

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 26, 2013

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!

This issue is brief; not a lot to report on this week.

First Regular Session of the 51st Legislature

The legislative session has passed the 100th day deadline without sine die adjournment. The budget, Medicaid expansion and tax reform are still pending.

Since last Friday, just 94 floor actions filed; 15 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging.

2013 Session Timeline

Tuesday, **April 23rd** marked the **100th day of the session**; leadership extended the session.

Fiscal News

Joint Legislative Budget Committee updated their April Baseline Cost Estimates for AHCCCS and DHS. The report can be viewed at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/april2013baselinecostestimates.pdf>.

Legislation

Legislative and administrative actions taking place on *any remaining bills* tracked by the Council on Aging are outlined here with fact sheets or summaries from the Arizona State Legislature, when available. Note: you can view summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports-LOLA* on the **FULL LIST** and **SHORT LIST** reports provided at the links later in this issue.

Passed and forwarded to the Governor

H2272: burial duties; designated person

House Summary 4/24:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/51leg/1r/summary/h.hb2272_04-23-13_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

H2513: dentistry

Senate Fact sheet:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/51leg/1r/summary/s.2513hhs-cem_aspased.pdf

S1437: music therapy; licensure

House Engrossed final version:

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/51leg/1r/bills/sb1437h.pdf>

Hearings next week

H2045: health care; direct pay; ahcccs rate, 4/30 House room 5

REMINDER: Bill summaries, actions, hearings and other information are provided on all the legislation tracked by the Council this session at the **FULL LIST** and **SHORT LIST** links provided below.

Day 103:

1,147 bills posted, 189 bills passed; 125 bills signed; 6 vetoed; 73 memorials or resolutions posted and 16 passed. Some of these bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and are being tracked by the Council and appear on the **Legislative Update** web report pages.

Our **FULL LIST** link below includes all bills originally placed on the tracking list; the **SHORT LIST** link of bills is provided for quick reference on legislation that is moving forward.

Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking lists does not represent support or opposition by the Council to that bill. It **does** mean that the bill is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

FULL LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24960&listid=47124&print=true>

SHORT LIST:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25113&listid=48764&print=true>

Important to note: The **web reports above** provide you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about bills being tracked by the Council and **are available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This list will continue to be edited as the session continues.** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the **Arizona Capitol Times.**

Both the Senate and the House are adjourned at this time until Tuesday, April 29th reflecting the change to three-day work weeks.

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, see [Arizona Bill](#) or ***From Idea To Bill To Law, The Legislative Process in Arizona*** linked [here](#).

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators, **you may voice your thoughts at any time** 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 **contacting your legislator from your area**...locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature [website](#)** 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.

· **Not sure about your district? District maps** can be found on the website linked [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

H.R.1507

Health Outcomes, Planning, and Education for Alzheimer's Act

Introduced on 4/11/2013 by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-5); the bill has 37 cosponsors.

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to increase diagnosis of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias, leading to better care and outcomes for Americans living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

On 4/11/2013, the bill was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.1714

To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to establish a grant pilot program to provide housing to elderly homeless veterans.

H.R. 1714 was introduced on 4/24/2013 by Representative Scott H. Peters (CA-52)

On 4/24/2013, the bill was referred to the Committees on Financial Services and Veterans' Affairs.

Also in the news:

S.744

Border Security, Economic Opportunity, and Immigration Modernization Act

Introduced on 4/16/2013 by senator Charles E. Schumer (NY) with seven cosponsors

On 4/23/2013, Committee on the Judiciary, hearings held.

Related Bills: H.R.490, S.223, S616

Check on active legislation at:

http://www.senate.gov/pagelayout/legislative/b_three_sections_wit_h_teasers/active_leg_page.htm.

NOTE: If you want information specific to a bill, go to the **Thomas** website (<http://thomas.loc.gov/>) and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status* or check **Congress.gov United States Legislative Information** at: <http://beta.congress.gov/>.

In case you missed it

The **President's budget** was released on April 10th and can be accessed at the GPO linked [here](#).

House of Representative Committee on the Budget plan is linked [here](#).

Senate Budget Committee's plan is linked [here](#).

From **Kaiser Health News**

Group Offers Budget Plan With \$560 Billion in Health Care Savings is posted at:

<http://capsules.kaiserhealthnews.org/index.php/2013/04/bipartisan-center-offers-plan-to-reduce-health-spending/>

Five Ways the President's Budget Would Change Medicare is linked [here](#).

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

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 are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

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

OTHER NEWS

From **Kaiser Health News**

"Tracking Poll finds that a majority of Americans are unsure how the law will impact them, and few are paying attention to the details of state-level decisions about implementation."

<http://www.kff.org/kaiserpolls/upload/8425-F.pdf>

Also ***Seniors Get Hung Up in Health Care Scams*** is posted at:

<http://www.kaiserhealthnews.org/Stories/2013/April/22/insurance-scams.aspx>

From the **National Eye Institute & National Institutes of Health**

May is National Healthy Vision Month

<http://www.nei.nih.gov/hvm/>

From the **National Council on Aging**

Reverse mortgage consumer information in [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Reverse mortgage counseling information is linked [here](#).

Weaving It Together: A Tapestry of Transportation Funding for Older Adults from the **AARP Public Policy Institute** is linked [here](#).

From the **National Association of States United for Aging & Disabilities NASUAD Friday Updates April 26, 2013**

Two-Part Webinar Series on Expanding Oral Health Access for Older Adults

Expanding Oral Health Access for Older Adults is a Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) initiative involving the Administration for Community Living/Administration on Aging, Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, HHS Health Resources Service Administration, and the HHS Office of Women's Health. *Older Adults and Oral Health: Inspiring Community-Based Partnerships for Healthy Mouths* is the topic of the first of two webinars to be sponsored by this initiative.

The goal of this webinar is to describe the oral health status of older adults in the U.S., provide useful resources and highlight two innovative community approaches to improving oral health access for older adults.

Date: Wednesday, **May 15, 2013**

Time: 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST

Click [here](#) to register for the online event.

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease

The latest information is posted at this [link](#). (Be sure to scroll up the page for current information.)

May is Older Americans Month and **Unleash the Power of Age** is the theme of this 50th year celebration. Resources and information provided at this [link](#).

From **ACL News & Info Monday, April 22, 2013**

A Profile of Older Americans 2012 is now available online and provided [here](#).

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

May is Better Hearing and Speech Month

WHAT: FREE Hearing Health Fair

WHEN: Tuesday, May 21st, 10 am to 2 pm, 100 N.15th Avenue, Phoenix AZ

More information is provided [here](#).

WHAT: Alzheimer's Education Session; Know the 10 Signs

WHEN: Wednesday, May 22, 2 pm to 4 pm, Arizona Commission for the Deaf & the Hard of Hearing Conference Room, 100 N. 15th Avenue, Suite 104, Phoenix AZ

No Charge; registration *is required*. For more information, click [here](#).

WHAT: 40th Annual Arizona Rural Health Conference; *The Evolution of Rural Health*

WHEN: August 20th and 21st, 2013, Prescott AZ

For more information, open this [link](#).

Creating Caring Communities; NACOG AAA 22nd Annual Conference

***2013 Call for Presentations* is linked [here](#).**

From the **Arizona Coalition for Military Families**

Military/Veteran Resource Network:
<http://militaryveteranresourcenetwork.org/>

Arizona Attorney General 2013 "Why Should I Care About Elder Abuse?" Junior High School Arts Competition:

<https://www.azag.gov/press-release/arizona-attorney-general-tom-horne-announces-contest-raise-awareness-elder-abuse>

Just in case you're interested

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

If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send 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.

Have a good weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging