

Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 27, 2012

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. The 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!

2nd Regular Session of the 50th Legislature

Monday, January 30th marks the deadline for Senate bills to be introduced and Monday, February 6th marks the House bill introduction deadline. The Legislative Council's calendar of deadlines can be found at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/council/CalendarDeadlines.pdf>.

Since last Friday, 546 floor actions were filed; 73 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link)

Legislation

Legislative action on a few of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging

H2208: Local Transportation Assistance Fund; Restoration designates a portion of lottery funds to local transportation assistance fund with annual appropriations. On 1/17 referred to the House Appropriations Committee.

H2228: Home Care Workers adds a new chapter to Title 36 (Public Health) related to licensure and regulation of home care workers. On 1/17 referred to the House Health and Human Services and Judiciary Committees.

H2593: TANF Benefits; Dependent Children; Grandparents allows for increase in cash assistance under TANF if dependent child resides with and is cared for daily by grandparent. On 1/18 referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

S1224: Health Insurance; Eye Care Services outlines requirements of insurers that offer eye care services and prohibits requirements of inclusion of optometrist or physician on the insurer's provider panel; does not mandate insurer to provide eye care coverage; prohibits insurers from requiring an optometrist or physician to join a plan to provide materials, lenses or eyeglasses. On 1/24 referred to Senate Banking and Insurance Committee.

Hearings next week:

Some of the hearings scheduled next week on legislation tracked on the Council's FULL LIST are listed below.

H2199: I Didn't Pay Enough Fund; 1/30, House Rules Committee at 1 pm, House Room 4. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:

http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2199_01-23-12_caucuscow.doc.htm&Session_ID=107

H2236: AHCCCS: Covered Services; Podiatry; 2/1, House Health & Human Services at 9 am, House Room 4.

H2582: AHCCCS; Food Stamps; ID Card; 2/1, House Health & Human Services at 9:00 am, House Room 4.

S1131: Transportation Project Advancement Notes; 1/30, Senate Rules Committee in the Senate Caucus Room. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:
http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1131nrt.doc.htm&Session_ID=107

S1143: Aggravated Identity Theft; Sentencing; 1/30, Senate Rules Committee in the Senate Caucus Room. Fact Sheet posted at the Arizona State Legislature's website:
http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/s.1143jud.doc.htm&Session_ID=107

At the end of day nineteen, 1,133 bills posted; 116 memorials or resolutions posted; 3 passed. Several of the bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the Legislative Update web page. **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.

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

Note: 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.

This list will continue to be edited and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills. We will add new bills to the list on a regular basis until all bills have been posted. Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until 1:30 pm on Monday, January 30, 2012.

Fiscal News

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) comparison presentation:**

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/13JLBCBaseline-rcaucus-ExecComparisonSlideshow.pdf>

Other News

Today, the Governor called a special primary election and a special general election for the purpose of filling the vacancy in the 8th congressional district resulting from the resignation of Congresswoman Gabrielle Giffords. A link to the press release is provided here:
http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_012612_ProcSpecialPrimary.pdf

Share your thoughts! 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 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) 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 OVERVIEW:

H.R.3794

Volunteer Freedom Act

Introduced on 1/18/2012 by Representative Marlin A. Stutzman (IN-3), the bill repeals the National and Community Service Act of 1990 (NCSA) and the Domestic Volunteer Service Act of 1973 (DVSA) one year after this Act's enactment. (NCSA authorizes the Learn and Serve America, AmeriCorps and National Civilian Community Corps [NCCC] programs. The DVSA authorizes the Volunteers in Service to America [VISTA] and National Senior Service Corps programs.)

Preserves the educational awards volunteers earn before the NCSA and DVSA are repealed.

On 1/18/2012, H.R.3794 was referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

S.2037

Title: A bill to reauthorize and improve the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes.

The bill was introduced on 1/26/2012 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT) and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R.3820

Elder Care Tax Credit Act of 2012

The bill was introduced on 1/24/2012 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-2) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the dependent care credit to take into account expenses for care of parents and grandparents who do not live with the taxpayer.

H.R.3820 proposes modifications of credit for expenses for household and dependent care services necessary for gainful employment.

On 1/24/2012, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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

Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

Other News:

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services – HHS issues IT challenge to improve care transition for hospital-discharge patients:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2012pres/01/20120126b.html>

National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices

National plan on dementia and intellectual disabilities

Executive Summary:

http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/Executive%20Summary_w_cover.pdf

Full Report: http://aadmd.org/sites/default/files/NTG_Thinker_Report.pdf

From **LeadingAge**

How CCRCs are Keeping Hearing Impaired Residents "In the Loop"

[http://www.leadingage.org/How CCRCs are Keeping Hearing Impaired Residents in the Loop.aspx](http://www.leadingage.org/How_CCRCs_are_Keeping_Hearing_Impaired_Residents_in_the_Loop.aspx)

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: Faith-Based Summit Connecting and Equipping Faith-Based Communities to Support Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

WHEN: February 9, 2012, 9 am to 4 pm, Arizona National Guard, Papago Park Military Reservation, Joint Force Headquarters, 5636 McDowell Rd, Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF Faith BasedSummit 020912.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AZNGACMF_Faith_BasedSummit_020912.pdf)

WHAT: *Transportation for the Underserved - without a ride, life unravels* (West Valley Human Services Alliance)

WHEN: Friday, February 10, 2012, 9 am to 4 pm, Desert Springs Community Church, 14440 West Indian School Road, Goodyear, Arizona 85395

For more information: **<http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/>**

Registration at: **<http://wvhsa.acfbci.org/transportation-for-the-underserved/>**

WHAT: ALTCS 101 Workshop

WHEN: Thursday, February 9, 2012, 9 to 10 am, Unity Church Fellowship Hall, Prescott, Arizona

For more information: **<http://www.SeniorConnection.us/ALTCS101.pdf>**

WHAT: Healthy Eating and Active Living (HEAL) for People with Disabilities, Resource Fair

WHEN: Saturday, February 18, 2012, 11 am to 3 pm, Ellie Towne Flowing Wells Community Center, 1660 W. Ruthrauff Road, Tucson, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ResourceFairFlier.pdf>

WHAT: Trauma Informed Care Summit

WHEN: Wednesday, February 22, 2012, 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Downtown Phoenix Campus, AE England Building (Civic Space Park), 424 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/TICSummit_2012_SaveTheDate.pdf

WHAT: 24th Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference "Elders Holding our Nations Together"

WHEN: March 12to 15, 2012, the Westin La Paloma Resort & Spa, 3800 East Sunrise Drive, Tucson, AZ 85718

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012AICOAConfSaveTheDate.pdf>

WHAT: Implementing Rural Transit Technology Course Offering presented by National Transit Institute

WHEN: March 27 & 28, 2012 in Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/RuralTransitFlyer.pdf>

Just in case you're interested:

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

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.

Enjoy your weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging