

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for February 8, 2013

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!

### First Regular Session of the 51<sup>st</sup> Legislature

Since last Friday, 526 floor actions were filed; at least 49 of those related to legislation tracked by the Council on Aging. (See **FULL LIST** link later in this issue)

All committee agendas (House, Senate, Joint Legislative Budget Committee or JLBC) are posted at this [link](#). All Floor Calendars are linked [here](#).

Also: Standing Committees and members are posted at:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/StandingCom.asp>.

### 2013 Session Timeline

**Monday, February 11<sup>th</sup>** marks the House Bill Introduction Deadline; **Friday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>** is the last day to hear Senate Bills in Senate Committees and last day to hear House Bills in House Committees.

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### Legislation

Legislative action on *some* of the bills tracked by the Council on Aging is outlined here with fact sheets or summaries from the Arizona State Legislature, when available. Note: summaries are provided by *Arizona Capitol Reports-LOLA* and found on the FULL LIST.

**S1090: dependent children; placement; grandparents; stipend**, from Senate Appropriations with amendment linked [here](#). 2/11 Senate Rules agenda linked [here](#). **Fact Sheet** is provided at this [link](#).

**S1102: hearing aid dispensers, audiologist**, 2/7 from Senate Health & Human Services Committee with amendment. **Adopted amendment** is linked [here](#) and **proposed amendment** [here](#). **Fact sheet:** <https://www.azcapitolreports.com/viewhtm.cfm?id=183178>.

**S1408: fingerprint clearance cardholders; background checks**, 2/5 referred to Senate Public Safety Committee. A person who holds a valid fingerprint clearance card is not required to submit a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of obtaining a subsequent criminal history record check for any other reason. This must be printed on fingerprint clearance cards.

**H2407: qualified immunity; nonprofit clinics**, 2/6 from House Health Committee with amendment. 2/6 House Summary is linked [here](#).

**H2426: mobile dentistry**, 2/6 from House Health with amendment. 2/6 House Summary is provided [here](#).

**Hearings** next week:

**H2401: service animal; definition**, 2/13 House Health at 10 am, Room 4.

**H2407: qualified immunity; nonprofit clinics**, 2/12 House Insurance and Retirement at 2 pm, room 3.

**H2426: mobile dentistry**, 2/11 House Rules at 1 pm, Room 4

**S1090: dependent children; placement; grandparents; stipend**, 2/11 Senate Rules at 1 pm, Senate Caucus room

**S1102: hearing aid dispensers; audiologist**, 2/11 at 1 pm, Senate Rules Committee, senate Caucus room

**S1175: vulnerable adult; duty**, 2/11 Senate Judiciary at adjournment of the floor, Senate room 109

**S1408: fingerprint clearance cardholders; background checks**, 2/13 Senate Public Safety at 2 pm, Senate room 109.

**Reminder:** Bill summaries, actions, hearings and other information are all provided on the legislation tracked by the Council at the **FULL List** link provided below.

As of **day 26, 1,065 bills posted, two (2) bills passed; two (2) bills signed; 54 memorials or resolutions posted and two (2) passed**. Some of these bills may be of interest to Arizona seniors and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the **Legislative Update** web report 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 is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans so the Council is tracking the bill's progress.

**FULL LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=24960&listid=47124&print=true>

**Note:** The **FULL LIST web report** 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 and/or expanded as we have an opportunity to get through the bills, as posted.** Information about bill status, hearing, etc. is a purchased service provided by the **Arizona Capitol Times**.

Both the Senate and the House are adjourned at this time until Monday, February 11, 2013, 1:30 p.m.

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, see [Arizona Bill](#) and *From Idea To Bill To Law, The Legislative Process in Arizona* linked [here](#).

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## **Fiscal News**

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee (JLBC)**

*JLBC Staff Report - FY 2012 Debt and Lease-Purchase Financing Report* is linked [here](#).

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***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 **contacting your legislator from your area**; locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature website** 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.

· **District maps** can be found [here](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

### **H.R.370**

#### **Savings for Seniors Act of 2013**

Introduced on 1/23/2013 by Representative Marsha Blackburn (TN-7)

Intent: To amend title II of the Social Security Act to establish a Social Security Surplus Protection Account in the Federal Old-Age and Survivors Insurance Trust Fund to hold the Social Security surplus, to provide for suspension of investment of amounts held in the Account until enactment of legislation providing for investment of the Trust Fund in investment vehicles other than obligations of the United States, and to establish a Social Security Investment Commission to make recommendations for alternative forms of investment of the Social Security surplus in the Trust Fund.

On 1/23/2013, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

## **H.R. 387**

### **Social Security Earnings Test Repeal Act of 2013**

Introduced on 1/23/2013 by Representative Gene Green (TX-29)

Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act to remove the limitation on the amount of outside income which a beneficiary may earn (earnings test) without incurring a reduction in benefits.

On 1/23/2013, the bill was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

## **S.92**

A bill to require that the Government give priority to payment of all obligations on the debt held by the public and payment of Social Security benefits in the event that the debt limit is reached.

Introduced on 1/23/2013 by Senator David Vitter (LA), the bill was referred to the Senate Committee on Finance.

## **S.234**

A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to permit certain retired members of the uniformed services who have a service-connected disability to receive both disability compensation from the Department of Veterans Affairs for their disability and either retired pay by reason of their years of military service or Combat-Related Special Compensation, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 2/7/2013 by Senator Harry Reid (NV). The bill was referred to the Committee on Armed Services.

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**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 members of Congress!**

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 are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

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**You can contact the White House at this [link](#).**

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

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## **OTHER NEWS**

From the **Administration for Community Living ACL Newsletter**

Monday, February 4, 2013

### **Recent Reports**

#### **[Labor Force Participation and Work Status of People 65 Years and Older](#)**

Source: US Census Bureau

Date: January 2013

#### **[The Sandwich Generation: Rising Financial Burdens for Middle-Aged Americans](#)**

Source: Pew Research Center

Date: January 30, 2013

#### **[Tracking for Health](#)**

Source: Pew Research Center's Internet & American Life Project

Date: January 2013

#### **[A Healthier America 2013: Strategies to Move from Sick Care to Health Care in Four Years](#)**

Source: Trust for America's Health

Date: January 2013

#### **[StateData: The National Report on Employment Services and Outcomes \(2011\)](#)**

Source: Institute for Community Inclusion (ICI) at the University of Massachusetts Boston

Date: Winter 2012-13

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**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

**National Health Services Corps** announcement is linked [here](#).

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From the **National Eye Institute**  
**Resource: Living With Low Vision** is linked [here](#).

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***National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease***

**The latest information is posted** at this [link](#). (Be sure to scroll to the top of the page.)

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**Kaiser Health News**

From *Capsules THE KHN BLOG* – 2/5/2013

Research reporting hospitalizations and use of intensive care and hospice by seniors is linked [here](#).

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**Disability.gov** website provides comprehensive information on disability programs and services in communities nationwide. A **fact sheet** for <http://www.disability.gov/> is linked [here](#).

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From the **National Council on Aging – NCOA**

*Tools for dealing with a chronic condition*

<http://www.ncoa.org/improve-health/chronic-conditions/>

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From the **Sloan Center on Aging & Work** at Boston College

***Over 70 and Back to Work?*** is linked [here](#).

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From **SAMHSA, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration**

**Disaster Response Template Toolkit:**

[http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dbhis/dbhis\\_templates\\_intro.asp](http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/dbhis/dbhis_templates_intro.asp)

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[Older Adults and Oral Health](#) from **Administration on Aging website**

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**Income Tax Assistance and Tax Credit Information**

2-1-1 Arizona includes these resources at:

<http://www.211arizona.org/tax>.

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**WHAT: 2013 Arizona Senior Olympics**

**WHEN: Saturday, February 16<sup>th</sup> through Sunday, March 10<sup>th</sup>** in locations throughout the state

**For more information, go to:**

[http://www.seniorgames.org/General\\_Information.html](http://www.seniorgames.org/General_Information.html)

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**WHAT: All Things Senior EXPO**

**WHEN: Wednesday, February 20, 2013** 9 am to 1 pm, Scottsdale Center for the Performing Arts, 7380 E 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Scottsdale AZ

**More information is provided at this [link](#).**

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**WHAT: Helping the Helpers, Equipping those who Interact with Family Caregivers**

**WHEN: Friday, March 8, 2013**, 9 am to 4 pm, Desert Springs Community Church, 14440 West Indian School Road, Goodyear, Arizona 85395

**More information is provided at this [link](#).**

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**WHAT: Arizona Stand Down**

**WHEN: March 8 – 10, 2013, Veteran's Memorial Coliseum/State Fairgrounds**

For more information, go to: <http://www.arizonastanddown.org/>

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**WHAT: Senior Resources Conference & Expo**

**WHEN: Friday, March 15, 10 am to 3 pm**, Liberty Traditional School, 3300 N. Lake Valley Road, Prescott Valley

For more information, open this [link](#).

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**AzLinks.gov** provides easy access to public, private services, supports and information.

Brochure is provided [here](#).

Spanish version brochure is linked [here](#).

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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>.

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

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

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