

Welcome to the Legislative Update for July 10, 2009

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. This 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!

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

2010 Budget:

On Monday, the Legislature convened in the Third Special Session called by the Governor. Four bills restoring education funding, stimulus funding were passed then signed by the Governor later this week: HB2001, HB2002, HB2003, and HB2004. Considerable work lies ahead to close the gap between revenues and the ever-increasing budget deficit. To get a sense of the situation, the following links are provided.

Governor Brewer's statement regarding the signing of the four bills:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/NR_070809_Third%20Special%20Session%20Bills.pdf

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee July 9th report on the 2010 budget:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/7-6%20impact%20of%20vetoes%20slides.pdf>

Legislation:

Governor Brewer signed a series of bills this week from the Regular Session of the 49th Legislature. A link to the Summary of Enactment posted on the Governor's website, as of 7/9/09, is provided here:

http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/PR_070909_Summary%20of%20Enactments.pdf

You can track the final disposition of the bills at the Arizona State Legislature website:

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

Check the status of bills tracked by the Council on Aging during the Regular Session at the FULL LIST web report link:

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

The following bills from the Councils FULL List passed and were signed this week:

HB 2399: Automated External Defibrillators, maintaining, testing, and reporting on the use of automated external defibrillators are the responsibility of the person or entity that acquires a defibrillator instead of a physician who agrees to oversee the defibrillator.

SB 1009: Board of Fingerprinting; Hearings, good cause exception that may be granted to an applicant for employment required by statute to obtain a fingerprint clearance card from the Board of Fingerprinting may be denied if the applicant fails to appear at a good cause exception Board hearing; the Board may ask for disclosure of evidence regarding substantiated cases of abuse or neglect of *vulnerable adults*.

The following bills from the FULL List are awaiting signature:

HB2283: Certified Nursing Assistants; Pilot Program

HB2344: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation

HB2616: Living Wills; Health Care Directives

S1400: Dental Hygienists; Public Agencies

FYI

We intend to continue providing the Legislative Update through the Third Special Session tracking the state 2010 budget process. Once the special session has ended, the Legislative Update will be provided monthly with a federal focus.

During the Third Special Session: You can still contact your policymakers. If you have a particular perspective about budget proposals 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:

S.1251 and S.1263

Titles: A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for advanced illness care management services for Medicare beneficiaries and for other purposes.

S.1251 was introduced on June 6, 2009 and S.1263 was introduced on June 15, 2009 by Senator Mark R. Warner (D-VA). Known as the Senior Navigation and Planning Act of 2009, the intent of these bills is to strengthen counseling, support services and care management for patients and families coping with life-limiting illnesses.

On 6/11/2009 S.1251 and on 6/15/09 S.1263 were referred to the Committee on Finance, respectively.

For more information specific to these bills, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill numbers under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

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.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: Together We Care: Arizona Conference on Caregiving
WHEN: Thursday, November 5, 2009, North Phoenix Baptist Church, 5757 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85012
For more information, email: cleary@gatewaycc.edu or call (602) 286-8153

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.

Thank you and have a great week!
~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging