

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 13, 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

Today, Friday, April 13th is the deadline for Conference Committees in both the Senate and the House, and Tuesday, April 17th marks the 100th day of the session. The Speaker of the House and Senate President can extend the session up to seven days; further extension requires majority vote of the members.

Since last Thursday, 302 floor actions were filed; 15 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link) At the end of **day 96** of the legislative session, **1395 bills** posted; **303 passed**; **263 signed** by the Governor; **14 vetoed**; **145** memorials **or resolutions** posted; **32 passed**.

The House and the Senate are adjourned until Monday, April 16th at 1:30 p.m.

Fiscal News

While no budget updates to report, the **JLBC: Finance Advisory Committee Revenue and Budget Update 4.12.2012** is posted at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/revenuebudgetupdatepres041212.pdf> and the

Governor's comments about budget revenue can be viewed at:

http://azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041112_BudgetRevenue.pdf.

Legislation

Administrative and legislative action on some of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with summaries or fact sheets from the Arizona State Legislature.

Bills tracked by the Council and signed by the Governor this week:

H2377: Incapacitated Persons; Voting Rights

Chaptered version: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/laws/0223.pdf>

H2428: Veteran Benefits; Reservists

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:
http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2428_04-09-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

*****Passed and awaiting the Governor's decision:**

H2696: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation

House engrossed version of the bill:
<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/bills/hb2696h.pdf>

*****Also: Vetoes this week:**

H2513: Condominiums; Planned Communities; Rental Properties

House summary as transmitted to the Governor:
http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2513_04-05-12_astransmittedtogovernor.pdf

Governor's veto letter:
http://www.azgovernor.gov/dms/upload/PR_041212_HB2513VetoLtr.pdf

Legislative Action

H2160: HOAs; Condos; Election Procedures, 4/12 failed to pass Senate 9-21.

H2170: HOAs; Declaration Amendments; Construction, 4/10 Senate Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with amendment #5037 and floor amendment #5349. (Note: short title change) Floor amendment:
<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/2170murphy835.pdf>

H2674: Central State Repository; Nonprofit Organization, 4/12, House refused to concur in Senate amendments and named Conference Committee.

House summary: http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/summary/h.hb2674_concurrefusememo.pdf

H2713: Insurance Premium; Long Term Care; Deduction, 4/11, Senate Committee of the Whole approved with amendment.

Amendment: <http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/50leg/2r/adopted/s.2713approps.pdf>

Several of the bills this session may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council until the Legislature adjourns. 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 up through the adjournment of the 2nd Regular Session of the 50th Legislature. 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, you may voice your thoughts at any time 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.4315

Veterans Mental Health Accessibility Act

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Russ Carnahan (MO-3)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to provide for unlimited eligibility for health care for mental illnesses for veterans of combat service during certain periods of hostilities and war.

On 4/10/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Health.

H.R.4333

Enhancing Nutrition Services to the Elderly and Disabled Act of 2012

Introduced on 3/29/2012 by Representative Erik Paulsen (MN-3)

To amend the Food and Nutrition Act of 2008 to permit providers of eligible food purchasing and delivery services to be approved as retail food stores that accept and redeem supplemental nutrition assistance benefits.

On 3/29/2012, referred to House Committee on Agriculture.

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>.

Kaiser Family Foundation

Two newly updated Kaiser Family Foundation briefs provide an in-depth look at the nearly 9 million low-income seniors and younger people with disabilities in the United States who are covered by both Medicare and Medicaid, as well as examining the role that each program plays in financing their care.

Medicare's Role for Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries is found at: <http://www.kff.org/medicare/8138.cfm>

Medicaid's Role for Dual-Eligible Beneficiaries is found at: <http://www.kff.org/medicaid/7846.cfm>

Note: The Foundation also has a broader collection of resources on dual-eligible beneficiaries available at: <http://www.kff.org/medicare/resources-dual-eligibles.cfm>.

The **Roadmaps to Health Prize** is part of the **County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program**, a collaboration of the **Robert Wood Johnson Foundation** and the **University of Wisconsin Population Health Institute**. From the webpage: *Throughout the country, people are coming together with a shared vision, strong leadership and commitment to making needed and lasting changes that broadly improve community vitality. This is happening in large urban settings and small rural ones; it's happening in places with tremendous resources and in places with few resources to draw from; it's happening in places with relatively few health challenges and in places where the challenges are many and daunting. The **Roadmaps to Health Prize** is intended to honor these successful efforts and to inspire and stimulate similar activities in communities across the country. The invitation to apply for this prize is being extended to all communities throughout the U.S.*

For information on the initiative:

<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/roadmaps/prize>

For information about grant funding including the Call for Applications, go to:

http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/sites/default/files/chrr_prize_cfa_updated.pdf

Never Too Old to Play is the theme of **Older Americans Month in May** that encourages older Americans to stay engaged, active and involved in their own lives and in their communities. Resources for planning your event can be found at:

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

Social Security Announces New Conditions for Compassion Allowance Program

The press release is posted at: <http://www.socialsecurity.gov/pressoffice/pr/compassionate-allowances-0412-pr.htm>

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 more information and to register, go to:
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/Newsletter/2012/AgingDementiaFlyer051712.pdf>

Mark your calendar for later this fall...

WHAT: 2012 National Adult Protective Services Association Conference *Ending Adult Abuse: On the Horizon?*

WHEN: October 16 - 18, 2012, Squaw Peak Hilton, Phoenix, AZ

Email for more information: info@apsnetwork.org

Did you know? Az.Gov - Arizona's Official Website offers a wide array of information, links to online services and assistance. <http://az.gov/>

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 weekend!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging