

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 6, 2012

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. The 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!

2nd REGULAR SESSION OF THE 50TH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Action

During the past week, 252 floor actions were filed; 22 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of **day 89** of the legislative session, **1,395 bills** posted; **251 passed**; **186 signed** by the Governor; **5 vetoed**; **144 memorials or resolutions** posted; **32 passed**.

Friday, April 13th is the deadline for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House. Tuesday, April 17th marks the 100th day of the session.

Senate calendar:

<http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/senate/senatedeadlines.pdf>

House calendar: <http://www.azleg.gov/alispdfs/50leg/house/housedeadlines.pdf>

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 9th at 1:30 p.m.

Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature *or* summaries provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports' LOLA* and found on the **FULL LIST**.

Bills tracked by the Council and signed by the Governor recently:

H2369 Electronic Medical Records

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2369_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

H2560 Adult Protective Services; Attorney Fees

Chapter Version: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/laws/0163.pdf>

H2526: Skilled Nursing Home Provider Assessments

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2526_03-30-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

S1136: Fingerprinting; Central Registry; Background Checks

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1136_03-29-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

S1141: Public Fiduciaries; Investigatory Power

House Summary as Transmitted to the Governor:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1141_04-02-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

S1152: Homeless Court; Establishment; Jurisdiction

House Summary:

http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.sb1152_03-29-12_houseengrossed.pdf

Legislative Action

H2126: Handyman Exemptions; Applicability, 4/5 from Senate Rules Committee with a technical amendment.

H2160: HOAs; Condos; Election Procedures, 4/5 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with floor amendment.

H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights, 4/5 House concurred in Senate amendments and passed on final reading 58-1; ready for the Governor.

H2513: HOAs; Condos; Rental Properties, 4/5 passed Senate 26-3; ready for the Governor.

H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization, 4/5 passed Senate 29-0; ready for House action on Senate amendment.

Hearings next week on bills tracked by the Council:

H2428: Veteran Benefits; Reservists, 4/9 House Final Reading.

Several of the bills posted this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourned. These bills appear on the Legislative Update web page. **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 older Arizonans so the Council has been tracking the bill's progress.**

FULL LIST: <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&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 continue to be edited as we track actions to the adjournment of the session. Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

Share your thoughts! If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your legislators at any time, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

Governor's Office of Constituent Services at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) 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.

If you would like to learn more about how a bill becomes law, see these links at the Arizona State Legislature's website: <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/BillToLaw.pdf> and <http://www.azleg.gov/alisPDFs/hbillaw.pdf>.

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

H.R.4281

Surface Transportation Extension Act of 2012

Introduced on 3/28/2012 by Representative John L. Mica (FL-7)

To provide an extension of Federal-aid highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a multiyear law reauthorizing such programs.

Sec. 306 - Extends for that same period the authorization appropriations from the HTF Mass Transit Account for: (1) formula and bus grant projects, including allocations for specified projects; (2) capital investment grants, (3) transit research, including allocations for transit cooperative research programs, the National Transit Institute, the university centers program, transportation projects to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the National Technical Assistance Center for senior transportation, and national research programs; and (4) administration expenses.

Sec. 307 - Extends, from October 1, 2011, through June 30, 2012, certain SAFETEA-LU programs, including: (1) the contracted paratransit pilot program, (2) the public-private partnership pilot program, (3) project authorizations for final design and construction and

preliminary engineering of specified fixed guideway projects, and (4) the elderly individuals and individuals with disabilities pilot program.

On 3/30/2012, signed by the President; became Public Law No: 112-102

H.R.4305

Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Steve Chabot (OH-1)

To authorize the Attorney General to provide a grant to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing individuals.

The Attorney General is authorized to award a grant to one eligible nonprofit organization to assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in the rapid recovery of missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals through the use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system.

Specified Use of Funds

The grant awarded under this subsection shall be used to:

(A) provide services to Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies, in response to a request from such agencies, to promote the rapid recovery of a missing child, an elderly individual, or a disabled individual by utilizing rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;

(B) maintain and expand technologies and techniques to ensure the highest level of performance of such services;

(C) provide both centralized and on-site training, and distribute information, to Federal, State, and local law enforcement agency officials about missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals and use of a rapid telephone and cellular alert call system;

(D) provide services to Federal, State, tribal, and local Child Abduction Response Teams;

(E) assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking through the use of rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;

(F) share appropriate information on cases with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, the AMBER Alert, Silver Alert, and Blue Alert programs, and appropriate Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies; and

(G) assist appropriate organizations, including Federal, State, tribal and local law enforcement agencies, with education and prevention programs related to missing children, elderly individuals, and disabled individuals.

Eligibility

To be an eligible nonprofit organization for purposes of the grant under this subsection, a nonprofit organization shall:

(A) have 5 or more years of experience providing rapid telephone and cellular alert calls on behalf of Federal, State, and local law enforcement agencies to find missing children and elderly adults;

(B) provide documentation of safe recoveries of missing children and elderly individuals assisted by the organization; and

(C) have the ability to provide services and educational assistance to Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies in every State.

On 3/29/2012, the bill was referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.

H.R.4299

Quality Housing for Veterans Act

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Jerry McNerney (CA-11)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend the authority of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to provide specially adapted housing assistance to individuals residing temporarily in housing owned by a family member.

On 3/29/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

H.R.4300

Veterans' Work Study Opportunities Act

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Jerry McNerney (CA-11)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to make permanent the authority to provide work-study allowance for certain activities by individuals receiving educational assistance by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

On 3/29/2012, referred to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S.2256

Community-Based Mental Health Infrastructure Improvements Act

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator Jack Reed (RI)

To amend the Public Health Service Act to provide grants for community-based mental health infrastructure improvement.

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

S.2259

Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2012

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator Jon Tester

To provide for an increase, effective December 1, 2012, in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S.2265

A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover screening computed tomography colonography as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program.

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Senator James M. Inhofe (OK)

On 3/29/2012, referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

Also may be of interest:

S.2038

Stop Trading on Congressional Knowledge Act of 2012 or STOCK Act

Introduced on 1/26/2012 by Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (CT)

To prohibit Members of Congress and employees of Congress from using nonpublic information derived from their official positions for personal benefit, and for other purposes.

On 4/4/2012, signed by President; became Public Law No: 112-105

NOTE: If you want information specific to a bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number or title under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Share your opinions with your Congressional Members!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or <http://www.senate.gov/> for the **Senate**. Links to the membership lists include: <http://www.house.gov/representatives/> for the **House** and http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm for the **Senate**.

You can contact the White House at: <http://www.whitehouse.gov/contact/>.

A compilation of contact information is provided at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College

Blog: *How the Health Care Sector Can Prepare for the Aging of Its Workforce:*

<http://agingandwork.bc.edu/blog/>

National Volunteer Week is April 15 - 21

2012 Resource Guide from the **Points of Life Institute:**

http://www.handsonnetwork.org/files/nvw_resourceguide_2012.pdf

From the **Administration on Aging**

Resources to help plan for **Older Americans Month in May** can be found at:

http://www.aoa.gov/aoaroot/Press_Room/Observances/2012/Older_Americans.aspx

National Council on Aging (NCOA) Center for Healthy Aging – Fall Prevention Updates:

<http://www.ncoa.org/improve-health/center-for-healthy-aging/falls-prevention/>

Information from the Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Arizona:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SocialSecurityInfo.pdf>

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/SSAShortStoryDEBRA.pdf>

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: What YOU DON'T KNOW MAY SURPRISE YOU AT RETIREMENT; *What To Know And Where To Go*

WHEN: Saturday, May 5, 2012, 8 am to 1 pm, Paradise Valley Community College
Division of Continuing Education, 17811 N. 32nd Street, Building Q, Phoenix, AZ 85032

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/Flyer5512.pdf>

WHAT: Arizona Elder Law Day presented by DES Division of Aging & Adult Services and Glencroft Retirement Community

WHEN: Wednesday, May 16, 2012, Glencroft Retirement Community, 8611 N. 67th Avenue, Glendale, Arizona 85302

For more information: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/ElderLawDayAgenda052012.pdf>

WHAT: Education Workshop on Aging, Dementia, and Developmental Disabilities: National Task Group on Intellectual Disabilities and Dementia Practices Pre-Conference

WHEN: Thursday, May 17, 2012 9 am to 5 pm, Desert Willow Conference Center, 4340 East Cotton Center Blvd., Phoenix AZ

For agenda information: <http://aadmd.org/page/ntg-dementia-pre-conference-agenda>

For registration information: <http://aadmd.org/articles/annual-conference-pricing-and-registration>

Information on the Arizona Direct Care Initiative: TRAIN-THE-TRAINER WORKSHOPS for Direct Care Worker Instructors

For more information:
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/DCWAnnouncementForTrainTheTrainerWorkshops.pdf>

From the **April 2012 issue** of *By the Seat of Our Pants* Nonprofit Management Newsletter - Stewart Communications, NonprofitNet@gwi.net

NONPROFITS & THE COMMUNITY is the name of a forum with the candidates running for Flagstaff City Council and Mayor. The event will occur on Thursday, April 12 from 5- 8:30 p.m. at the Coconino Center for the Arts, 2300 N Fort Valley Rd. All six candidates for council and both mayoral candidates will attend. Voters will have the opportunity to hear each candidate's views on a variety of issues relating to nonprofit organizations' impact on the community's economic and social health. A reception from 5-6 will provide an opportunity for attendees to speak with the candidates in an informal setting. The Mayor Candidate Forum will begin at 6 p.m. and the Council Candidate Forum at 7 p.m. The event will be streaming online live at culturalpartners.org and other locally based websites. The video of the Forum will remain available until election day, which is May 15. The Forum will be presented in partnership by Flagstaff Cultural Partners and NAU's Philosophy in the Public Interest. Info: 779-2300 or <http://www.culturalpartners.org/>.

AHHC (Affordable Housing and Homeless Coalition) will next meet on May 15 beginning at 10 a.m. at the Prescott Habitat for Humanity office, 1230 Willow Creek Road. For information contact Marielle LaMar at m.lamar@wygc.org or (928) 445-5211 Ext 2068.

Just in case you're interested

Back issues of the **Legislative Updates** are linked on the Council website at: <http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, be sure to send 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.

Enjoy your holiday weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging