

Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 29, 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 Update:

This week the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee** released a list of options to address revenue shortfalls that includes general fund spending reductions, fund transfers, debt and payment deferrals and additional revenues. To view the document, go to:

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

At this time, JLBC anticipates FY 2010 budget shortfall is \$1.45 billion due to revenues falling short of budgeted levels and carry over of FY 2009 ending balance shortfall. The projected FY 2011 shortfall is now \$2.59 billion.

Governor Brewer's request for a temporary increase in the state sales tax to offset the growing revenue shortfall continues to be debated by legislators.

HB 2250: Arizona's Job Recovery Act passed in the House this week and went to the Senate. The legislation includes tax cuts, incentives for new businesses and job training programs. The latest fact sheet outlining specific aspects of this budget bill is posted at:

http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/49leg/2r/su/mmary/h.hb2250_01-25-10_caucuscow_asrevised.doc.htm

Additional information about the bill can be viewed:

http://www.azleg.gov/DocumentsForBill.asp?Bill_Number=HB2250

The Governor's 2011 Budget proposal is found at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/Budget2011.asp>

State Legislation:

At the end of day nineteen of the 2010 Arizona Legislative Session, more than 950 bills have been posted; 100 Memorials or Resolutions have been posted and one (1) Memorial or Resolution has passed.

This week - continuation legislation for the Advisory Council on Aging, the Hard of Hearing Commission and the Department of Health Services (**HB2026**, **HB2028**, and **HB2029**) cleared the House Rules Committee.

HB2161: Payday Loans; Regulation - was held in the House Banking and Insurance Committee.

HB2348: Veterans; Disability Benefits - received a do pass from the House Military Affairs and Public Safety Committee.

HB2426: Adult Guardianship & Protective Proceedings - received a do pass from the House Judiciary Committee.

Hearings scheduled next week on bills being tracked by the Council on Aging:

HB2132: Medicare Supplement; End-Stage Renal Disease – House Banking & Insurance, 2/1/10, 2:00 pm, House Rm. 5

HB2443: Health Care coverage; Choice – House Health & Human Services, 2/3/10, 9:00 am, House Rm. 4

HB2469: Certified Medication Assistants – House Health & Human Services, 2/3/10, 9:00 am, House Rm. 4

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: 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 be expanded as we have an opportunity to get through all of the bills, and 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*.

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.

Legislative Deadlines: February 1st marks the last day for bill introduction in the Senate without special permission and February 8th is the last day by rule for bill introduction in the House without special permission.

At this time, both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, February 1, 2010.

If you have a particular perspective to share about the budget 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.R.4123

Alzheimer's Treatment and Caregiver Support Act

H.R. 4123 was introduced on 11/19/2009 by Representative Maxine Waters (CA-35); there are 65 cosponsors.

The intent of the bill is to amend the Public Health Service Act to authorize grants for treatment and support services for Alzheimer's patients and their families.

Alzheimer's Treatment and Caregiver Support Act - Amends the Public Health Service Act to authorize the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to make grants to public and nonprofit private health care providers to expand treatment services for patients with Alzheimer's disease and training and support services for families and caregivers of such patients.

H.R.2460 Overview:

The Secretary may make grants to public and nonprofit private health care providers for the purpose of expanding treatment services for patients with Alzheimer's disease and training and support services for families and caregivers of such patients.

Recipients of Grants - The public and nonprofit private health care providers to whom grants may be made under subsection (a) include health care organizations, community health centers, nursing homes, senior centers, Area Agencies on Aging, community-based organizations, and state, local, and tribal health agencies and social service agencies.

Integration of Treatment, Training, and Support Services- A condition for the receipt of a grant under subsection (a) is that the applicant involved agrees to employ a comprehensive approach to Alzheimer's care that integrates treatment of patients with Alzheimer's disease with training and support services for the patients' families and caregivers.

Appropriate Cultural Context- A condition for the receipt of a grant under subsection (a) is that the applicant involved agrees that, in any program to be funded by such

grant, services will be provided in the languages most appropriate for, and with consideration for the cultural backgrounds of, the individuals for whom the services are provided.

Outreach Services- A condition for the receipt of a grant under subsection (a) is that the applicant involved agrees to provide outreach activities to inform the public of the services of the program, and to provide information on Alzheimer's Disease.

Application for Grant- A grant may be made under subsection (a) only if an application for the grant is submitted to the Secretary and the application is in such form, is made in such manner, and contains such agreements, assurances, and information as the Secretary determines to be necessary to carry out this section.

On 11/19/09 the bill was referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S.2809, related legislation, was introduced on 11/20/09 Senate by Senator Kristen E. Gillibrand (NY) and was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

If you want more information specific to this or any bill, go to the **Thomas** website <http://thomas.loc.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:

The Census is coming and efforts are underway to make sure every Arizonan is counted. More information can be found at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/CENSUS2010IsComingMarch.pdf>

Information & Resources:

WHAT: 2010 Behavioral Health and Older Adults Conference

WHEN: February 12, 2010; 8:00 am – 4:45 pm; Hilton El Conquistador Resort, 10000 North Oracle Road, Tucson, Arizona

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/BehavioralHealthOlderAdultsConf2010.pdf>

WHAT: 2010 Scam Jam & Shred-a-Thon

WHEN: March 3, 2010, 9:30 am – 1:00 pm, Peoria Senior Center, 8335 West Jefferson, Peoria, AZ; Space is limited for this free event.

For more information

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/ScamJam2009Flyer.pdf>

WHAT: Sierra VistAbility Day

WHEN: Saturday, March 27, 2010, 10:00 am – 2:00 pm, Ethel Berger Center, 2950 E. Tacoma Street, Sierra Vista, AZ 85635 _

For more information: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/CoDIFlyer.pdf>

WHAT: Arizona Living Well – Save the Date!

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/documents/legupdates/AZLWI_SVTD_1_19_10.pdf

WHAT: TimeOUT Workshop Featuring Mental Health Issues in the Elderly

WHEN: Thursday, May 6, 2010, Hansen Mortuaries, 6500 E. Bell Rd, Scottsdale, AZ

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/TimeoutFlyerRegFormMay2010.pdf>

WHAT: Save the Date - Hard of Hearing Training for Professionals sponsored by The Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

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

For more information: call 602.542.3323 V; 602.364.0990 TTY; email:
info@acdhh.az.gov or check the website: www.acdhh.org

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.

Thank you and have a good week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging