

Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 26, 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. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

GENERAL OVERVIEW

Budget

The Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC) has posted the *Summary of Enacted FY 2011 Budget & FY 2010 Revisions*

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/enactedbudgetproposal031910.pdf>

The JLBC *Fiscal Impact Analysis of May 2010 Special Election Ballot Initiative* statement for the special election ballot is posted at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/10mayprop100sum.pdf>

This afternoon, the Governor issued a Special Session call to Arizona legislators to consider legislation that would add Arizona to the list of states challenging the federal government.

For more information on the Eighth Special Session, go to:

http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_032610_BrewerIssuesSpecialSession.pdf

With a shift of focus from the budget, 415 floor actions took place at the Legislature.

This week the following actions were filed on legislation tracked by the Council:

HB 2026: Advisory Council on Aging; Continuation - 3/25 from Senate Rules Committee okay (proper for consideration)

HB 2028: Hard of Hearing Commission; Continuation - 3/18 from Senate Rules Committee okay (proper for consideration)

HB 2469: Certified Medication Assistants; from Senate Healthcare and Medical Liability Reform Committee with do pass recommendation

Hearing scheduled for next on bills being tracked by the Council on Aging:

HB 2242: Reverse Mortgages; Regulations, Senate Commerce and Economic Development, Tuesday, 3/30/2010 at 1:30 pm, Senate Room 1.

Note: You can find the agendas for hearings and check to see if the times have changed or committees have been cancelled at the Arizona State Legislature website link:

Committee Agendas:

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

At the end of day 75 of the 2010 Arizona Legislative Session: 1,233 bills posted, 159 memorials or resolutions posted, five bills passed, three signed and seven memorials/resolutions passed.

Both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, March 29, 2010.

Session Deadlines April 17th marks the last day for conference committees (by Senate and House rule)

To view 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: *This list contains some bills that haven't seen action, and while nothing is dead until the Legislature adjourns sine die, the chances for the bills' passage are poor.*

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. 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.

If you have a particular perspective to share, 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.2847

Hiring Incentives to Restore Employment

Introduced on 6/12/2009 by Representative Alan B. Mollohan (WV-1), the bill had no cosponsors.

The following is a summary of Title IV specific to transportation as of 2/24/2010:

Title IV: Extension of Current Surface Transportation Program - Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2010

Subtitle A: Federal-aid Highways - (Sec. 411) Continues in effect until December 31, 2010, the requirements, authorities, conditions, eligibilities, limitations, and other provisions authorized by specified federal transportation law.

Authorizes appropriations out of the Highway Trust Fund (HTF) (other than the Mass Transit Account) for FY2010 and the period October 1-December 31, 2010, (first quarter of FY2011) for the federal-aid highway, surface transportation research, and transportation planning programs under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU), with a limit on obligational authority for the programs equal to the total authorized for such programs for FY2009 (although only one-quarter of such total for the first quarter of FY2011).

Extends the allocation of certain transportation program funds to:

(1) states for specific programs, including the Interstate and National Highway System program, the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality Improvement program, the highway safety improvement program, the Surface Transportation program, and the Highway Bridge program; and

(2) the territories or Puerto Rico.

Extends the authorization of appropriations for certain transportation research programs under title V: Research of SAFETEA-LU at FY2009 funding levels.

(Sec. 412) Extends the authorization of appropriations for FY2010 and the first quarter of FY2011 for federal-aid highway program administrative expenses.

(Sec. 413) Directs the Secretary of Transportation (Secretary this title) to restore certain rescinded transportation program funds to the states and to the programs from which they were rescinded. Authorizes appropriations for such programs for FY2010.

(Sec. 414) Directs the Secretary, in reconciliation, to reduce the amount of funds allocated for a transportation program, project, or activity under this title by amounts allocated pursuant to the Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2010.

Subtitle B: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, and Additional Programs - (Sec. 421) Amends SAFETEA-LU to extend through December 31, 2010, the authorization of appropriations for National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) safety programs, including:

- (1) highway safety research and development;
- (2) the occupant protection incentive grant program;
- (3) the safety belt performance grant program;
- (4) state traffic safety information system improvements;
- (5) the alcohol-impaired driving countermeasures incentive grant program;
- (6) the National Driver Register;
- (7) the high visibility enforcement program;
- (8) motorcyclist safety;
- (9) the child safety and child booster seat safety incentive grant program;
- (10) NHTSA administrative expenses.

Authorizes appropriations through FY2011 for:

- (1) drug-impaired driving enforcement;
- (2) older driver safety and law enforcement training.

(Sec. 422) Extends through December 31, 2010, the authorization of appropriations for Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) programs, including:

- (1) motor carrier safety grants;
- (2) FMCSA administrative expenses;
- (3) commercial driver's license program improvement grants;

- (4) border enforcement grants;
- (5) performance and registration information system management grants;
- (6) commercial vehicle information systems and networks deployment grants;
- (7) safety data improvement grants;
- (8) a set-aside for high priority activities that improve commercial motor vehicle safety and compliance with commercial motor vehicle safety regulations;
- (9) a set-aside for new entrant motor carrier audit grants;
- (10) commercial driver's license information system modernization;
- (11) FMCSA and NHTSA outreach and education;
- (12) the commercial motor vehicle operators grant program;
- (13) the FMCSA's Motor Carrier Safety Advisory Committee;
- (14) the working group for development of practices and procedures to enhance federal-state relations

On March 18, 2010, **H.R. 2847** was signed into law by the President.

If you want more information specific to any bill, go to the Thomas website <http://www.thomas.gov/> and enter the bill number or description 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:

From: National Council on Aging

Caregiving in the U.S. 2009: The National Alliance for Caregiving recently released a [report](#) that compiles the results of interviews with 1,480 caregivers of adults, the elderly, and children with special needs. The study reveals that 29 percent of the U.S. adult population, or 65.7 million people, are caregivers, and that these mostly female caregivers provide an average of 20 hours of care per week.

From: Kaiser Family Foundation

New timeline detailing when specific provisions of the ***Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act***; health care reform legislation are scheduled to take effect.

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/8060.cfm>

Updated 3.25.2010 **Side-by-Side Comparison** of health care reform proposals

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/sidebyside.cfm>

The Foundation has also issued other new and updated resources that explain key elements of the new law. These can be found at: <http://healthreform.kff.org/>

From: Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Chronic Care: Making the Case for Ongoing Care, a 2010 update of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundations 2002 chartbook:

<http://www.rwjf.org/pr/product.jsp?id=50968>

From: Alzheimer's Association

The *2010 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures*

http://www.alz.org/documents_custom/report_alzfactsfigures2010.pdf

From: The National Center on Senior Transportation

Cost Allocation for Human Service Agencies that Provide Transportation - **free** audio conference from 2 - 3:30 p.m. Eastern Time on Thursday, April 22. Workshop will provide participants with the skills to accurately determine the cost of providing individual aspects of their services, and in turn make the best use of limited resources.

For more information:

<http://seniortransportation.easterseals.com/site/Calendar?view=Detail&id=31301&autologin=true>

Information & Resources:

WHAT: A.T. Still University 6th Annual Lecture on Aging: *Chaos or Coordination: The Choice is Ours* featuring Paul R. Willging, Ph.D., Johns Hopkins University

WHEN: April 2, 2010, 10 am MST, Arizona Campus via video, Saguaro A & B classrooms

For more information, call (660) 626-2887

WHAT: Disability Empowerment Center Health and Wellness Fair 2010

WHEN: Saturday, April 10, 2010; 10 am 3 pm; Disability Empowerment Center (DEC), 5025 E. Washington Street, Phoenix AZ

For more information:

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

WHAT: Caring for a Loved One At Home; Family Caregiver Training Classes

Sponsored by Northern Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging Family Caregiver Program & the Town of Prescott Valley

WHEN: May 3, 4, 6th and May 11 &12, 2010, Prescott Valley Civic Center, 7601 E. Civic Circle, Room 331, Prescott Valley, AZ

For more information and registration, go to:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/Flyer1PrescottValley.pdf>

WHAT: American Indian and Alaskan Native Long Term Care Conference 2010; Circles of Care: Providing Choices to Elders and Families

WHEN: May 4 6, 2010; Embassy Suites Hotel, Phoenix-Scottsdale, 4415 E. Paradise Village Pkwy S., Phoenix AZ

For more information: <http://www.aianlongtermcare.org/>

The Governor's Office on Aging is pleased to be a Co-Sponsor of Afternoon Sessions at the **2010 Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Annual Conference**

WHEN: Friday, May 21, 2010, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Due to overwhelming response to last year's conference, registration is encouraged as soon as possible!

Register online at <http://www.azalz.org/> or call 480-440-7177

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