

## Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 24, 2014

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 older citizens and advocates of 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 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!

### **The 51<sup>st</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session opened on Monday, January 13, 2014.**

A list of the Representatives and Senators, Standing Committees and their members can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links.

[Members](#) of the **House**

[Members](#) of the **Senate**

[Standing Committees](#) page (Click on the committees to view the members as well as any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.)

### **State of the State**

**On Monday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**, the **Governor** delivered her State of the State speech. A copy is available at this [link](#).

Committee agendas for the House, Senate, and Joint Legislative Budget Committee (or JLBC) can be found at under the Committee link located in the top right section of the Arizona State Legislature homepage: <http://www.azleg.gov/>. (If you're new to the website, be sure to see the Frequently Asked Questions or [FAQs link](#).)

### **Legislative Deadlines**

A copy of the Legislative Council's session deadlines can be found [here](#).

The Senate Session Timeline is posted [here](#).

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### **Summary of Action**

Since the opening of the legislative session, **482 floor actions** have been filed. At the end of **day 12**, at least **718 bills posted** and **49 memorials** or **resolutions posted** and **two passed**.

Some of the bills may be of interest to older Arizonans 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 tracking list *does not* represent support or opposition by the Council to the 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 is tracking the bill's progress.**

**FULL LIST:** <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25263&listid=50228&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 all the bills. **We will continue to edit the list throughout the session.** Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by ***Arizona Capitol Times.***

### **Highlighted Bill**

#### **S1097 Silver Alert Notification System**

Arranges a Silver Alert Notification System for the purpose of recovering missing persons over the age of 65 in certain circumstances

#### **FACTSHEET:**

<http://www.azleg.gov/legtext/51leg/2r/summary/s.1097qe.pdf>

There are a number of bills related to the Arizona State Retirement System (ASRS), the Public Safety Personnel Retirement System, Elected Officials' Retirement Plan or the Corrections Officer Retirement Plan that do not impact the general public. If you're interested, you can pull up these bills on the Arizona State Legislature website ( <http://www.azleg.gov/> ) by clicking on the BILLS link at the top of the page.

H2017: ASRS; Defined Contribution Plan

H2018: ASRS; In-Service Distributions

H2050: ASRS Membership; Section 218 Reqs

H2058: Public Pensions; Limit on Compensation

H2060: PSPRS Oversight; Rulemaking; Procurement

H2063: Retirement Savings; Employees

H2069: ASRS; Political Subdivision Entities

H2090: Defined Contribution Retirement Plans; Option

H2122: ASRS; Election: EORP Defined Contribution

H2166: PSPRS Contributions; County Employers

H2203: ASRS; PSPRS; Board Membership

H2212: ASRS; Employer Termination Incentive Program

S1082: ASRS; Employee Background Checks

S1083: ASRS; Applicable Interest Rate; Definition

S1084: ASRS; Long-Term Disability Compensation

S1085: ASRS; Long-Term Disability Program

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## **Fiscal News**

On Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>, the **Governor's budget** was released. The FY 2015 Budget Information is posted at:

<http://www.azgovernor.gov/Priorities/BudgetInfo.asp>

*To note is the **recommendation of \$5.2 million for Adult Protective Services** "from the General Fund for 40 investigators and 24 support staff. The recommended funding is expected to allow the agency to investigate, respond to and close 13,482 cases per year." Executive Summary page 8*

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

**FY 2015 JLBC Baseline Summary Version with Executive Budget Comparison January 21, 2014** is provided [here](#).

The **JLBC FY 2015 Baseline Summary** provides an estimate of the state's General Fund balances. According to JLBC, the revenue projections reflect a consensus economic forecast while the spending estimates represent active funding formula requirements and other obligations. The Baseline does not represent a budget proposal, but an estimate of available resources after statutory requirements.

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/15baseline/fy15summary.pdf>

**JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights January 2014** is linked [here](#).

*" Year-to-date, General Fund revenues are 3.2% above the prior year and are \$10.4 million above forecast."*

**Tracking Arizona's Recovery January 2014** can be viewed [here](#).

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## Website Resources

If you want to learn more about the legislative process, see [Arizona Bill](#) or *Bill to Law* provided [here](#).

Interested in the budget process? You can learn more at:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/budgetprocess.htm>

Need to review the Arizona Constitution? Go to:  
<http://www.azleg.gov/Constitution.asp>

To review the Interim Committee meetings prior to the opening to the session and those continuing, go to: <http://www.azleg.gov/InterimCommittees.asp>.

You can view scheduled capitol events [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**. You can 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.

**Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps** can be found [here](#).

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## **House and Senate are in recess until Monday, January 27, 2014**

Note: see information regarding omnibus spending bill signed by the President under **News & Resources**

### **FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

#### **H.R.3221**

#### **Adult Day Center Enhancement Act**

Introduced on 9/30/2013 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13)

H.R.3221 requires the Assistant Secretary for Aging to initiate a comprehensive survey of current adult day programs that provide care and support to individuals, including young adults, living with neurological diseases or conditions such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, or traumatic brain injury. Requires the Assistant Secretary to identify ongoing successful adult day programs and which of these serve young adults with neurological diseases and conditions and develop a set of best practices to help guide the establishment and replication of additional successful adult day programs.

Directs the Assistant Secretary to establish a competitive grant program for awarding grants annually to fund adult day programs serving younger people with neurological diseases or conditions.

Defines an "adult day program" as a program that provides comprehensive and effective care and support services to individuals living with neurological diseases or conditions and to their family caregivers and that may assist participants in ways that:

- (1) maintain or improve their functional abilities or otherwise help them adjust to their changing functional abilities;
- (2) prevent the onset of complications associated with severe forms of the disease or condition;
- (3) promote alternatives to placement in nursing homes;
- (4) reduce the strain on family caregivers taking care of a family member living with such diseases or conditions;
- (5) focus on supporting the emotional, social, and intellectual needs of a younger adult population; or
- (6) address the needs of veterans living with such diseases or conditions.

On 10/03/2013, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

### **H.R.3334**

#### **Medicare Adult Day Services Act of 2013**

Introduced on 10/23/2013 by Representative Linda T. Sanchez (CA-38)

Amends title XVIII (Medicare) of the Social Security Act to:

- (1) cover certified adult day services furnished in a certified adult day services center and meeting specified requirements; and
- (2) require the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to increase by 3% the payment amount otherwise effective for such services furnished in a rural area on or after January 1, 2014, and before January 1, 2016.

On 10/23/2013, the bill was referred to Subcommittee on Health.

## **H.R.3850**

### **Older Americans Act Reauthorization of 2014**

Introduced on 1/10/2014 by Representative Christopher P. Gibson (NY-19)

On 01/10/2014, referred to House Education and the Workforce

Summary pending

## **S.1814**

### **National Silver Alert Act of 2013**

Introduced on 12/12/2013 by Senator Joe Manchin III (VA)

Directs the Attorney General to:

- (1) establish a national Silver Alert communications network within the Department of Justice (DOJ) to assist regional and local search efforts for missing seniors;
- (2) ensure that, when feasible, the network is able to operate in coordination with the AMBER Alert communications network; and
- (3) designate an individual of DOJ to serve as the Silver Alert Coordinator to coordinate the network with states. Defines "missing senior" as any individual who is reported as missing to or by a law enforcement agency and who meets state requirements for designation as a missing senior.

Directs the Coordinator to:

- (1) establish minimum standards for the issuance and dissemination of alerts issued through the network; and
- (2) make available to states, local governments, law enforcement agencies, and other concerned entities network training and information.

### **S.1944 - Protecting Seniors from Health Care Fraud Act of 2014**

Introduced on 1/16/2014 by Senator Jeanne Shaheen (NH)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to distribute additional information to Medicare beneficiaries to prevent health care fraud, and for other purposes.

On 01/16/2014, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

### **Update on Older Americans Act Reauthorization**

**S.1562** Introduced on 9/30/2013 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT).

**On 01/06/2014, placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 290.**

Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2013 - Reauthorizes the Older Americans Act of 1965 (OAA) and funding for its programs for FY2014-FY2018.

- Requires the Director of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman Programs (in the Administration on Aging [AOA] of the Department of Health and Human Services [HHS]) to collect, analyze, and report on best practices related to elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in long-term care facilities.
- Requires the Assistant Secretary for Aging of the AOA to focus: (1) on the health and economic needs and welfare of older individuals; and (2) ensure that authorized programs include appropriate training in the prevention of abuse, neglect, and exploitation and provision of services that address elder justice and the exploitation of older individuals.
- Reauthorizes appropriations for FY2014-FY2018, and revises requirements, for the AOA, the Eldercare Locator Service, pension counseling and information programs, supportive services, congregate nutrition services, disease prevention and health promotion services, family caregiver support, the nutrition services incentive program, the Community Service Senior Opportunity Act, grants for Native Americans.
- Revises requirements for the national family caregiver support program and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman program, revising conflict-of-interest requirements and prohibitions for the latter.
- Requires health programs for older individuals to cover behavioral health.
- Directs the Comptroller General to study the transportation services for older individuals.
- Directs the Assistant Secretary to issue guidance to applicable to states, area agencies on aging, and providers of services for older individuals, with respect to serving Holocaust survivors.

**Update on Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program Act of 2013**

**H.R.3388** Introduced on 10/30/2013 by Representative Steve Chabot (OH-1)

**01/09/2014 Referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.**

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

Section 1701 of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3796dd) is amended to:

- permit eligible nonprofit organizations 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,
- maintain and expand technologies and techniques to ensure the highest level of performance of such services;

- provide both centralized and on-site training and distribute information to Federal, State, tribal, 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;
- provide services to Federal, State, tribal, and local Child Abduction Response Teams;
- assist Federal, State, tribal, and local law enforcement agencies to combat human trafficking through the use of rapid telephone and cellular alert calls;
- 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
- 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 a grant under this subsection, a nonprofit organization shall have 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.

On 10/30/2013, the bill was referred to House Committee on the Judiciary.

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If you want to check on the status of any of these bills, go to <http://beta.congress.gov/> and enter the bill number or title.

See **active federal legislation** at this [link](#).

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**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](#).**

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

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## **NEWS & RESOURCES**

The following is taken from the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities - NASUAD** *Friday Updates, January 24, 2014*

### **" Spending Levels Set for the Remainder of FY14**

Last week, Congress passed, and the President signed, an omnibus spending bill to fund the federal government for the remainder of Fiscal Year (FY) 2014.

The measure adheres to the trillion-dollar spending cap set by December's budget deal, the Bipartisan Budget Act (PL 113-67). The Act partially rolled back the sequester in FY14 and FY15, increasing total discretionary spending this year to \$1.012 trillion. Absent the budget deal, FY14 discretionary dollars would have been capped at \$967 billion, a \$20 billion decrease from FY13 post-sequester levels.

As a result of these partially restored funds, appropriators had more to work with in FY14 than they would have otherwise. However, the budget deal did not provide enough relief to allow lawmakers to return all discretionary program funding to pre-sequester FY12 levels, as NASUAD and other organizations had requested. Therefore, appropriators had to decide how to distribute the modest amount of restored funding among their assigned agencies and programs, across all 12 annual spending bills...

[Click here](#) for NASUAD's FY14 Budget Chart, which contains individual program funding levels key HHS programs, including the OAA.

### **CDC Issues New Report on Preventing Chronic Disease**

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Community Health has issued a new report entitled, [Preventing Chronic Disease: Collection of Community Experiences](#) . The report collates papers based on the Communities Putting Prevention to Work (CPPW) initiative which supports 50 communities in tackling obesity and tobacco use - two leading preventable causes of death and disability in the United States."

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### **From the Administration for Community Living**

Each May, the nation celebrates **Older Americans Month** to recognize older Americans for their contributions and provide them with information to help them stay healthy and active. This year, we are focusing on injury prevention with the theme **Safe Today. Healthy Tomorrow.**

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**National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease** updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

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From the **National Council on Aging NCOA**

**National Study of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program: A Brief Overview** is provided [here](#).

**Flu+ You** latest information is posted [here](#).

**EconomicCheckUp** a new tool to help seniors identify benefits is posted [here](#).

**Alleviating Elder Economic Insecurity: Resources for Communities** slide presentation is provided [here](#).

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From **AARP**

**Listening to Family Caregivers: The Need to Include Family Caregiver Assessment in Medicaid Home- and Community-Based Service Waiver Programs** is linked [here](#).

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**The Sloan Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

AGEnda Aging & Work Blog

**Continued Work and Social Security Claiming Decisions** is provided [here](#).

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From **Medicaid.gov**

**Home & Community Based Services** final regulations set forth new requirements for several Medicaid authorities under which states may provide home and community-based long-term services and supports. Information is posted [here](#).

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Recent scam alert for older consumers from the Arizona Attorney General's office is posted [here](#).

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**WHAT: Western Arizona Council of Governments WACOG Area Agency on Aging Region IV Conference on Aging**

**WHEN: January 30, 2014**, Hilton Garden Inn Yuma/Pivot Point

Information and registration provided [here](#).

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**WHAT: 2014 AzTA/ADOT Annual Spring Conference & Bus Rodeo**

**WHEN: April 13 – 15, 2014**, University Park Marriott, Tucson, Arizona

Information and registration provided [here](#).

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Just in case you're interested

Past 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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***We appreciate your patience with the newsletter's formatting issues as we work to resolve them.***

**Have a good weekend!**

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

