



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 15, 2016

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.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

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### Federal Update

#### S.192: Older American Act (OAA) Reauthorization Bill

*Latest action: 4/13/2016* Presented to the President.

See **Summary** [HERE](#)

Enrolled Text [HERE](#)

About the OAA:

Information from the **National Council on Aging** [HERE](#)

**American Society on Aging** blog [HERE](#)

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### 52<sup>nd</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session

Today marks the last day for consideration of bills in conference committees, and Tuesday is the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the legislative session. Budget bills are anticipated soon. April 23 is the Saturday after the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the session and this is the date required by rule for *sine die*

adjournment unless leaders extend the deadline.

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**Recent action on tracked bills**

**SB1441: long-term care insurance; rules** – is an emergency measure that requires the Department of Insurance (DOI) to adopt rules relating long-term care insurance. Recent action: 4/13 passed House 56-3; ready for Senate action on House amendments.

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Please note the Council tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. All of the bills tracked this session can be found on the FULL List web report provided [HERE](#). (Be sure to view the recent action for these bills and click on the bill numbers for more information including bill versions, adopted amendments, proposed amendments, votes, fact sheets and more.)

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House agendas [HERE](#)

Senate agendas [HERE](#)

**Deadlines**

Senate [2016 Session Timeline](#)

**House Important Deadlines**

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Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links if you wish to contact them by phone or email.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

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**Summary of Action**

As of day 96, **1,219 bills posted; 106 passed, 1 vetoed and 105 signed; 111 memorials or resolutions** have been **posted; 28** have **passed**. Note: some of this session’s bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and have been tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the

*Legislative Update* web report. 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 web report provided [HERE](#).**

Note: the web report provides you with the current status information on bills and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*. If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving this information, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov).

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### **Share your thoughts!**

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts 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
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

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

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Other resources on the [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) website

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

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

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

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

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

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW**

### **Additional Updates**

#### **S.849**

### **Advancing Research for Neurological Diseases Act of 2015**

Introduced on 3/24/2015 by Senator Johnny Isakson (GA)

Amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to: (1) enhance and expand infrastructure and activities to track the epidemiology of neurological diseases including multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease; and (2) incorporate information obtained through those activities into a National Neurological Diseases Surveillance System.

Requires the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to ensure that the System facilities further research on neurological diseases. Requires the HHS to provide for the collection and storage of information on neurological diseases, including the incidence, prevalence, and other information, to the extent practicable.

Requires HHS to: (1) make information and analysis in the System available to federal agencies and to the public, including researchers; and (2) ensure that privacy and security protections applicable to the System are at least as stringent as the protections under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act.

**Latest action: 4/4/2016** placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 408.

#### **S.1597**

### **Patient-Focused Impact Assessment Act of 2015**

This bill amends the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act to require the package of information published by the FDA upon approval of a new drug to include documentation of efforts to assess patient engagement. This documentation must include identification of patient-focused drug development tools and an explanation of whether certain information was reviewed or examined, including patient preferences and patient-reported or caregiver-reported outcomes. The FDA must annually summarize the data collected in this documentation. The FDA must publish guidance on collaboration between patients, advocacy organizations, and industry for the purposes of developing patient-focused drug development tools and patient perspectives on medical products under development.

**Latest action: 4/5/2016** placed on Senate Leg Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No.

413.

## **H.R.3860**

### **Ensuring Access to Affordable and Quality Home Care for Seniors and People with Disabilities Act**

Introduced on 10/29/2015 by Representative Tim Walberg (MI-7)

This bill amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 with respect to the exemption from minimum wage and maximum hour requirements of domestic service employment to provide companionship services for individuals who because of age or infirmity are unable to care for themselves. Definitions of "companionship services" and "domestic service employment" are detailed. Excluded from companionship services are any relating to the care and protection of the aged or infirm which require and are performed by trained medical personnel.

The exemption shall now extend to third-party employment of an employee to provide companionship services to such individuals, including non-medical in-home personal care or household work related to their care. "Third-party employment" means employees who provide companionship or live-in domestic services while employed by an employer or agency other than the family or household using their services, whether or not such an employee provides services to more than one household or family in the same workweek when providing such services.

Exempted also from the Act's maximum hour requirements are third-party employment in domestic service of an employee who resides in the household in which the services are provided.

*Latest action: 3/23/2016* referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

## **H.R.4878**

### **Better Care, Lower Cost Act**

Introduced on 3/23/2016 by Representative Erik Paulsen (MN-3)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare Better Care Program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

*Latest action: 3/29/2016* referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

### **Other legislation**

## **S.2759**

### **Credit for Caring Act of 2016**

Introduced on 4/7/2016 by Senator Joni Ernst (IA)

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow an eligible caregiver a new tax credit of 30% of the cost of long-term care expenses that exceed \$2,000, up to \$3,000 in the taxable year.

The bill defines “eligible caregiver” as an individual who pays or incurs expenses for providing care to a spouse or other dependent relative with long-term care needs and who has earned income for the taxable year in excess of \$7,500.

On 4/7/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

## **S.2748**

### **Palliative Care and Hospice Education and Training Act**

Introduced on 4/5/2016 by Senator Tammy Baldwin (WI)

This bill amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to award grants or contracts for Palliative Care and Hospice Education Centers. These Centers must improve the training of health professionals in palliative care and establish traineeships for individuals preparing for advanced education nursing degrees, social work degrees, or advanced degrees in physician assistant studies in palliative care.

HHS may make grants to, and enter into contracts with, schools of medicine, schools of osteopathic medicine, teaching hospitals, and graduate medical education programs to support the training of physicians who plan to teach palliative medicine.

HHS must: (1) provide Palliative Medicine and Hospice Academic Career Awards to individuals to promote their career development; (2) award grants or contracts to entities that operate a Palliative Care and Hospice Education Center; (3) award incentive grants or contracts to advanced practice nurses, social workers, physician assistants, pharmacists, chaplains, or students of psychology pursuing an advanced degree in palliative care or related fields; and (4) award grants to schools of nursing, health care facilities, or programs leading to certification as a nurse assistant to train individuals in providing palliative care.

The Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality must provide for a national education and awareness campaign to inform patients, families, and health professionals about the benefits of palliative care.

The National Institutes of Health must expand national research programs in palliative care.

On 4/5/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and

Pensions.

### **S.2747**

#### **Elder Protection and Abuse Prevention Act**

Introduced on 4/5/2016 by Senator Richard Blumenthal

To amend the Older Americans Act of 1965 to authorize Federal assistance to State adult protective services programs, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 4/5/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

### **H.R.4919**

**To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1995, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism.**

Introduced on 4/12/2016 by Representative Christopher Smith (NJ-4)

Text pending

On 4/12/2016, referred to the House Education and Workforce.

### **H.R.4849**

#### **Food and Nutrition Reform, Responsibility, and Accountability Act of 2016**

Introduced on 3/23/2016 by Representative Steve Chabot (OH-1)

The bill amends the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to change the work requirements for the Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP, formerly known as the food stamp program).

The bill reduces, from three months to one month, the time period for which able-bodied adults without dependents may receive SNAP benefits over a three-year period without meeting work requirements.

The bill modifies the exemption from work requirements for individuals who are under 18 or over 50 years of age to apply the exemption to those who are:

- under 18,
- over 50 in a household that includes an individual that is under 18, or
- over 63.

The bill eliminates USDA's authority to waive work requirements for individuals in areas with an unemployment rate above 10% or an insufficient number of jobs.

States may provide exemptions from the work requirements for up to 5% (currently 15%) of the covered individuals who either receive SNAP benefits or were denied benefits due to work requirements.

States must expunge benefits from a SNAP electronic benefit transfer account if: (1) the benefits are not used within 90 days of being posted to the account, or (2) the account has not been accessed for a 3-month period.

State workfare programs for SNAP participants must require at least six hours of work per week.

On 3/31/2016, referred to the Subcommittee on Nutrition.

### **H.R.4876**

#### **Medicare Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention Act of 2016**

Introduced on 3/23/2016 by Representative Patrick Meehan (PA-7)

To authorize the establishment of programs to prevent prescription drug abuse under the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

On 3/29/2016, referred to the Subcommittee on Health

### **H.R.4790**

#### **Recreation Not Red-Tape Act**

Introduced on 3/17/2016 by Representative Earl Blumenauer (OR-3)

This bill amends the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act to require the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Forest Service to adopt a consistent and uniform special recreation permitting process with respect to outfitters and guides.

The Department of the Interior and the Department of Agriculture (USDA) shall sell National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Passes entrance and recreation fees through federal websites.

Interior and USDA should:

- work with the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that veterans have access to outdoor programs, and
- increase programs focused on improving education about and access to outdoor recreation opportunities on public lands for individuals age 55 or older.

Interior and USDA shall make available, free of charge, a certain quantity of America the Beautiful passes for use by specified schools or their students and their families.

Interior and USDA shall study the overall impact that recreation on federal recreational land and water has on the U.S. economy and labor market.

The Forest Service, BLM, and National Park Service may develop respective management plans for extending the recreation season or increasing recreation use during the offseason.

The Forest Service and BLM shall include metrics on recreation use in specified evaluations of lands under their jurisdictions.

The Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission shall consider how land and water management decisions can enhance recreation opportunities and the recreation economy.

The bill amends the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 to prescribe requirements for deposit, administration, and distribution of revenues collected from rental charges for certain ski area permits issued on National Forest System lands.

The bill establishes: (1) a National Recreation Area System, (2) a private sector volunteer enhancement program, and (3) a priority trail maintenance program.

Interior and USDA shall establish an interagency trail management plan under which federal land management agencies shall coordinate so that trails that cross jurisdictional boundaries between those agencies are uniformly managed and maintained. The Public Lands Corps Act of 1993 is amended to conform to this Act.

On 3/31/2016, referred to the Subcommittee on Conservation and Forestry

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### **Share your opinions with members of Congress!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your 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: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## NEWS& RESOURCES

From the **Administration for Community Living/ACL**

**May is Older American's Month** and *Blaze a Trail* is the 2016 theme.

Information and resources: <http://oam.acl.gov/>

Tip sheets: <http://oam.acl.gov/2016/tipsheets.html>

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## April 16 is Healthcare Decision Day

**Governor Ducey** has proclaimed **April 16** as **Health Care Decision Day in Arizona**

A link to the proclamation is provided [HERE](#).

Life-care planning resources can be found on the Arizona Attorney General's website at: <https://www.azag.gov/seniors/life-care-planning>.

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## Kaiser Health News

*Most Doctors Unsure How to Discuss End-of-Life Care Survey Says* [HERE](#)

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>

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## U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

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**National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease** updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

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

*Friday Updates, April 15, 2016*

**ACL Releases Materials on Medications and the Aging Brain**

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) in partnership with scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and the National Institutes for Health (NIH), have developed a three-part set of materials on medications and the aging brain. The materials are written in layman's terms and were designed specifically for use by staff and volunteers at senior centers, area agencies on aging (AAAs), health departments, local clinics, and other community organizations. Some of the materials are also available in Spanish. The Medicine, Age, and Your Brain set includes a power point presentation, a brochure for educators, and a one page handout for consumers.

[Click here](#) to view the materials.

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**Mass Transit News**

**Valley Metro** announcement regarding improvements to regional Dial-A-Ride services [HERE](#)

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**In case you missed it last time...**

**2016 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures** is provided [HERE](#). It includes a Special Report on the Personal Financial Impact of Alzheimer's.

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***Big Financial Costs Are Part of Alzheimer's Toll on Families*** is linked [HERE](#).

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From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

*Perspectives – Traditional Medicare...Disadvantaged?* [HERE](#)

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From **National Institutes of Health**

[News release](#) – **World’s older population grows dramatically**

*The world’s older population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. Today, 8.5 percent of people worldwide (617 million) are aged 65 and older. According to a new report, “[An Aging World: 2015](#),” this percentage is projected to jump to nearly 17 percent of the world’s population by 2050. (1.6 billion).*

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

Tomorrow (4/16) is **HOPE FEST PHX** at **Chase Field**, 401 E. Jefferson Street in Phoenix from **9 a.m. to 2 p.m.** More information [HERE](#)

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**Citizen Safety Forum** - presented by the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office and the Chandler Police Department on **May 4, 2016, Chandler Community Center**, 125 East Commonwealth Avenue in Chandler. More information [HERE](#)

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**Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference** *Integrating Behavioral Health & Primary Care*, **Friday, June 17, 2016** from **8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** at the **Tucson Convention Center**. More information [HERE](#)

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**Plan Ahead!**

**Walk 4 Hearing, Saturday, November 12, 2016** at **Riverview Park**, 2100 West 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Mesa AZ. More information [HERE](#)

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**REMINDER: Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A 2016 Aging Summit**

May 19-20, 2016, High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff AZ

More information and register online [HERE](#)

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If you're interested

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

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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](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**

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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](mailto:gaca@az.gov) and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

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