

Welcome to the Legislative Update for June 4, 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!

*NOTE: Between legislative sessions, the **Legislative Update** is provided monthly with a federal focus.*

Fiscal News

From the **JLBC - Monthly Fiscal Highlights May 2012**

"In total, year-to-date General Fund collections are \$69.5 million above the January forecast."

To review the entire report, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-may-12.pdf>.

The **JLBC Budget Proposal Summary** is available at:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/043012budget.pdf>.

Tracking Arizona's Recovery May2012: (5/18/2012) is posted at:
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/TrackingAZRecovery0512.pdf>.

If you're interested in viewing the bills tracked this past session by the Council, a link to the *Legislative Update* web page is provided below. **Please be advised that the presence of a bill on the Council's tracking list does not represent support or opposition. It does mean** that the topic may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

Final FULL LIST: <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24822&listid=45455&print=true>

Note: Information found on the tracking list is made available as a purchased service provided by the *Arizona Capitol Times*.

With August primaries ahead, a list of 2012 Arizona Statewide and Legislative Candidate List is posted on the *Arizona Capitol Times* at:

<http://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2012/05/31/2012-arizona-statewide-legislative-candidate-campaigns/>.

Congressional candidates are posted at:
<http://azcapitoltimes.com/news/2012/05/31/2012-arizona-congressional-candidate-campaigns/>.

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.

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

H.R.4979

End Abuse in Later Life Act of 2012

Introduced on 4/27/2012 by Representative Tammy Baldwin (WI-2), H.R.4979:

Amends the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 to authorize appropriations for and revise provisions governing the grant program to end abuse of individuals age 50 and over that is authorized to be conducted by the Attorney General through the Director of the Office of Violence Against Women.

Makes currently listed activities mandatory for grant recipients and sets forth as additional permissible activities:

- (1) providing training programs to assist attorneys, health care providers, faith-based leaders, or other community-based organizations in recognizing and addressing instances of such abuse; and
- (2) conducting outreach activities and public awareness campaigns to ensure that abuse victims receive appropriate assistance.

Includes as eligible entities:

- (1) a population-specific organization with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals over 50 years of age;
- (2) a victim service provider with demonstrated experience in addressing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking; or
- (3) a state, tribal, or territorial domestic violence or sexual assault coalition.

Requires each eligible entity to demonstrate that it is a part of a multidisciplinary partnership that includes a law enforcement agency, a prosecutor's office, a victim service provider, and a nonprofit program or government agency with demonstrated experience in assisting individuals in later life.

Directs the Attorney General to give priority to proposals providing population-specific services to racial and ethnic minorities and other underserved populations.

Amends the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 to replace the term "elder law" with "abuse in later life."

On 5/18/2012, referred to House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, and Homeland Security.

H.CON.RES.120

Supporting the goal of preventing and effectively treating Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025, as articulated in the draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Introduced on 4/24/2012 by Representative Edward J. Markey (MA-7),

Expresses support for: (1) the groundbreaking national goal of preventing and treating Alzheimer's disease by the year 2025 and the other goals of the draft National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease, and (2) increased assistance for people with Alzheimer's and their caregivers and families.

Finds that basic science, medical research, and therapy development are necessary for reaching that goal and identifying a definitive cure.

Calls for further public awareness and understanding of Alzheimer's.

Encourages early diagnosis and access to high-quality care for people with Alzheimer's.

4/26/2012 Referred to House subcommittee. Status: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

Related legislation: S.RES.434

H.R.4114

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

UPDATE: Introduced on 2/29/2012 by Representative Jon Runyan (NJ-3)

H.R.4114 was placed on the Union Calendar on 5/18/2012.

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>.

OTHER NEWS

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15th

Administration on Aging (AoA) **National Center on Elder Abuse** offers resources and ideas on building awareness of elder abuse. For more information, go to: http://www.ncea.aoa.gov/ncearoot/Main_Site/About/Initiatives/Take_A_Stand.aspx.

From **Administration for Community Living**

Tuesday, May 29, 2012 ACL News & Information:

Bridging Aging and Developmental Disabilities Service Networks Report

Produced by the Institute on Disability and Human Development, University of Illinois at Chicago, Bridging Aging and Developmental Disabilities Service Networks, identifies policy and service delivery issues pertaining to older adults with developmental disabilities and their families and recommends opportunities to enhance collaboration among the aging, disability and long-term care networks. Key policy initiatives addressed include the Aging and Disability Resource Centers, the Lifespan Respite Act, the National Alzheimer's Project Act, and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

The report is available at: http://transition.acf.hhs.gov/sites/default/files/add/bridgingreport_3_15_2012.pdf.

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS)

The **National Alzheimer's Plan** was released on May 15th; a link to the National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease is provided here:

http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/NatIPlan.shtml#goal3?utm_source=PD+5.16.12&utm_campaign=pd.5.16&utm_medium=email.

U.S. Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF)

Consumer Fact Sheet

<http://www.uspreventiveservicestaskforce.org/uspstf11/fallsprevention/fallsprevfact.pdf>

National Council on Aging – NCOA

Hearing Loss is a Family Affair brochure is posted at:
<http://www.ncoa.org/assets/files/pdf/NCOA-Hearing-Loss-Brch-5.pdf>

Also, in case you missed this resource, the **Home Equity Advisor** tool is provided here:
<http://www.homeequityadvisor.org/>.

One more time based on current weather conditions...

EPA hot weather safety tips

Planning for Extreme Heat webpage:
<http://www.epa.gov/aging/resources/factsheets/itdhpfehe/index.htm>

Beat the Heat flyer:

http://www.epa.gov/aging/pdfs/resources/beat_the_heat_2005_1006.pdf

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: 2012 World Elder Abuse Awareness Day Event in Maricopa County

WHEN: Friday, June 15, 2012, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, Boy Scouts of America, 2969 North Greenfield Rd., Phoenix, AZ

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/newsletter/2012/ElderAbuseDay2012Flyer.pdf>

Updated News

WHAT: 2012 Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference *Trends, Issues, Solutions*

WHEN: June 15, 2012, 8 am to 5:00 pm, Casino Del Sol Convention Center, 5655 W. Valencia Road, Tucson, AZ 85757

For more information:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/GACA/Newsletter/2012/BHOAConfBrochure2012.pdf>

WHAT: Arizona Senior Center Association (ASCA) Annual Conference

WHEN: Monday, July 30th and Tuesday, July 31st, Prescott Resort

For more information, visit the ASCA website: www.arizonaseniors.net and look for the **events** tab.

From AHCCCS

The AHCCCS Administration announced it has submitted the Dual Integration Demonstration proposal to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for review. After considering the feedback received through the statewide stakeholder engagement process, the submitted proposal reflects AHCCCS' most current design. However, the proposal remains subject to further revision through continued stakeholder feedback and negotiations with CMS.

On **Friday, June 8, 2012**, from 2:00 - 4:00 pm, AHCCCS will conduct a public meeting to review the submitted proposal and respond to questions. The final proposal, the agenda for the public meeting and other information are available on the AHCCCS website at:

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.aspx?ID=reporting#dual>.

Additional information, including public comments received on the draft proposal, is also available on the Duals website, at

<http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/legislation/integration/Duals.aspx>.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted to CMS through July 1, 2012. Send comments **online** at <https://www.cms.gov/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-and-Medicaid-Coordination/Medicare-Medicaid-Coordination-Office/FinancialModelstoSupportStatesEffortsinCareCoordination.html> or via **e-mail** at AZ-MedicareMedicaidCoordination@cms.hhs.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.

Now that the Legislature has adjourned, it is our intent to offer our email news on a monthly basis.

Thank you! Have a safe & enjoyable summer!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging