

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 16, 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

#### Fiscal Focus:

**HB 2250:** Arizonans Job Recovery Act 4/13 from Senate Rules Committee with okay (proper for consideration).

A link to the bills summary/fact sheet, with the strike everything amendment as posted at the Arizona State Legislatures website, is provided here:

[http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/49leg/2r/summary/s.2250fin\\_strikermemo\\_caucus-floor.doc.htm](http://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/legtext/49leg/2r/summary/s.2250fin_strikermemo_caucus-floor.doc.htm)

This week, the **Governor's Commerce Advisory Council Report** was released. A link to the announcement and the report are provided here:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041410\\_NewEconomicDevelopmentModel.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041410_NewEconomicDevelopmentModel.pdf)

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_GovernorsCommerceAdvisoryCouncilReport.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_GovernorsCommerceAdvisoryCouncilReport.pdf)

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Work at the Legislature resulted in 406 floor actions this week, and the following actions were filed on legislation tracked by the Council:

**HB 2242:** Reverse Mortgages; Regulations; 4/14 Senate Committee of the Whole approved with amendment #4891. Passed Senate and ready for House action on Senate Amendment

**HB 2425:** Vulnerable Adults; Attorney Fees; 4/12 passed Senate; ready for the Governor.

**HB 2426:** Adult Guardianship & Protective Proceedings; 4/14 passed Senate; ready for the Governor.

**HB 2469:** Certified Medication Assistants; 4/as passed Senate; ready for the Governor.

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NO hearings are scheduled for next week on bills being tracked by the Council on Aging.

**Note: You can find 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>

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**At the end of day 96 of the 2010 Arizona Legislative Session:** 1,232 bills posted, 163 memorials or resolutions posted, 115 bills passed, 58 signed, three (3) vetoed and 10 memorials/resolutions passed.

To access the Governor's list of bills signed, vetoed and statements, check the *Latest News* at the Governor's website: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/>

Both the House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 19, 2010.

Session Deadlines **April 20<sup>th</sup>** is the 100<sup>th</sup> day of session (by House and Senate rule sine die would be April 24.) **April 24<sup>th</sup>** is Saturday of the week of the 100<sup>th</sup> day of the session. Sine die is required unless leaders extend the deadline and they can do so up to seven days; thereafter extension requires a majority vote in each house.

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.

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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.

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**FEDERAL LEGISLATION:**

Update: President Obama signed the **Elder Justice Act** into law as part of health care reform legislation on March 23, 2010. The Elder Justice Act authorizes funding for Adult Protective Services (APS), supplies grants for Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs, and creates an Elder Justice Coordinating Council at the federal level to offer recommendations regarding coordination of federal, state, local and private agency activities relating to elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.

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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.

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**Other News:**

From the **US Department of Agriculture (USDA)**

The USDA recently announced it will invest in pilot projects to increase access and participation in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly the Food Stamp Program, among low-income seniors. Award grants, totaling approximately \$8 million, will allow State agencies to pursue innovative outreach and delivery pilot projects. Grant applications are posted at: <http://www.grants.gov/> or <http://www.fns.usda.gov/snap>

From the **Administration on Aging**

*Updated Exercise and Physical Activity Tips for Older Adults*

Older adults who are interested in becoming physically active, restarting a lapsed exercise regimen or getting more benefit from their current exercise program can check out the updated *Exercise and Physical Activity for Older Adults* topic on NIHSeniorHealth.gov at

<http://nihseniorhealth.gov/exercise/toc.html>

The **Governors Commission on Service and Volunteerism** recently announced recipients of the 2010 Governors Volunteer Service Awards. You can find more information about the awards and the honorees at:

[http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR\\_041610\\_VolunteerServiceAwards.pdf](http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041610_VolunteerServiceAwards.pdf)

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**Information & Resources:**

**Remaining 2011 2013 Public Forums for the *State Plan on Aging***

**Friday, 4/23/2010; 11:30 am 12:30 pm; Parker** Community Senior Center, 1115 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Parker, AZ

**Tuesday, 4/27/2010; 11 am 12:00 noon;** Thorpe Park Senior and Community Center, 245 Thorpe Road, **Flagstaff**, AZ

**Thursday, 4/29/2010;** 11:30 am 12:30 pm; Holiday Inn, 777 N. Pinal Avenue, Pinal-Gila Elder Abuse Conference, **Casa Grande**, AZ

For more information, contact **Tammy Frazee** at **602-542-2895**.

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**WHAT: Celebration of Native American Art** *provided by* Banner Alzheimer's Institute in collaboration with the Heard Museum in Phoenix

**WHEN: Thursdays May 6<sup>th</sup>, May 27<sup>th</sup> and June 10<sup>th</sup> from 1 2:30 pm,** Heard Museum, 2301 N. Central Avenue, Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

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

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**WHAT: Mental Health America of Arizonans 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Seeds of Success Symposium;** Therapeutic Jurisprudence: The Arizona Experience

**WHEN: May 14, 2010, 8 am 4:30 pm;** Crowne Plaza, 2532 W. Peoria Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85029

For more information:

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

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**WHAT: Professional Development Workshops and Testing for Direct Care Worker Trainers**

**WHEN:**

- Kingman May 7
- Flagstaff May 19
- Phoenix June 17 (full wait list only)
- Tucson June 25

For more information, visit: [http://www.azdirectcare.org/For\\_Trainers.html](http://www.azdirectcare.org/For_Trainers.html)

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**The Governor's Office on Aging** is pleased to be a Co-Sponsor of new afternoon community sessions for persons in early stage and/or caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease at the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium 2010 Annual Conference.

**WHEN: Friday, May 21, 2010**, 8:00 am 5:00 pm, Renaissance Glendale Hotel & Spa, 9495 W. Coyotes Blvd., Glendale AZ

Due to overwhelming response to last year's conference, **registration for this free event is encouraged as soon as possible!**

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

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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 to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov) . Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates.

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**Thank you and have a good week!**

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

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