

Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 20, 2009

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 session of the Arizona State Legislature. 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. 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:

Governor Brewer recently launched a website dedicated to the tracking of federal stimulus dollars coming from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) to Arizona.

To view the press release announcing the website, go to:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/NR_031809_%20Federal%20Stimulus%20Web%20Site.pdf

To view the website, visit: <http://az.gov/recovery/>

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee 3/18/09 ARRA summary update is provided at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/arrasummary031809.pdf>

To view the JLBC most recent appropriations hearing presentation, go to:

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

With the legislative focus pointed at our state's current and projected budget deficits, bills are not moving forward *as usual* at this point in the legislative session. At the end of day 68 of the 2009 Arizona Legislative Session, 1099 bills are posted and 1 has been signed. 94 memorials and resolutions have been posted as well. 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 link below to view the Council's web page and the list of bills the Council is tracking.

FULL LIST:

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

Highlights of legislative actions taken on bills the Council is tracking include:

H2091: Charitable Organizations; Solicitations; Disclosure House Committee of the Whole approved with Floor Amendment #4190 on 3/18.

Reminder: Be sure to check the Arizona State Legislature website for Senate, House and Joint Legislative Budget committee agendas and updates to those agendas at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/CommitteeAgendas.asp?Body=H&ShowAll=OFF>

The website FULL List link 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. *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 contacting 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 the homepage under *How do I find My Legislators* or follow the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

Arizona State Legislature website: <http://www.azleg.gov/>

FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

The following is a detailed update to the report provided last week on H.R. 1105

H.R. 1105

2009 Omnibus Budget Act

The 2009 Omnibus Budget Act was introduced on February 23, 2009 by Representative David Obey (D-WI-7).

The purpose of the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009 - Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2009, is to make appropriations for FY2009 for specified: (1) agricultural programs; (2) conservation programs; (3) rural development programs; (4) domestic food programs; (5) foreign assistance and related programs; and (6) related agency and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) purposes. The appropriations fund the remainder of the 2009 federal fiscal year (FY) which ends September 30, 2009.

HR 1105 passed the Senate Tuesday, March 10 without changes and was signed by President Obama on Wednesday, March 11.

To read the actual bill text along with summaries of the provisions please follow the link <http://appropriations.house.gov/> to the U.S. House of Representatives Appropriations website or you may view the bill and other information related to its passage at <http://www.thomas.gov/> and search for bill number HR 1105.

To view the details for the FY 09 appropriations, open this link provided below:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/HR1105detail.pdf>

The U.S. Department of Health & Human Services announcements regarding use of ARRA funding can be found at: <http://www.hhs.gov/news/> .

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:

Senior Action Day April 1st

NOTE: This year's Council on Aging event includes **an emphasis on seniors and advocates meeting one-on-one with legislators, and legislators have been alerted that you will be calling to set up appointments at their offices between 12:30 2:30 p.m. on April 1st**. If you're unable to attend that day, you can still call your Senator or Representative at any time. Contact information can be found at the links provided below.

How do I find My Legislators:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alisStaticPages/HowToContactMember.asp>

Senate Members: <http://www.azleg.gov/MemberRoster.asp?Body=S>

House Members: <http://www.azleg.gov/memberRoster.asp?Body=H>

UNABLE TO ATTEND?? YOU CAN STILL MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!
We are encouraging older Arizonans and aging advocates to provide input about important issues via mail, email or phone to share with legislators.

Mail your input to us at:

The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

1700 W. Washington Street, Suite 240

Phoenix, AZ 85007

OR - Email us at: gaca@az.gov

OR - Call us at 602-542-4710.

See our Senior Action Day flyer for more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2009SeniorActionDayFlyer.pdf>

What: Time Out Workshop; Practical Solutions for Real Life Solutions

When: May 20, 2009, 8:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m., Scottsdale Civic Center Library, 3839 North Drinkwater Blvd., Scottsdale, AZ 85251

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/TimeOutFlyerMay2009.pdf>

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.

Visit the Governor's Office on Aging website at:

www.azgovernor.gov/aging .

Thank you and have a great week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging