

Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 5, 2010

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. It is our intent to offer this e-newsletter weekly during the 49th Legislature 2nd Regular Session. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Budget

Discussions continued this week on FY 2010 budget deficit and FY 2011 budget.

At this time, except for the Senate Rules Committee scheduled to meet on Monday, all Senate and House Committee meetings for next week are suspended while these budget discussions continue.

This week, the Governor signed an Executive Order creating the ArizonaSERVES Task Force to help strengthen communities through the service and volunteerism of non-profit and faith-based organizations. To view the Executive Order, go to:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/EO_2010_07_ArizonaSERVES%20EO.pdf

State Legislation

This week the following actions were filed on legislation tracked by the Council:

H2242: Reverse Mortgages; Regulations - 3/2 from House Rules Committee; approved by House Committee of the Whole with amendment.

H2348: Veterans; Disability Benefits - 3/3 from House Rules Committee

H2425: Vulnerable Adults; Attorney Fees - 3/3 Passed House; ready for Senate

H2426: Adult Guardianship & Protective Proceedings - 3/2 Referred to Senate Public Safety & Human Services Committee Finance Committee

At this time there are no hearings posted for next week on bills being tracked by the Council on Aging.

Note: You can find the agendas for hearings and check to see if the times have changed or committees have been cancelled at the **Arizona State Legislature** website link:

Committee Agendas:

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

At the end of day 54 of the 2010 Arizona Legislative Session: 1,232 bills posted, 155 memorials or resolutions posted, two bills passed and four memorials/resolutions passed.

Session Deadlines - March 19th marks the last day for Senate Committees to hear House bill and House Committees to hear Senate bills.

Both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, March 8, 2010.

To view all of the legislation being tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, click on the list below:

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24520&listid=40701&print=true>

Note: This list contains some bills that haven't seen action, and while nothing is dead until the Legislature adjourns sine die, the chances for the bills passage are poor.

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. Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

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.

If you have a particular perspective to share about the budget process or legislation, you can voice your opinions to:

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. 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.

FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

H.RES.1141

Title: Honoring the accomplishments of Supreme Court Justice **Sandra Day O'Connor**, the first woman to serve on the United States Supreme Court.

Introduced on 3/4/2010 by Representative Gabrielle Giffords the resolution is cosponsored by fellow Arizona Representatives Raul M. Grijalva, Harry E. Mitchell, John B. Shadegg, Ann Kirkpatrick, and Ed Pastor.

The Resolution was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary on 3/4/2010.

Note: You can read the complete resolution by entering H.Res.1141 under *Search Bill Summary & Status* at the Thomas website (link provided below) then clicking on *Text of Legislation*

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

Contact Your Congressional Member: If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns, 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.

Other News:

Social Security has added 38 compassionate allowance conditions including early-onset Alzheimer's. For more information:

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/cal021110-pr.html>

For a printer-friendly version of the press release:

<http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/cal021110-pr-alt.pdf>

From: Administration on Aging

"The U.S. Surgeon General Regina M. Benjamin recently announced a collaboration with Microsoft HealthVault that will provide new features and expand access to *My Family Health Portrait*, a free Internet-based resource. This resource enables consumers to easily record their family health history and integrate the information stored in their *My Family Health Portrait* profile into a personal HealthVault account. In addition, these users will also be able to share that information with a variety of health care providers and services that connect to HealthVault, enabling them to make more informed decisions around their current and future healthcare needs."

To learn more, go to:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2010pres/02/20100224a.html>

The **National Resource Directory** is available online to provide information on services and resources for wounded, ill and injured Service Members, Veterans, their families and those who support them. For more information about the National Resource Directory, go to:

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

Information & Resources:

The **Governor's Office on Aging** is pleased to be a Co-Sponsor of Afternoon Sessions at the **2010 Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Annual Conference**

WHEN: Friday, May 21, 2010, 8:00 am 5:00 pm

Due to overwhelming response to last year's conference, registration is encouraged as soon as possible to ensure your attendance!

Register online at <http://www.azalz.org/> or call 480-440-7177

WHAT: Banner Alzheimer's Institute Unlocking Your Memory Vault Workshop

WHEN: Thursday, March 11, 2010, 10 am 2pm, Flinn Foundation, Terrace Room, 1802 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85004

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/UnlockingYourMemoryVaultWS2010.pdf>

WHAT: 2010 Caregivers' Conference, The Resilient Caregiver: Embracing the Spiritual Journey

WHEN: Saturday, March 13, 2010, 8:00 am - 1:00 pm, Tucson Convention Center, 260 S. Church Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/CaregiversConference2010.pdf>

WHAT: Arizona Living Well Symposium (Early Bird Registration Ends March 26th)

WHEN: April 9, 2010, 8:00 am 4:00 pm, Desert Botanical Garden, 1201 North Galvin Parkway, Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/AZLWIAgendaAtGlance022310.pdf>

WHAT: Hard of Hearing Training for Professionals (Registration Deadline

Monday, March 29, 2010)

WHEN: Thursday, May 27, 2010, 8:00 am 5:00 pm, Bio5 Institute, University of Arizona, Tucson

To register and for more information:

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

WHAT: Disability Empowerment Center 2010 Health and Wellness Fair

WHEN: Saturday, April 10, 2010; 10 am 3 pm; Disability Empowerment Center (DEC) 5025 E. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85034

For more information:

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

WHAT: Crime Victims Rights: Fairness, Dignity, Respect

WHEN: April 19, 2010, 9:00 am, Carnegie Center, 1101 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2010SavetheDate.pdf>

WHAT: 22nd Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference, Our Elders: Living Treasures

WHEN: April 19-22, 2010, Radisson Ft. McDowell Resort & Casino, 10438 N. Ft. McDowell Road, Fountain Hills, AZ 85264

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2010AICOASavetheDate.pdf>

WHAT: Caring for a Loved One At Home; Family Caregiver Training Classes

Sponsored by Northern Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging
Family Caregiver Program & the Town of Prescott Valley

WHEN: May 3, 4, 6th and May 11 &12, 2010, Prescott Valley Civic Center, 7601
E. Civic Circle, Room 331, Prescott Valley, AZ

For more information and registration, go to:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/Flyer1PrescottValley.pdf>

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 . Please
note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service
advocates.

**Please note: The next Legislative Update will be issued
the week of March 15th.**

Thank you and have a good week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

**March 5, 2010 Legislative Update
(Continued)**

UPDATE:

The Governor has called a Special Session to address the FY 2009-2010 state budget, including state employee compensation and workforce reduction and enactment of a state budget for FY 2010-2011.

To view the Proclamation, go to:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_030510_SpecialSession.pdf