



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for May 7, 2016

The 52nd Legislature, 2nd Regular Session adjourned sine die this morning at 5:45 a.m. after convening early Friday, May 6.

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and 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.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the **links** throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

52nd Legislature, 2nd Regular Session

Summary of Action according to the *Arizona Capitol Times/LOLA*

As of day **118**, a total of **1,247 bills posted; 387 passed, 1 vetoed and 115 signed; 114 memorials or resolutions** have been **posted; 34** have **passed**.

The Governor's remarks regarding the session **[HERE](#)**

Budget bills passed this week and were sent to the Governor.

JLBC FY 2017 House and Senate Engrossed Budget Plan (5/4/16) [HERE](#)

Governor's press release regarding passage of the budget bills **[HERE](#)**

Budget bill information can be found in the **[FULL List](#)** link provided in this issue. (Be sure to click on the bill number to access the fact sheet and other updated information.)

A wrap-up report of the session will be provided later.

Highlight of some of the bills signed and ready for the Governor:

S.1169: mental health power of attorney – House summary [HERE](#)

S1196: silver alert; Alzheimer’s disease – House summary [HERE](#)

S1283: controlled substances prescription monitoring program – House summary [HERE](#)

S1293: mediation; confidential communications; exception – House summary [HERE](#)

S1296: guardianship, proceedings; ward’s relationships – Senate fact sheet [HERE](#)

S1375: telephone solicitations – House summary [HERE](#)

S1382: service animals; handler control – House summary [HERE](#)

S1441: long-term care insurance; rules – House summary [HERE](#)

H2100: state agency reports; electronic submission – House summary [HERE](#)

H2153: VLT exemption; military members; spouses – House summary [HERE](#)

H2452: cash assistance; eligibility; children – House summary [HERE](#)

H2502: medical licensure compact – Senate engrossed version [HERE](#)

The Governor can sign the bills within 10 days (if the legislature is adjourned), refrain from signing the bill in which case it becomes law without his signature after the 10 day period or veto the bill.

The **FULL List** of legislation tracked includes all of the tracking this session. You can see the final outcome of recent actions that appears at the top of the report. (Be sure to click on the bill numbers for more information including fact sheets, bill versions, amendments, votes, and see action on these bills.) **FULL List web report provided [HERE](#).**

Note: some of this session’s bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and have been tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the *Legislative Update* web report. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging. It **does** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans. The web report provides you with the current status information on bills and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a

day, 7 days a week throughout the legislative session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*. If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving this information, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to gaca@az.gov.

Share your thoughts at any time!

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 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson** and **in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883** (outside Maricopa County only) or
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links if you wish to contact them by phone or email.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

H.R.4641

To provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medication, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 2/26/2016 by Representative Susan W. Brooks (IN-5)

On 5/3/2016, placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 412

H.R.3989

Support Our Military Caregivers Act

Introduced on 11/5/2015 by Representative Elise M. Stefanik (NY-21)

This bill permits an individual to elect to have an independent contractor perform an external clinical review of any of the following:

- a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) denial of an individual's application to be a caregiver or family caregiver eligible for VA benefits;
- with respect to an approved application, a VA determination of the level or amount of personal care services that a veteran requires;
- a request by a caregiver or family caregiver for a reconsideration of the level or amount of personal care services that a veteran requires based on post-application changes; and
- a revocation of benefits by the VA.

Latest action: On 4/29/2016 Forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee in the Nature of a Substitute (Amended) by Voice Vote.

H.R.2460

To amend title 38, United States Code, to improve the provision of adult day health care services for veterans.

Introduced on 5/19/2015 by Representative Lee M. Zeldin (NY-1)

This bill directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into an agreement or a contract with each state home to pay for adult day health care for a veteran eligible for, not receiving, nursing home care. The veteran must need such care either specifically for a service-connected disability, or, if not specifically for one; the veteran must have a service-connected disability rated 70% or more. Payment under each agreement or contract between the Secretary and a state home must equal 65% of the payment that the Secretary would otherwise pay to the state home if the veteran were receiving nursing home care.

On 4/29/2016, forwarded by Subcommittee to Full Committee by Voice Vote.

Other legislation

H.R.5098

To amend the Federal Trade Commission Act to require an annual plan and a report on elder fraud, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 4/28/2016 by Representative Gus M. Bilirakis (FL-12)

4/28/2016 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.5018

Elder Protection and Abuse Prevention Act

Introduced on 4/21/2016 by Representative Matt Cartwright (PA-17)

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize Federal assistance to State adult protective services programs, and for other purposes.

On 4/21/2016 referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

Related bills: S.2747 (provided in 4.15.2016 *Legislative Update*)

H.R.4963

Elder Abuse Victims Act of 2016

Introduced on 4/15/2016 by Representative Peter T. King (NY-2)

To better protect, serve, and advance the rights of victims of elder abuse and exploitation by establishing a program to encourage States and other qualified entities to create jobs designed to hold offenders accountable, enhance the capacity of the justice system to investigate, pursue, and prosecute elder abuse cases, identify existing resources to leverage to the extent possible, and assure data collection, research, and evaluation to promote the efficacy and efficiency of the activities described in this Act.

On 4/15/2016, referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

S.2680

Mental Health Reform Act of 2016

Introduced on 3/15/2016 by Senator Lamar Alexander (TN)

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide comprehensive mental health reform, and for other purposes.

On 4/26/2016 Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 437.

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representatives or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or

<http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

Fading Fast: Fewer Seniors Have Retiree Health Insurance [HERE](#)

From **Kaiser Health News**

Raising Medicare's Eligibility Age Could Trigger Gov't Savings, But Tally Higher Total Health Spending [HERE](#)

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

From the **Administration for Community Living/ACL**

May is Older American's Month and *Blaze a Trail* is the 2016 theme.

Information and resources: <http://oam.acl.gov/>

Tip sheets: <http://oam.acl.gov/2016/tipsheets.html>

Did you know? Sierra Vista received Community Excellence Award for commitment to military members and families; news release from the Governor linked [HERE](#).

INFORMATION& RESOURCES:

Community forums on disability: *Presenting the Partners in Progress: Together We Make a Difference Tour*

News release [HERE](#)

More information posted on the **Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council** website: <https://addpc.az.gov/>

Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference *Integrating Behavioral Health & Primary Care, Friday, June 17, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.* at the **Tucson Convention Center**. More information [HERE](#).

Plan Ahead!

Walk 4 Hearing, Saturday, November 12, 2016 at Riverview Park, 2100 West 8th Street, Mesa AZ. More information [HERE](#)

If you're interested

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

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: gaca@az.gov. Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

Now that the legislative session has ended, it is our intent to offer the *Legislative Update* on a monthly basis.

Enjoy your summer!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
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