

Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 6, 2015

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and 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!

Floor Actions

More than 1,085 floor actions have been filed since the last issue; 34 of those related to legislation tracked on the Council's [FULL LIST](#).

Summary of Action

As of day 26, 1,089 bills posted; one bill passed; one signed; 76 memorials or resolutions posted and three passed.

Highlighted Bills

H2170: lifespan respite care program; appropriation - Appropriates \$500,000 from the general fund in FY2015-16 to the Department of Economic Security for the Lifespan Respite Care Program. The statutory termination date of July 1, 2017 for the Program is deleted.

Text of the bill [here](#)

H2492: AHCCCS coverage; ALTCS; medical services - The list of medically necessary health and medical services that AHCCCS contractors are required to provide is expanded to include podiatry services performed by a licensed podiatrist and ordered by a primary care physician, emergency dental care and extractions for persons who are at least 21 years of age, orthotic devices ordered by a physician, and chiropractic services that are ordered by a primary care physician. The list of services that ALTCS contractors are required to provide is expanded to include emergency and preventative dental services.

Text of the bill [here](#)

S1282: teledentistry; dental hygienists; dental assistants - Creates Expanded Function Dental Assistants (EFDA) and requires insurers to cover dental services provided through teledentistry if the same service would be covered if provided in-person. Modifies the dental affiliated practice statute.

Recent action: 2/5 from Senate Financial Institutions with do pass. Factsheet provided [here](#)

NOTE: Bill summaries provided by Arizona State Legislature website or *Arizona Capitol Reports*.

Hearings Next Week

H2021: adult protective services; info online – 2/9 House Rules at 1:00 pm, House Rm. 4

H2492: AHCCCS coverage; ALTCS; medical services – 2/10 House Health Committee at 2:00 pm, House Rm. 4

HCR2029: persons with disabilities, employment, support – 2/11 House Commerce Committee at 9:30 am, House Rm. 1

NOTE: You can find information on any bill at the Arizona State Legislature's [Bills Search](#) page

Some of this session's bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the *Legislative Updates* web report page. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It does mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FULL LIST link: <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25423&listid=55049&print=true>

Note: the FULL LIST web report 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 updated throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports*.

Schedules

Arizona State Legislature ALIS Today calendar linked [here](#)

Senate Weekly Schedule linked [here](#)

House Weekly Schedule linked [here](#)

Deadlines

Monday, 2/2 marked the Senate bill introduction deadline and 2/9 marks the last day for introduction of House bills.

Senate [2015 Session Timeline](#)

House [Important Deadlines](#)

A list of the Representatives and Senators, Standing Committees and their members can be found on the Arizona State Legislature [website](#) at the following links:

[Members of the House](#)

[Members of the Senate](#)

Standing Committees (Be sure to click on the committees to view the members as well as any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.)

Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

JLBC Staff Presentation to the Appropriations Committees linked [here](#).

Senate Appropriations Committee agenda for 2/10 and the House Appropriations Committee agenda for 2/11 includes AHCCCS and the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) budget presentations. See Committee agendas at: <http://www.azleg.gov/CommitteeAgendas.asp>.

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you can voice your opinions by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix, 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in-state toll free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or
- The **legislator(s) from your area**. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** and looking for: **How do I find My Legislators** or by opening the links highlighted below.
- [Members of the House](#)
- [Members of the Senate](#)

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? **Maps** can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

Website Resources

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or **Bill to Law** provided [here](#).

Learn about the budget process [here](#).

Review the Arizona Constitution [here](#).

Learn more at Frequently Asked Questions linked [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

The President's budget proposal was released on Monday. A link to the information posted by the Government Publishing Office/GPO is provided [here](#).

S.192

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

Introduced on 1/20/2015 by Senator Lamar Alexander (TN)

Reauthorizes the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA) and funding for its programs for FY2016-FY2018.

Requires the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (in the Administration on Aging [AOA] of the Department of Health and Human Services) to collect, analyze, and report on best practices related to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in long-term care facilities.

Requires the Assistant Secretary for Aging of the AOA to focus: (1) on the health and economic needs and welfare of older individuals; and (2) ensure that authorized programs include appropriate training in the prevention of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and provision of services that address elder justice and the exploitation of older individuals.

Reauthorizes appropriations for FY2016-FY2018, and revises requirements, for allotments to states, the AOA, the Eldercare Locator Service, pension counseling and information programs, supportive services, congregate nutrition services, disease prevention and health promotion services, family caregiver support, the nutrition services incentive program, the Community Service Senior Opportunity Act, and grants for Native Americans.

Revises requirements for the national family caregiver support program and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program, revising conflict-of-interest requirements and prohibitions for the latter.

Requires health programs for older individuals to cover behavioral health.

Directs the Assistant Secretary to issue guidance to applicable to states, area agencies on aging, and providers of services for older individuals, with respect to serving Holocaust survivors.

On 2/3/2015, placed on the Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 12.

H.R.539

Action for Dental Health Act of 2015

Introduced on 1/27/15 by Representative Robin L. Kelly (IL-2)

To amend part B of title III of the Public Health Service Act to improve essential oral health care for lower income individuals by breaking down barriers to care, and for other purposes.

On 1/27/15 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

ALSO:

On 2/4, the House Ways and Means Committee approved these charitable provisions: 1) the IRA charitable rollover, 2) the deduction for gifts of food inventory, 3) and the deduction for conservation easements. The committee also approved legislation that would streamline the private foundation excise tax to one percent.

Charitable bills passed by the Committee on Wednesday:

- H.R. 637, "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to make permanent the rule allowing certain tax-free distributions from individual retirement accounts for charitable purposes." Text found [here](#)
- H.R. 640, "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the tax rate for excise tax on investment income of private foundations." Text found [here](#)
- H.R. 644, "To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to permanently extend and expand the charitable deduction for contributions of food inventory." Text found [here](#)
- H.R. 641, "Conservation Easement Incentive Act of 2015." Text found [here](#)

If you want to check on the status of any federal legislation, go to <http://beta.congress.gov/> and enter the bill number or title.

Check for **active federal legislation** at this [link](#).

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 or Senators 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](#).

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

NEWS & RESOURCES

From **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

Friday Updates, February 6, 2015

Statement regarding the FY2016 Presidential Proposed Budget [here](#)

From the National Council on Aging

[Aging Program Funding Chart](#)

White House Conference on Aging [here](#)

From the **Alzheimer's Association**

Latest report

[Changing the Trajectory of Alzheimer's Disease: How a Treatment by 2025 Saves Lives and Dollars](#). You can find the summary, appendices and quick facts as well at this link: **http://alz.org/alzheimers_disease_trajectory.asp#summary**.

National Alzheimer's Project Act

Updated information can be found at: **<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#102714Mtg>**.

(Be sure to scroll up and down the page.)

Department of Justice

Financial Exploitation Frequently Asked Questions/FAQs

<http://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/financial/faq.html>

Elder Justice Initiative website: **<http://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/>**

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

WHAT: 24th Annual Alzheimer's Education Conference

WHEN: February 27, 2015, East Valley Institute of Technology, 1601 West Main Street, Mesa AZ 85201

More information **[here](#)**

Coming later this spring

Arizona Transit Association

2015 AZTA/ADOT conference April 12 – 15, 2015

More information **[here](#)**

Just in case you're interested

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

You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: gaca@az.gov. (Please note: we try to include resources and events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.)

Have a good weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: gaca@az.gov and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
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