</sup>, Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort, Phoenix, Arizona**

More information is provided [here](#).

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**From *The Senior Connection*** (Prescott, Arizona)

WHAT: WHAT IS A FIDUCIARY & WHY WOULD I NEED ONE?

WHEN: Thursday, August 9, 10 to 11 a.m., American Lutheran Church, 1085 Scott Drive, Prescott. (The presentation is free and open to the public. RSVPs appreciated but not required.)

For more information, contact Debbie Stewart at [Debbie@SeniorConnection.us](mailto:Debbie@SeniorConnection.us) or (928) 778-3747

View the July 2012 issue of ***The Caregiver Connection*** [here](#).

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Just in case you're interested

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<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Enjoy the remaining days of summer!**

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Between legislative sessions, we strive to offer our email news on a *monthly* basis.

### State Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee:**

The ***JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights August 2012*** [report](#) and the [Tracking Arizona's Recovery September 2012](#) are posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website.

According to the Monthly Fiscal Highlights report, "July General Fund collections were 16.2 million above the enacted May budget forecast."

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### Voter Information and Resources

The **Arizona State Legislature** ballot measure analyses [page](#)

The **Arizona Secretary of State** [web page](#)

The **Arizona Prosperity Project** [ballot page](#) and [primary election results](#)

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### Interim Committees

If you're interested in following the work of the Interim Committees, the agendas are posted at: <http://www.azleg.gov/InterimCommittees.asp>.

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**District maps** are posted [here](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **S.3465**

#### **Care Coordination for Older Americans Act of 2012**

Introduced on 8/1/2012 by Senator John F. Kerry, (MA) the bill amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to define care coordination, include care coordination as a fully restorative service, and detail the care coordination functions of the Assistant Secretary, and for other purposes.

On 8/1/2012, the bill was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

### **S3489**

#### **Good Neighbor Social Security Office and Community Protection Act of 2012**

Introduced on 8/2/2012 by Senator Scot P. Brown (MA), the bill's intent is to protect senior citizens, disabled persons, veterans, and other beneficiaries and customers of the Social Security Administration by reforming the process for closure of field offices.

On 8/2/2012, referred to Committee on Finance.

### **S.3490**

#### **SAVE Elders Act of 2012**

Introduced on 8/2/2012 by Senator Scott P. Brown, (MA)

Stop Abuse, Violence, and Exploitation of Elders Act of 2012 or the SAVE Elders Act of 2012 - Amends the Victims of Crime Act of 1984 to designate specified funds from the Crime Victims Fund for grants for compensation and assistance to victims of elder abuse.

Defines "elder abuse" under that Act: (1) to mean the abuse, exploitation, or neglect of an individual who is age 65 or older and lawfully present in the United States; and (2) with respect to a state that receives a grant, to include any other conduct that is defined as such under the laws of the state.

Requires the Director of the Office of Victims of Crime to use such funds to make grants to states to support: (1) eligible crime victim assistance programs that provide assistance to victims of elder abuse; and (2) programs that improve the investigation, handling, and prosecution of cases of elder abuse.

Apportions specified percentages of grant amounts among the states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Northern Mariana Islands and requires the amounts remaining after such apportionment to be distributed among the states based on:

(1) the population of individuals age 65 or older in a state relative to the population of such individuals in all states,

(2) the population of individuals age 65 or older in a state in relation to the population of the state, and

(3) the overall rate of crime in a state.

On 8/2/2012, S.3490 was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Related bills: S.3294

### **S.3536**

#### **VOW to Hire Heroes Extension Act of 2012**

Introduced on 9/12/2012 by Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT), the bill's intent is to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the work opportunity credit for hiring veterans, and for other purposes.

On 9/12/2012, S.3536 was referred to the Committee on Finance.

### **S.RES.553**

#### **A resolution designating September 22, 2012, as "National Falls Prevention Awareness Day" to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults.**

Introduced on 9/12/2012 by Senator Herb Kohl (WI), S.RES.284 passed/agreed to in Senate. Status: Submitted in the Senate, considered, and agreed to without amendment and with a preamble by Unanimous Consent.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.



## Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!

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<http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include:  
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and  
[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House at:**  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

\*\*\*\*\*

## OTHER NEWS

From the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services** - information about the **Aging & Disabilities Resource Centers/ADRCs** options counselors

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/09/20120911c.html>

From the **Administration for Community Living**

Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> marked the 2012 National Suicide Prevention Day and the release of the updated National Strategy for Suicide Prevention.

\*\*\*\*\*

From the **Kaiser Family Foundation**  
**Medicare Policy, September 10, 2012**

*Repealing the Affordable Care Act – Implications for Medicare Spending and Beneficiaries* is provided [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**Latest information on the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* can be found [here](#).**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Transportation Information

The U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration once again selected Easter Seals, Inc. and the National Association of Area Agencies

on Aging (n4a) to administer the National Center on Senior Transportation (NCST) effective July 1, 2012. More information can be found [here](#).

From the **Federal Transit Administration, *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century/*MAP-21** is provided [here](#).

**Fact Sheet on Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Section 5310** is provided [here](#).

**More transportation news...**

**National Highway Safety Traffic Administration – 2010 data**

<http://www-nrd.nhtsa.dot.gov/Pubs/811640.pdf>

**National Institutes of Health – information for older drivers**

<http://www.nih.gov/news/health/aug2012/nia-21.htm>

**Reconnecting America's Policy Brief on Locating Affordable Housing Near Transit** can be found [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

From the **National Council on Aging, *Fall Prevention*** [Fact Sheet](#)

**Flu + You** information is provided [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

From **USA.gov**

Up to 9 million Americans have their identities stolen each year. Although nothing can guarantee that you won't become a victim, there are things you can do to [help minimize your risk](#), including:

- Guarding your Social Security number.
- Shredding documents with personal information before disposing of them.
- Using intricate passwords.
- Verifying a source before sharing any personal information.
- Being on the lookout for online scammers and thieves.
- Keeping your purse, wallet, and personal information secure.

The best way to detect identity theft is to monitor your accounts and bank statements each month and [check your credit report](#) regularly. Learn more about [how to detect identity theft](#).

If you discover that you are a victim of identity theft, [take steps to respond and recover](#) as soon as possible. You can find [forms, sample letters, and other tools](#) from the Federal Trade Commission.

\*\*\*\*\*

September is **National Preparedness Month**. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) leads this annual effort through its [Ready Campaign](#), in partnership with [Citizen Corps](#) and The Ad Council.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition National Falls Prevention Awareness Day**

**WHEN: Friday, September 21, 2012**, 9:30 to 11:30 am, St. Joseph's Hospital and Medical Center, Sonntag Pavilion and Marley Lobby, 350 W. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, Arizona

More information is provided at:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZFallPreventionFlyer\\_ENG.PDF](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZFallPreventionFlyer_ENG.PDF)

Spanish language flyer is linked [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Arizona Attorney General and Armed Forces Shred-A-Thon**

**WHEN: September 22, 2012**, 7:30 am to 11:00 am, National Guard, 5636 E. McDowell Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85008. Documents can be dropped off at six recruiting stations for shredding from September 17 to 21<sup>st</sup>.

For more information including locations, go to:

[http://www.azag.gov/press\\_releases/sept/2012/ShredathonFlyer.pdf](http://www.azag.gov/press_releases/sept/2012/ShredathonFlyer.pdf)

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: NACOG Area Agency on Aging 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Elder Issues Conference *Creating Caring Communities: Hope for the Challenges Ahead***

**WHEN: October 4, 2012, High Country Conference Center, Flagstaff AZ**

More information is provided [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Pima Council on Aging safeTALK; suicide alertness for everyone**

**WHEN: Thursday, October 4, 2012**, 9 am to 12:00 noon, Pima Council on Aging, 8467 E. Broadway Blvd, Tucson AZ 85710

For more information, go to:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SafeTALKRegistration\\_100412.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SafeTALKRegistration_100412.pdf).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference of The National Adult Protective Services Association** *Ending Adult Abuse: On the Horizon?* Elder Financial Exploitation Summit

**WHEN: Conference - October 16 – 18; Summit - October 19<sup>th</sup>**, Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort, Phoenix, Arizona

More information is provided [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: Arizona Geriatrics Society 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Symposium**

**WHEN: October 25 – 27, 2012**, Wild Horse Pass Hotel and Conference Center, Chandler Arizona

For more information, see the website page linked [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Northern Arizona Resources**

You can view the September 2012 issue of *The Caregiver Connection* [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Enjoy the fall season!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for October 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer our email news on a *monthly* basis.

### State Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee:**

The **JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights [September 2012 report](#)** and the **[Tracking Arizona's Recovery](#)** September 2012 are posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website.

According to the September Monthly Fiscal Highlights report, "August General Fund Collections were \$(30.2) million below the enacted May budget forecast. Year-to-date revenues are 2.9% higher than last year and are \$(13.2) million below the budget forecast."

\*\*\*\*\*

### Election Day – November 6<sup>th</sup>

Voter Information and Resources

**Arizona State Legislature** *ballot measure analyses* [page](#)

**Arizona Secretary of State** - *elections* [web page](#)

**Arizona Prosperity Project** - *candidates* [page](#)

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### Legislature's Interim Committees

If you're interested in following the work of the Interim Committees between sessions, the agendas are posted at: <http://www.azleg.gov/InterimCommittees.asp>.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** by contacting the:

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Locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature [website](#)** and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* **or** by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

**Not sure about your district? District maps** are posted [here](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

Congress recessed until after the November election. Before doing so, they passed a six-month continuing resolution in lieu of a federal budget. The continuing resolution provides the federal government with the ability to continue operating at roughly the same current spending levels until 3/28/2013.

### **S.3592**

#### **Locally Grown Foods for Older American Act**

Introduced on September 20, 2012 by Senator Michael F. Bennet (CO)

Intent: to amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to encourage the use of locally grown food in meal programs.

On 9/20/2012, S.3592 was referred to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

### **S.3593**

#### **Improving Services and Activities for Diverse Elders Act**

Introduced on September 20, 2012 by Senator Michael F. Bennet (CO)

Intent: To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to strengthen programming, services, and outreach for diverse elders, and for other purposes.

Objective: Section 101(8) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3001(8)) is amended by inserting 'and supports, offered in a culturally and linguistically competent manner' after 'community services.'

Changes made to Section 306(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3026(a)) related to Area Plans and Section 307(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)) related to State Plans.

On 9/20/2012, referred to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Related Bills: S.3562

### **S.3598**

#### **Robert Matava Exploitation Protection for Elder Adults Act of 2012**

Introduced on 9/20/2012 by Senator Richard Blumenthal (CT)

Intent: To protect elder adults from exploitation and financial crime, to prevent elder adult abuse and financial exploitation, and to promote safety for elder adults.

S.3598 includes:

- Enhanced penalty for telemarketing and email-marketing fraud directed at elders.
- Data collection.
- Model States laws and practices.
- Civil protection and criminal prosecution.
- Interstate agreements and compacts.
- Recommendations on interstate communication.
- GAO report to assess cost of elder abuse on Federal programs.

On 9/20/2012, S.3598 was referred to Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

Related Bills: S.462

## **S.3604**

### **Improving Dementia Care Treatment for Older Adults Act of 2012**

Introduced on 9/20/2012 by Senator Herb Kohl (WI)

Intent: to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for the implementation of prescriber education programs and to establish requirements relating to the administration of antipsychotics to residents of skilled nursing facilities and nursing facilities under the Medicare and Medicaid programs, and for other purposes.

On 9/20/12, S3604 was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

## **S.3621**

### **Seniors' Financial Bill of Rights Act**

Introduced on 9/21/2012 by Senator Joe Manchin III (WV)

Intent: To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to provide for a Seniors' Financial Bill of Rights, and for other purposes.

Section 307(a) of the Older Americans Act of 1965 (42 U.S.C. 3027(a)) is amended by adding State Seniors' Financial Bill of Rights that addresses access by older individuals to-

- sufficient information about their financial rights, specifically rights with regard to powers of attorney and the duties of their agents or attorneys under a power of attorney, and of fiduciaries;
- financial counseling resources to make informed financial choices
- legal assistance to protect their financial rights; and
- adult protective services and appropriate law enforcement and regulatory authorities, in situations in which financial exploitation is alleged or suspected; and

Also - assures that agents or attorneys under a power of attorney, fiduciaries, staff that provide long-term care, financial institutions, and law enforcement agencies have sufficient information about the financial rights of, and signs of financial exploitation of, older individuals.

On 9/21/2012, the bill was referred to Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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**You can contact the White House** at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

From the **U.S. Social Security Administration**

Announcement regarding 1.7% Benefit Increase in 2013

<http://www.ssa.gov/pressoffice/pr/2013cola-pr-alt.pdf>

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From the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

Digital strategies for making information accessible via technology

<http://www.hhs.gov/digitalstrategy/mobile/index.html>

\*\*\*\*\*

From the **Administration for Community Living**

**ACL News & Info, Tuesday, October 9, 2012**

#### **Recent Reports**

***Ageing in the Twenty-First Century: A Celebration and A Challenge***

<http://www.unfpa.org/public/op/edit/home/publications/pid/11584>

Source: United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and HelpAge International

Date: October 2012

***Adult Protective Services in 2012: Increasingly Vulnerable***

<http://www.apsnetwork.org/research/BaselineSurveyFinal.pdf>

Source: National Adult Protective Services Association and the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities

Date: October 2012

From **ACL News & Info, Monday, October 15, 2012**

Medicare Open Enrollment runs from October 15 through December 7. Now is the time for beneficiaries to compare plans, and make sure they have the right health and prescription drug coverage. Stay with your current plan if you are happy with it. Or look for a new one with better coverage, higher quality, and lower cost.

To review and compare plans, get answers to your questions and learn where to get further help near you, visit <http://www.medicare.gov/> or call 1-800-MEDICARE (TTY 1-877-486-2048).

From **ACL News & Info, Monday, October 22, 2012**

#### **Recent Reports**

***Understanding the Impact of Family Caregiving on Work***

[http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/public\\_policy\\_institute/ltc/2012/understanding-impact-family-caregiving-work-AARP-ppi-ltc.pdf](http://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/research/public_policy_institute/ltc/2012/understanding-impact-family-caregiving-work-AARP-ppi-ltc.pdf)

Source: AARP Public Policy Institute

Date: October 2012

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From the **Kaiser Family Foundation**

**Medicare Policy October 2012**

***Transforming Medicare Into a Premium Support System: Implications for Beneficiary Premiums***

<http://www.kff.org/medicare/upload/8373.pdf>

\*\*\*\*\*

**Latest information on the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* can be found [here](#).**

\*\*\*\*\*

**More transportation news...**

**National Center on Senior Transportation** *NCST News* can be found [here](#).

From **Reconnecting America**

**[Are We There Yet? Creating Complete Communities for 21<sup>st</sup> Century America](#)**

\*\*\*\*\*

From the **National Council on Aging**

**[Medicare Open Enrollment Tips](#)**

**Fall Prevention [Fact Sheet](#)**

\*\*\*\*\*

From **Boston College Sloan Center on Aging & Work**

**"Work Longer - But How?** *How one company is responding to the exit of older workers*

*Blog:* <http://agingandwork.bc.edu/blog/work-longer-but-how/>

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## INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

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**WHAT: 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Caregiver Conference; *A Caregiver's Harvest; Care, Comfort & Compassion***

**WHEN: Saturday, November 10, 2012**, Fountain of Life Lutheran Church, 710 S. Kolb Rd., Tucson, AZ

For more information, click [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHAT: 4<sup>th</sup> Bi-Annual Santa Cruz County Elder Abuse Coalition Conference**

**WHEN: Friday, November 16, 2012**, Santa Cruz County Complex, 2150 N. Congress Drive, Nogales, Arizona 85621

For more information, click [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

**October 2012 issue of The Caregiver Connection** (northern Arizona) is available [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

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\*\*\*\*\*

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NOTE: Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer our abbreviated email news on a *monthly* basis with a focus on information and resources.

### Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee:**

The **JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights [October 2012 report](#)** and the **October 18, 2012 [Tracking Arizona's Recovery](#) report** are posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website.

According to the October Monthly Fiscal Highlights report, "Year-to-date, revenues are 3.4% higher than last year and are \$(8.4) million below the budget forecast."

\*\*\*\*\*

Election Day is past and results (unofficial) are posted on the Secretary of State's website linked [here](#). A press release about the ballot processing is posted at: <http://www.azsos.gov/releases/>.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Legislature's Interim Committees

*If you're interested in following the work of the Interim Committees between sessions, the agendas are posted at:*  
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\*\*\*\*\*

51<sup>st</sup> Arizona State Legislature

The Speaker of the House and the Senate President have announced committees and chairs of those committees for the next session starting in January 2013.

(A list of Senate and House assignments for 2013 was included in the 11/18/2012 issue of the *Arizona Republic*.)

\*\*\*\*\*

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**District maps** are posted [here](#).

\*\*\*\*\*

## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

Following the election, all eyes are on Washington to learn if an agreement will be reached about the deficit. **Kaiser Health News** offers a perspective on what is at stake for Medicare and Medicaid. *Approaching The Cliff: What's At Stake for Medicare and Medicaid?* is provided [here](#).

Last Thursday, HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius announced the deadline for states to submit letters of intent to build state-based health insurance markets called exchanges had been extended to December 14<sup>th</sup>.

## **Legislation**

### **H.R.4305 Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program**

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Steve Chabot (OH-1)

### **Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program**

Amends the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to authorize the Attorney General to award a public safety and community policing grant to an eligible nonprofit organization to assist federal, state, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children and elderly and disabled individuals through the use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system.

Permits the use of grant funds to:

- (1) maintain and expand technologies and techniques to ensure the highest level of performance of services;
- (2) provide both centralized and on-site training, and to distribute information, to law enforcement agency officials about missing individuals and use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system;

- (3) provide services to Child Abduction Response Teams;
- (4) assist law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking through the use of rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;
- (5) share appropriate information on cases with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the AMBER Alert, Silver Alert, and Blue Alert programs, and law enforcement; and
- (6) assist appropriate organizations with education and prevention programs related to missing individuals.

On 9/12/2012, referred to Senate committee, received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

NOTE: Last week, the **U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging** concluded a hearing to examine preventing elder financial abuse, including strengthening efforts to combat elder financial exploitation, after receiving testimony from Kay E. Brown, Director, Education, Workforce, and Income Security, Government Accountability Office; Hubert H. Humphrey III, Assistant Director, Office for Older Americans, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau; Frank W. Abagnale, Frank W. Abagnale and Associates, and Paul Smocer, BITS, on behalf of the Financial Services Roundtable, both of Washington, D.C.; and Paul R. Greenwood, San Diego District Attorney's Office Elder Abuse Prosecution Unit, San Diego, California.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **H.R.6295**

#### **To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to encourage the building of housing for moderate income seniors**

Introduced on 8/2/2012 by Representative Joe Baca (CA-43)

Amends the Internal Revenue Code, with respect to the low-income housing tax credit, to qualify for such credit low-income housing units that are available to individuals who have attained the age of 62 and whose incomes are 140% or less of the income limitation required for occupants of such housing units.

On 8/2/2012, referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **H.R.6518**

#### **State Nutrition Assistance Flexibility Act of 2012**

Introduced on 9/21/2012 by Representative Tim Huelskamp (KS-1)

State Nutrition Assistance Flexibility Act of 2012

States that the purpose of this Act is to provide federal financial assistance to the states in the form of a single grant to allow the states flexibility in

providing, and in financing the provision of, supplemental food and nutrition assistance.

Directs the Secretary of the Treasury to provide each qualifying state with a specified quarterly grant for each of FY2013-FY2022.

Requires a state to certify that such supplemental food and nutrition assistance will include specified work and benefits use requirements.

Authorizes states to:

- (1) set aside funds to be used during periods of unexpectedly high unemployment or program enrollment, and
- (2) use up to 30% of funds for other welfare-related programs.

Prohibits supplemental food and nutrition assistance from being provided to aliens not residing legally in the United States.

Requires annual state audits.

Repeals:

- (1) the supplemental nutrition assistance program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program);
- (2) the emergency food assistance program;
- (3) community food projects;
- (4) the commodity supplemental food program;
- (5) the senior farmers' market nutrition program; and
- (6) the fresh fruit and vegetable program.

On 10/9/2012, referred to House to the Subcommittee on Nutrition and Horticulture.

Related Bills: H.R.6567

\*\*\*\*\*

**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill*

*Summary & Status.*

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[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House at:**  
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A compilation of contact information is provided at:  
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\*\*\*\*\*

## **OTHER NEWS**

From the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:** [alzheimer.s.gov](http://alzheimer.s.gov)

*For the people helping people with Alzheimer's website:*

<http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

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**The latest information on the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* can be found [here](#).**

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From the **Administration for Community Living**

**ACL News & Info, Tuesday, November 13, 2012** issue excerpt

National Resource Center for Participant Directed Services (NRCPDS)  
The Administration for Community Living (ACL) funds a number of resource centers designed to provide information to consumers and technical assistance to professionals on a variety of topics. The National Resource Center for Participant Directed Services, established in April 2009 and formerly the Cash and Counseling Program Office, provides research and technical assistance on increasing choice and control in long term services and supports systems to enable people with disabilities across the lifespan to live independently in the community. NRCPDS receives funds from a number of agencies and organizations including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation/HHS, the Veterans Administration (VA), and the Administration for Community Living (ACL).

ACL began working with the NRCPDS in the late 1990s to assist aging and disability agencies to develop cash and counseling participant directed programs. In 2008, ACL and NRCPDS partnered with the Veterans Health Administration to develop and implement a nationwide Veteran Directed Home



and Community Based Services (VD-HCBS) program. The VD-HCBS program, with 92 program sites developed since 2008, is currently the main vehicle ACL is using to expand the capacity of the Aging and Disability networks to offer LTSS participant direction models to non-Medicaid populations.

Information about the National Resource Center for Participant Directed Services can be found on their website at <http://www.bc.edu/schools/gssw/nrcpds>. This site includes resources for developing VD-HCBS programs(<http://www.bc.edu/content/bc/schools/gssw/nrcpds/help/programdev/vd-hcbs.html>).

To learn about a new opportunity for aging and disability network agencies to expand services to veterans go to the ACL website:

<http://www.hhs.gov/acl/2012/09/11/special-opportunity-to-expand-hcbs-access-for-veterans/>)

If you would like to know more about the Resource Centers that the ACL funds, you can find information at:

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Resource\\_Centers/Index.aspx](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Resource_Centers/Index.aspx)"ters/Index.aspx

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From the **AARP Public Policy Institute** *Understanding the Impact of Family Caregiving on Work* is provided [here](#).

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From the **National Council on Aging**

**November is Family Caregivers Month**

**6 Resources for Family Caregivers** is linked [here](#).

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From **Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

*Blog: The Older Entrepreneur* is linked [here](#).

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo**

**WHEN: Friday, November 30, 2012**, 9 am to 4 pm, The Shriners Auditorium (The El Zaribah Shrine), 552 North 40<sup>th</sup> Street, Phoenix AZ 85008

**For more information, click [here](#).**

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**WHAT: Rural Transportation Summit**

**WHEN: January 16 – 18, 2013**, Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino, 5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Chandler, AZ

**For more information, go to:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RTSSaveTheDate.pdf>

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**November 2012 issue of The Caregiver Connection** (northern Arizona) is available [here](#).

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Just in case you're interested

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If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Have a wonderful Thanksgiving!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for December 2012

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature. Thank you for your interest!

Between legislative sessions, it is our intent to offer our abbreviated email news on a *monthly* basis.

### Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)**

The **JLBC Budget Update and Orientation [report](#)** for new legislators, the **JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights [November 2012](#)** and the latest **Tracking Arizona's Recovery [report](#)** are all posted on the Arizona State Legislature's website.

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Results of the November Election are posted on the Secretary of State's website linked [here](#).

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### Legislature's Interim Committees

*If you're interested in the work of the Interim Committees ahead of the next legislative session, the agendas are posted at:*  
**<http://www.azleg.gov/InterimCommittees.asp>.**

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### 51<sup>st</sup> Arizona State Legislature

The session starts January 14th.

The Legislative Council's 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session Calendar Deadlines list is posted at: **<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/council/CalendarDeadlines.pdf>.**

The Arizona State Senate Session Timeline is posted at:

**<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/51leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>.**

The Arizona State Senate website has the 2013 Senators and Assistant List posted at: **<http://www.azsenate.gov/SenateList.asp>.**

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**Share your thoughts!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** by contacting the:

· **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)

· Or **contacting your legislator from your area**; locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature [website](#)** and looking for: *How do I find My Legislators* or by following the instructions provided at both the **Senate** and **House Member** links at the website.

· **District maps** are posted [here](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

The wait continues to see if an agreement will be reached on the federal budget deficit.

A list of potential program cuts resulting from no agreement by January 2nd, provided by the National Council on Aging, can be found at:

<http://www.ncoa.org/assets/files/pdf/public-policy--action/Sequester-OAA-Tables.pdf>

## **Legislation**

### **S.3651**

#### **Protecting and Preserving Social Security Act**

Introduced on 12/4/2012 by Senator Mark Begich (AK)

A bill to amend title II of the Social Security Act and the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make improvements in the old-age, survivors, and disability insurance program, to provide for cash relief for years for which annual COLAs do not take effect under certain cash benefit programs, and to provide for Social Security benefit protection.

12/4/2012, referred to Senate Committee on Finance.

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### **H.R.6328**

#### **Clothe a Homeless Hero Act**

Introduced on 8/2/2012 by Representative Kathleen C. Hochul (NY-26)

Directs the Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration [TSA]) to transfer unclaimed clothing recovered at airport security checkpoints to local veterans organizations or other local charitable organizations for distribution to homeless or needy veterans and their families. Authorizes the Assistant Secretary to enter into agreements with airport authorities for disposing of such clothing.

On 12/11/2012, passed Senate with an amendment by Unanimous Consent;  
12/12/2012 Message on Senate action sent to the House.

\*\*\*\*\*

Last Thursday, AHCCCS Director, Tom Betlach participated in hearings at the Senate Committee on Finance. A link to Director Betlach's testimony, posted on the U.S. Senate's website, is provided [here](#). All statements, presented at the *Improving Care for Dually-Eligible Beneficiaries: A Progress Update*, are posted at:

<http://www.finance.senate.gov/hearings/hearing/?id=44840579-5056-a032-52c9-034b7663dc1e>.

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**NOTE:** If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

### **Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting:

<http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include:  
<http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and  
[http://www.senate.gov/general/contact\\_information/senators\\_cfm.cfm](http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm) for the **Senate**.

**You can contact the White House at:**

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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### **OTHER NEWS**

From the **U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

[News Release](#) regarding doctors adopting electronic health records (EHR)

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From **Kaiser Health News**

12/12/2012 [discussions](#) on controlling Medicare costs...

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**The latest information on the *National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease* can be found [here](#).**

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From the **Administration for Community Living**

Taken from **ACL News & Info, Monday, December 10, 2012**

### ***2013 Older Americans Month Theme Announced***

Every year since 1963, May has been a month to appreciate and celebrate the vitality and aspirations of older adults and their contributions to our communities. The theme for Older Americans Month 2013, *Unleash the Power of Age*, has never been more fitting. Older Americans are productive, active and influential members of society, sharing essential talents, wisdom and life experience with their families, friends and neighbors.

This year, think about what your organization can do to help *Unleash the Power of Age*. Giving our elders opportunities to volunteer their time to support those who are less fortunate, to teach others the skills they've honed over the years or to become involved in civic matters are just a few ways you can *Unleash the Power of Age*. Help our older Americans stay positive, active, and looking forward.

Information to help your organization celebrate Older Americans Month will be coming soon!

### **History of Older Americans Month**

Year of Elder Abuse Prevention--New Resources Posted

As part of the Year of Elder Abuse Prevention (YEAP), announced in September, the Administration on Aging (AoA) is pleased to provide information, tools, and resources to support federal, state and local partners in their efforts to raise public awareness about elder abuse and shed light on the importance of preventing, identifying, and responding to this serious, often hidden problem. The YEAP toolkit includes an outreach guide, event planning materials, fact sheets, a Frequently Asked Questions booklet, web banner designs, YEAP poster, as well as customizable YEAP templates for newsletters, Power Points, and event flyers. In addition, the webpage contains information on social media outreach, including simple social media posts to help in promoting elder justice information and activities across popular social media platforms Facebook and Twitter. [YEAP webpage](#).

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From **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities**  
**NASUAD: [Strengthening the Aging Network](#)**

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From [www.flu.gov](http://www.flu.gov)

Information on the Flu; *Who's at Risk? Seniors*

More information is linked [here](#).

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From **Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

*Fact of the Week: In 2050, Almost One Quarter of the Labor Force Will Be 55+*

The link is provided [here](#).

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## **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

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### **WHAT: Rural Transportation Summit**

**WHEN: January 16 – 18, 2013**, Wild Horse Pass Hotel & Casino, 5594 W. Wild Horse Pass Blvd., Chandler, AZ

**For more information, go to:**

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RTSSaveTheDate.pdf>

Also: **National Center on Senior Transportation** link to the Senior Transportation Exchange Online Community is provided here:

[http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2\\_Senior\\_Transportation\\_Exchange](http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2_Senior_Transportation_Exchange) and an overview of a successful rural transportation program is linked at [http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2\\_success\\_story\\_Kindness](http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/PageServer?pagename=NCST2_success_story_Kindness).

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### **Resources for Mature Workers**

Mature job seekers can find community and employment resources as well as other helpful information in the [Job Seeker Toolkit](#) located on the **Arizona Mature Workers website**.

The website also includes resources for professionals and employers at these links: [Professional Toolkit](#) and [Employer Tool Kit](#).

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**To view the latest issue of the *Caregiver Connection*** (northern Arizona), go to: <http://www.caregiverconnection.us/>

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**We wish you a wonderful holiday season and a very happy 2013!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**