

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for May 22, 2009

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It is our intent to offer the Legislative Update weekly during the 2009 session of the Arizona State Legislature. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and action taking place at the Legislature. The information provided is intended to help you form your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts to help ensure your perspective and voice are heard. *Please note the Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* We thank you for your interest!

### GENERAL OVERVIEW:

This week, the Senate Appropriations Committee passed a ten-bill package that balances the **2010 budget** through spending reductions and delays, fund transfers, federal stimulus dollars and additional revenues. The plan proposed results in significant impact to agencies such as AHCCCS, DHS, and DES.

To review the JLBC Summary of Senate Budget Plan, go to:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/senatebudgetplansummary052009.pdf>

The Senate Budget Reconciliation Bill Summary is found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/sbrbsummarys-eamendment052009.pdf>

On Thursday, Governor Brewer provided a state of the state address to the Tucson Chamber of Commerce and called a special session in response to the Arizona Supreme Courts decision in Cain v. Horne. A link to Governor Brewer's remarks to the Chamber and the call for special session are provided:

[http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/NR\\_052009\\_Governor%20Brewer%20addresses%20Tucson%20Chamber.pdf](http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/NR_052009_Governor%20Brewer%20addresses%20Tucson%20Chamber.pdf)

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/NR\\_052009\\_Governor%20Brewer%20Special%20Session%20Call%20Two.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/NR_052009_Governor%20Brewer%20Special%20Session%20Call%20Two.pdf)

Keep updated on legislative activities by checking the press releases of both the Senate and House at the Arizona State Legislature website:

<http://www.azleg.gov/PressReleases.asp>

At the end of day 131 of the 2009 Arizona Legislative Session, 1,111 bills posted, six (6) passed, six (6) signed; 96 memorials and resolutions posted and one (1) passed.

Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's web page *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.

#### **STATE LEGISLATION:**

Visit the link below to view the Council's web page and the list of bills the Council is tracking.

#### **FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=364&listid=13720&print=true>

#### ***Highlights of legislative actions taken on bills the Council is tracking include:***

**S1049:** *Fingerprint Clearance Cards:* from Senate Public Safety & Human Services as amended 5/20/09.

**H2007:** *Retirement; Corp; Return to Work:* passed House and ready for Senate 5/18/09.

**H2622:** *Dependent Children; Relatives; Disclosure:* from House Rules 5/18/09.

#### ***Scheduled Hearings on bills the Council is tracking include:***

**S1049:** *Fingerprint Clearance Cards:* Senate Rules, 5/26/09, 9:30 am, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Caucus Room.

**Reminder:** Be sure to check the Arizona State Legislature website for updated Senate, House and Joint Legislative Budget committee agendas at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/CommitteeAgendas.asp?Body=H&ShowAll=OFF>

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The website FULL List link 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. *Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the Arizona Capitol Times.*

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**Reminder:** *You can contact your policymaker. If you have a particular perspective about budget bills or anything in a piece of legislation that is being considered, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:*

**Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 800-253-0883

Or you may contact the **legislator from your area**. If you do not know how to reach your local legislator, start at the homepage under *How do I find My Legislators* or follow the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

Arizona State Legislature website: <http://www.azleg.gov/>

**FEDERAL LEGISLATION:**

To follow up on:

**S. 795 Elder Justice Act of 2009** which was highlighted earlier this month, the Administration on Aging's National Center on Elder Abuse (NCEA) launched a campaign, "Join Us in the Fight against Elder Abuse." Starting this weekend, a brief elder abuse informational film will run before movie trailer in theaters in major metro areas including Arizona cities. To read the AOA press release, go to:

[http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press\\_Room/for\\_the\\_press/pr/archive/2009/May/05\\_21\\_09.doc](http://www.aoa.gov/AoARoot/Press_Room/for_the_press/pr/archive/2009/May/05_21_09.doc)

**HR 1 The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA)**

The Senate Special Committee on Aging is urging the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS) to provide funding from ARRA for prevention and wellness evidence based programs that help older adults live healthier lives. To read more, go to:

[http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing\\_detail.cfm?id=312954&](http://www.aging.senate.gov/hearing_detail.cfm?id=312954&)

**ALSO:**

The **Senate Finance Committee**, chaired by Max Baucus (D-MT) with Charles Grassley (R-IA) as the groups ranking members, released **options for health reform** and invited public comment. You can review the recent committee reports at this link:

<http://finance.senate.gov/sitepages/legislation.htm>

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**Contact Your Congressional Member:** If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns with your federal representatives, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the Senate.

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association Annual Conference**

**WHEN: July 18, 2009**, Mesa Active Adult Center, 247 North Macdonald Street, Mesa, Arizona 85201

**For more information:** <http://www.arizonaseniors.net/>

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**Announcement:**

**The 2009 employer application time period for the Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification has now opened!**

As of Wednesday, May 20th, the on-line application is posted on the Arizona Mature Worker Website,

<http://www.azmatureworkers.com/default.asp?PageID=10007896>

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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).

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**Thank you and have a great week!**

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