# Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
## Legislative Update

***Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 25, 2017***

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 nonpartisan in nature. Be sure to open the **links** throughout this issue for the latest news. The Council's **FULL List** of bills is linked **HERE**. Thank you for your interest!

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**SPECIAL SESSION**

The Governor called a **Special Session** on Monday, January 22 to take immediate action on the opioid epidemic. News release **HERE**

**HB2001: controlled substances; regulation; appropriation**
House Summary **HERE**
**SB1001: controlled substances; regulation; appropriation**
Senate fact sheet **HERE**

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**53rd Legislature – 2nd Regular Session**

According to the *Arizona Capitol Times*, as of **Day 18** of the session, there are **885 bills posted** and **58 Memorials or Resolutions posted; one passed**. (4:00 p.m.)

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**House Leadership:** Javan D. Mesnard, Speaker; John Allen, Majority Leader; Kelly Townsend, Majority Whip; Thomas R. Shope, Speaker Pro Tempore; Rebecca Rios, Minority Leader; Randall Friese, Assistant Minority Leader; Charlene R. Fernandez, Minority Whip

**Senate Leadership:** Steve Yarbrough, President; Kimberly Yee, Majority Leader, Gail Griffin, Majority Whip; John Kavanagh, President Pro Tempore; Katie Hobbs, Minority

Leader; Steve Farley, Assistant Minority Leader; Lupe Contreras, Minority Whip; Martin Quezada, Minority Whip

**Committee Members** can be found on the *Committee Overview page* by clicking on the Legislative Body then Selecting a Committee. See information **HERE**

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**Deadlines: January 29** is the last day for Senate bills to be introduced without special permission and **February 2** is the last day for House to submit bill requests to Legislative Council.

**Senate** 2018 Timeline **HERE**
**House** 2018 Deadlines **HERE**

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**Did you know?** Arizona State Legislature is first in nation with captioning service for the deaf or hard of hearing? See accessibility page at: **https://www.azleg.gov/access-accessibility/** and House press release **HERE** for more information.

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***Resources to use***

***Arizona State Legislature*** website: **www.azleg.gov**
Need to learn more about the legislative process? See **Arizona Bill** or **Bill to Law**
Find and review bill information **HERE**
Learn about the budget process **HERE**
Research the State Constitution ***HERE***
Learn more at *Frequently Asked Questions* linked **HERE**

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**Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

**JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights January 2018** **HERE** indicates "December 2017 General Fund revenues were $1.02 billion, which represents an increase of 19.5% above the prior year and $129.7 million above the enacted budget forecast.

Other budget and revenue updates at: **https://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/what'snew.htm**

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The Governor released the **FY 2019 Executive Budget** on Friday, January 12; a link to the Executive Budget Summary is provided **HERE** and more information can be found at:

**https://azgovernor.gov/budget**.

**In case you missed it**

The Governor gave the Arizona State of the State 2018 address on January 8; you can view it **HERE**.

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**Some of the bills on the Council's tracking list**

**HB2087: family caregiver income tax credit** – establishes a tax credit, effective TY 2019 for qualifying expenses for the care and support of a qualifying family member in the taxpayer's home. Latest action: from House Ways and Means Committee with do pass.

**HB2136: appropriation; des; info; referral service** – appropriates $1.5 million from the general fund in FY2018-19 to the Department of Economic Security for a statewide information and referral service for health care services, community services, human services and governmental services. Latest action: from House Health Committee with do pass.

**HB2324: community health workers; voluntary certification** – DHS is required to adopt rules relating to the establishment and administration of a voluntary process for the certification of "community health workers" that includes a list of criteria. Establishes disciplinary action for certificate holders and other penalties for violations. Establishes a nine-member Community Health Workers Advisory Board within the Department to make recommendations to the Department regarding the community health worker requirements, competencies and standards. Latest action: hearing in the House Health Committee on 1/25/2018 at 9:00 am cancelled.

**SB1049: TPT exemption; hearing aid batteries** – the list of exemptions from the retail classification of transaction privilege and use taxes is expanded to include batteries used in hearing aids including cochlear implants. Effective 10/1/2018. Latest action: 1/10/2018 Senate Finance Committee – no action.

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**TRACKING LIST**: The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills are featured in the FULL List. The **FULL List** of bills is linked **HERE**.

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 or have an impact on older Arizonans. Note: the web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Be sure to click on the bill number for more information. This list will be edited and

updated as we have opportunity to get review bills throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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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 in Phoenix**; **520-628-6580 in Tucson; in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883** ( **outside Maricopa County only**) or email: **engage@az.gov**
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: **Legislative Maps**

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On January 24, the **U.S. Senate Special Committee on Aging** held a hearing: *Turning 65: Navigating Critical Decisions to Age Well*. View the transcripts **HERE**.

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**FEDERAL OVERVIEW**

**Signed Into Law**

**H.R.3759 RAISE Family Caregivers Act**
Introduced on 9/13/2017 by Representative Gregg Harper (R-MS-3)
The bill provides for the establishment and maintenance of a Family Caregiving Strategy.
Enrolled bill text **HERE**

**S.1766 SAFER Act of 2017**
Introduced on 9/6/2017 by Senator John Cornyn (TX)
To reauthorize the SAFER Act of 2013, and for other purposes. Act cited as Sexual Assault Forensic Evidence Reporting Act of 2017

**Updates**

**H.R.4621 Global Brain Health Act of 2017**
Introduced on 12/12/2017 by Representative Christopher H. Smith (NJ-4)
To galvanize United States Government programs in support of brain health for global victims of autism, hydrocephalus and Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, and for other purposes.
**Latest action: 12/15/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health**

**H.R.4229 Protecting HOME Access Act of 2017**
Introduced on 11/2/2017 by Representative Cathy McMorris Rodgers (WA-5)

To extend the transition to new payment rates for durable medical equipment under the Medicare program and amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to update the Medicare budget neutrality requirement for oxygen.
**Latest Action: 11/3/2017 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health**

**S.2070 Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2017**
Introduced on 11/2/2017 by Senator Chuck Grassley (IA)
To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism.
**Latest action: Passed Senate 12/21/2017 – 1/18/2018 – By Senator Grassley from Committee on the Judiciary filed Written Report No. 115-200 HERE**

**Newly introduced**

**H.R.4841: Standardizing Electronic Prior Authorization for Safe Prescribing Act of 2018**
Introduced on 1/18/2018 by Representative David Schweikert (AZ-6)
To amend title XVIII of the Social Security act to provide for electronic prior authorization under Medicare part D for covered part D drugs, and for other purposes.
1/18/2018 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means

**H.R.4820 ASK Act (Advancing Seniors and Kids Act)**
Introduced on 1/181/2018 by Representative Donald A. McEachin (VA-4)
To extend funding for certain public health programs and for other purposes.
Text **HERE**
1/18/2018 Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce and Committee on Ways and Means

**H.R.195: FY2018 Continuing Resolution through February 8, 2018** (contains CHIP funding for FY2018 to FY2023)
Enrolled bill **HERE**

**NOTE: AARP on** the signing of the Recognize, Assist, Include, Support and Engage – RAISE Family Caregiver Act **HERE**

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Check active federal legislation any time **HERE**

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**Share your opinions with members of Congress!**

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

**https://www.senate.gov/** for the **Senate**.
*Links to the membership lists are provided below.*
**House** members
**Senate** members

Contact the **White House**: **https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact**

ALSO: USA.gov provides information at: **https://www.usa.gov/ agencies**

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**News & Information**

**Health Affairs Blog -** January 11, 2018
A Study of Family Caregivers Burden And The Imperative Of Practice Change To Address Family Caregivers' Unmet Needs **HERE**
Jill Slaboda, Robin Fail, Gregory Norman, Diane E Meier

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**Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration/SAMHSA is** accepting applications for up to $52 million in grants to treat people affected by homelessness, mental health disorders. News release **HERE**

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**Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services/CMS**
New Medicare cards are coming **HERE**

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**National Institute on Aging**
Frequently Asked Questions About Alzheimer's Disease **HERE**

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From the **National Alzheimer's Project Act – What's New: HERE**
(be sure to scroll down the page)

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**2017 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures: http://alz.org/facts/**

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**Kaiser Health News**

*A Push To Get Older Adults In Better Shape For Surgery* **HERE**

(1/25/2018 Graham)

Aging related articles at: **http://khn.org/topics/aging/**

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**INFORMATION& RESOURCES**

**The University of Arizona College of Medicine Tucson Arthritis Center – "Aging and our Immunity" Theme for 16th Annual Living Healthy With Arthritis Conference**
**Saturday, January 27**, **9 am to 4 pm**, **Banner – University Medical Center Tucson**, DuVal Auditorium, 1501 N. Campbell Avenue

Conference schedule and register: **HERE**

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**Dementia Friendly Tempe Presents: Become A Dementia Friend**
**1/29/2018 10:30 AM – 11:30 AM**
**Friendship Village**, 2645 E Southern Avenue, Tempe AZ 85282

Classes are FREE but registration is required. Call **602-839-6850** to register or **BAIFCS@bannerheatlth.com**

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**Social Security Retirement planning workshops** free and open to the general public:

***Phoenix Mesquite Library***, **Tuesday, January 30 at 5:30 PM**, 4525 Paradise Village Pkwy N Phoenix, AZ 85032 .The library can be reached at **(602) 262-4636** **. Register here**

***Maricopa County Ed Robson Library***, **Thursday, February 15 at 1:00 PM**, 9330 East Riggs Road, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248 .The library can be reached at **(602) 652-3000**. Seating limited to 100, library allows registration beginning 15 minutes prior to event.

***Maricopa County Sun City Library***, **Tuesday, February 20 at 3:00 PM**, 16828 N 99th Ave Sun City, AZ 85351 .The library can be reached at **(602) 652-3000** **. Register here beginning Jan. 21 at 9am**

***Oro Valley Library***, **Wednesday, February 21 at 5:00 PM**, 1305 W Naranja Drive Oro Valley AZ 85737 .The library can be reached at **(520) 594-5580** **. Event details (registration not required)**

***Maricopa County White Tank Library***, **Tuesday, February 27 at 2:30 PM**, 20304 W White

Tank Mountain Rd, Waddell, AZ 85355 .The library can be reached at **(602) 652-3000 .**
**Register here beginning Jan. 28**

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**AHCCCS has extended the public comment period for Electronic Visit** through **January 31, 2018**. For general information on EVV, click on the link for a handout **HERE**.

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**Mark Your Calendar**

**Family Caregiver Day at the Capitol** sponsored by Arizona Caregiver Coalition and AARP - **Thursday, March 29, 2018 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m**., Arizona Capitol Museum, 1700 W. Washington Street, Second Floor – Room #200, Phoenix, AZ

Limited seats and respite spots available. **Register online at https://tinyurl.com/CaregiverDay03-29-18** Email: **Info@AZCaregiver.org**

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**Arizona Transit Association 31st Annual Transit Conference**
Registration is Open; More information **HERE**

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**In case you missed it last time**
From the **National Institute on Aging**
*What Should I Ask My Doctor During a Checkup?* **HERE**

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**The Center on Aging & Work at Boston College AGEnda Aging & Work Blog**
*Recession and employment: How will older workers fare during the next recession?* **HERE**
(12/8/2017, Hila Axelrad, PhD)

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**Kaiser Health News**
January 16, 2018
*Postcard from California: Alzheimer's 'Looks Like Me, It Looks Like You'* **HERE**
(Ibarra, 1/16/2018)

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**National Council on Aging / NCOA**

Finding assistance in good and bad – Benefits CheckUp **HERE**
What's new for Medicare in 2018 **HERE**

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**Ongoing Resources**

From the **Governor's Office**

See the latest news at: **Newsroom: http://azgovernor.gov/newsroom**

**#AZAWESOME Shareables: http://azgovernor.gov/governor/shareables**

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**AHCCS News & Updates:**

**https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.html**

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**Arizona Department of Economic Security** Feature Stories **HERE**

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**Arizona Attorney General's** Latest News **HERE** and Senior Resources **HERE**

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**Arizona Department of Health Services**
**Latest News HERE**
**Public Health Licensing HERE**
**Arizona Healthy Aging** (A- *HA*) **HERE**

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**Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A**
Map of Regions **HERE**

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

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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 marketing or fundraising materials.

If you would like on-going education and public service event information, send a request to be added to the **Aging in Community Committee** of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging at **gaca@az.gov**.

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It is our intent to offer the ***Legislative Update*** monthly between sessions and every other week during the session. We appreciate your patience with our dated program and formatting issues.

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**Have a good weekend!**

**~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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