

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It is our intent to offer the Legislative Update weekly during the 2009 Arizona State Legislature session. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and action taking place at the Legislature. We know that many of you want to be involved in helping to shape the future of Arizona but are unable to be in attendance at every hearing or meeting that addresses aging issues. The information provided is intended to help you form your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts to help ensure your perspective and voice are heard. Please note the Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature. We thank you for your interest!

### **GENERAL OVERVIEW:**

What a difference a week can make as we witnessed the change of executive leadership at both the national and state level in the last few days.

To access the text of President Obama's inaugural address:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/blog/inaugural-address/>

Here is a link to Governor Jan Brewer's inaugural address:

[http://azgovernor.gov/documents/NR\\_012109\\_Inaugural\\_Address.pdf](http://azgovernor.gov/documents/NR_012109_Inaugural_Address.pdf)

You can read more about Governor Brewer at:

<http://www.governor.state.az.us/>

At the end of the first twelve days of the 2009 Arizona Legislative Session, 588 bills have been posted. Several of these will 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 web page 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.

### **STATE LEGISLATION:**

Visit the links below to view the Council's web pages and the list of bills the Council is tracking.

### **FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=364&listid=13720>

Once all bills have been filed, we will establish the Council's **SHORT** list – those bills of particular focus as they affect health and safety of older adults.

Note: The website link(s) above provide you with the current status and upcoming hearing information about the bills being tracked by the Council and are available and updated on an ongoing basis, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We will add new bills to the website on a weekly basis until all bills have been posted, but the updated status of any particular bill is available throughout the week using the links below. If you are watching a bill that has a hearing on Tuesday afternoon, you should be able to see the results of that hearing by Wednesday morning.

Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the Arizona Capitol Times.

**Contact Your Policymakers:** If you have a particular perspective about anything in a piece of legislation that is being considered, you may voice your thoughts by contact 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. If you do not know how to reach your local legislator, start at this page on the Legislature's website and follow the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links.

Here is your link to the Arizona State Legislature: <http://www.azleg.gov/>

### **FEDERAL LEGISLATION:**

#### **H.R. 271**

Title: To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to increase the standard charitable mileage rate for delivery of meals to elderly, disabled, frail and at risk individuals.

Sponsor: Rep Robert E. Latta (R-OH-5)

Bill was introduced on 1/7/09

Latest action: 1/7/2009 – referred to House Committee on Ways and Means.

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### **Be sure to watch this section for future in-depth updates on federal legislation!**

In the meantime, we thought you might also be interested to see the Congressional Budget Office's proposed budget options on health care at the link provided below:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/12-18-HealthOptions.pdf>

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Contact Your Congressional Member: If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns with your federal representatives, 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.

### **INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT:** Beatitudes Center DOAR – *Let's Talk: Generations Making Decisions Together*

**WHEN:** February 7, 2009 8:30 a.m. – 3:15 p.m. First Christian Church, 6750 N. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

For more information and to register:

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

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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 (as shown above) to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov).

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Note: The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's website is in the process of being updated.

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Be sure to visit the **Governor's Office on Aging** website at: [www.azgovernor.gov/aging](http://www.azgovernor.gov/aging).

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Thank you and have a great week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging