

**Welcome to the Legislative Update for October 3, 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!

NOTE: Between sessions, we offer a monthly issue.

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**52<sup>nd</sup> Legislative, 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Session starts January 12, 2015**

Calendar Deadlines [here](#)

**Fiscal News**

The **Joint Legislative Budget Committee's** Budget and Revenue Updates:

**JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights September 2014** is linked [here](#) and reports "Combining the July and August results, General Fund revenues have remained essentially flat compared to the prior year, growing at a rate of only 0.3%. This has resulted in collections being \$(60.2) million below the enacted forecast so far in FY 2015."

**Tracking Arizona's Recovery September 2014** is posted [here](#).

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**November 4th General Election**

The last day to register to vote is Monday, October 6<sup>th</sup>. Online voter registration: <http://servicearizona.com/voterRegistration>

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**FEDERAL OVERVIEW:**

**S.Res.569**

**A resolution designating September 23, 2014 as "National Falls Prevention Awareness Day" to raise awareness and encourage the prevention of falls among older adults**

Introduced on 9/18/2014 by Senator Bill Nelson (FL)

Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

**S.2821**

### **Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program Act of 2014**

Introduced on 9/16/2014 by Senator Robert Menendez (NJ)

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.

Text provided [here](#)

On 9/16/2014, read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

### **S.2842**

#### **Caregiver Corps Act of 2014**

Introduced on 9/17/2014 by Senator Robert P. Casey (PA)

Purpose is to establish a Caregiver Corps program to foster the creation of community-based Corps programs that provide volunteer community service opportunities to address the shortage of assistance available for older adults and individuals with disabilities.

9/17/2014, read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions.

### **H.R.4276**

#### **Veterans Traumatic Brain Injury Care Improvement Act of 2014**

Introduced on 3/18/2014 by Representative Bill Cassidy (LA-6)

H.R. 4276 amends the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008 to extend the pilot program to assess the effectiveness of providing assistance to eligible veterans with traumatic brain injury to enhance their rehabilitation, quality of life, and community integration.

Requires that at least one location of the program be in each health care region of the Veterans Health Administration that contains a polytrauma center of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). (Under current law, selected locations also must include any location other than one described above in an area that contains a high concentration of veterans with traumatic brain injuries.)

Expands requirements for reports on the pilot program.

Replaces references to "assisted living" with the term "community-based brain injury residential rehabilitative care," including rehabilitation services within the meaning of such care.

Requires a veteran, in order to be eligible for such services, to have a traumatic brain injury that is classified as complex-mild to severe.

Modifies the process of recovery of the costs of certain care for a non-service-connected disability to allow a veteran's medical records to be made available to third parties without written consent if the care or services are related to drug abuse, alcoholism or alcohol abuse, HIV infection, or sickle cell anemia and the veteran does not withhold consent for such disclosure within 30 days of receiving such care.

On 9/17/14, received in the Senate and read twice; referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

#### **H.R.5404**

##### **Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2014**

Introduced on 9/8/2014 by Representative Jeff Denham (CA-10)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes.

Text provided [here](#)

On 9/26/2014, became Public Law No: 113-175.

#### **H.R.5515**

##### **Elder Justice Reauthorization Act**

Introduced on 9/17/14 by Representative Peter T. King (NY-2)

Reauthorizes the Elder Justice Act of 2009 and funding for its programs through FY2019.

H.R.5515 amends the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to reauthorize through FY2019: (1) the National Training Institute for Federal and State Surveyors, and (2) grants by the Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS) to state agencies that perform surveys of skilled nursing facilities or nursing facilities.

9/17/2014, referred to House Education and the Workforce.

##### **Updates on earlier legislation**

#### **H.R.744**

##### **STOP Identity Theft Act of 2014**

Text provided [here](#)

9/9/2014, received in the Senate. Read Twice. Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders.

#### **S.1690**

##### **Second Chance Reauthorization Act of 2013**

Introduced on 11/13/2013 by Senator Patrick Leahy

Text provided [here](#)

Note: Amends the Second Chance Act of 2007 to: (1) modify and extend through FY2018 grant programs for reentry of federal prisoners into the community, including the program for placing

elderly offenders in home detention; (2) repeal programs under such Act relating to responsible reintegration of offenders, the study of the effectiveness of Depot Naltrexone for heroin addiction, and the satellite tracking and reentry training program; and (3) establish a program for partnering faith-based or community-based nonprofit organizations with prisons to conduct recidivism reduction activities.

10/1/2014, placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 580.

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

Check for **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 or Senators 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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**Share your thoughts at any time!** If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you can voice your opinions by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix, 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in-state toll free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only)
- Or the **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 opening the links highlighted below.
- **[Members of the House](#)**
- **[Members of the Senate](#)**

Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? **Maps** can be found on the Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

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**Plan ahead now for the next session!**

Learn more about the legislative process. See [Arizona Bill](#) or *Bill to Law* provided [here](#).

Learn about the budget process at: <http://www.azleg.gov/ilbc/budgetprocess.htm>

Review the Arizona Constitution at: <http://www.azleg.gov/Constitution.asp>

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**Tracking List**

If you're interested, the following list contains highlighted bills tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) during the last session.

**SHORT LIST:**

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25362&listid=50230&print=true>

Note: You can access the **FULL LIST** of all bills tracked by the Council during the last session by opening the May 30<sup>th</sup> issues of the *Legislative Update* posted [here](#). Do note the web report information found in any of our tracking lists is a purchased service provided by **Arizona Capitol Times**. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on any of our tracking lists **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging to the bill. It **does** mean that the topic is something that may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

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**NEWS & RESOURCES**

From the **Administration for Community Living**

**ACL Blog** *International Day of Older Persons 2014: Expanding the Conversation on Domestic Violence* [here](#)

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[Medicare.gov](#) website includes Medicare Advantage Plans information [here](#).

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**AARP Public Policy Institute**

Blog: Adult Day Services: A Model of Person-and Family-Centered Care [here](#)

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**Kaiser Health News**

9/30/2014 **Medicare Open Enrollment Is Fast Approaching - - Here's What We Know So Far** is linked [here](#).

Also: Article regarding Institute of Medicine/IOM report on dying is linked [here](#).

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

**Fall Prevention Photo Contest winners** are posted [here](#).

**Flu + You Toolkit for Professionals** [here](#)

Also: **Election 2014 Toolkit** [here](#)

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**National Alzheimer's Project Act**

Updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>. (Be sure to scroll down the page.)

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From **Paraprofessional Healthcare Institute/PHI** 9/17/2014

**STUDY: Elder Americans Face Unmet Daily Care Needs**

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From **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

*Friday Updates 9/26/2014*

**DOJ Launches Elder Justice Website**

The U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) recently launched the Elder Justice website. The [site](#) offers resources for victims, family members, prosecutors, researchers, and anyone who works with older adults. On the site:

- Victims and family members can find information about how to report elder abuse and financial exploitation in all 50 states and the territories.
- Federal, State, and local prosecutors can find three different databases containing sample pleadings and statutes.
- Researchers in the elder abuse field can access a database containing bibliographic information for thousands of articles and reviews.

Practitioners, including professionals of all types who work with elder abuse and its consequences, can find information about resources available to help them prevent elder abuse

and assist those who have already been abused, neglected or exploited.

**Senators Advocate for PACE Changes**

Last week, a bipartisan group of Senators sent a letter to CMS suggesting changes to the Program of All Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE). In the letter, the Senators note that CMS is currently in the process of revising the federal PACE regulations and include recommendations for program improvements. Notably, the letter suggests allowing PACE to offer services in settings outside the PACE center, including Adult Day Health programs. The letter also advises that CMS should allow for broader inclusion of community physicians, care teams tailored to the needs of the individuals, and concurrent state/federal review of applications.

[Click here](#) to view the letter.

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In case you missed it last time:

**Veteran Crisis Line**

<http://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

**Supreme Court, State of Arizona Law for Veterans** new website linked [here](#).

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**INFORMATION & RESOURCES:**

**Arizona State Plan on Aging 2015-2018** is now posted [here](#).

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**Arizona Department of Health Services** unveiled the [2014-2018 Arizona Healthy Aging Plan](#)

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**Arizona Department of Housing** Press Release regarding **Housing Hero Award Recipients** is linked [here](#).

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**City of Phoenix Senior Savings & Resource Fair** flyers provided [here](#).

Volunteer Opportunities for **Central Arizona Dental Society (CADS) Foundation will host its third Mission of Mercy (MOM) event** at the Arizona Fairgrounds in Phoenix, AZ, December 12 & 13, 2014. Website: <https://www.azmom.org/Index.asp>

**Coming to Tempe October 28-30, Encore 2014 conference.** Information posted at: <http://www.cvent.com/events/encore-2014-building-an-encore-nation/event-summary-45c8826b660f41868832c21275f9149d.aspx>

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The **Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism** has been extended. Executive Order 2014-07 [here](#)

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**WHAT: Arizona Suicide Prevention Coalition 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Hope Conference**

**WHEN: October 9 & 10, 2014**, 8:00 to 4:30 p.m., Black Canyon Conference Center, 9440 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85021

More information [here](#)

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**WHAT: Aging - If It's Not Your Issue, It Will Be**, Northern Arizona Council of Governments/NACOG Area Agency on Aging Region III

**WHEN: Thursday, October 16, 2014**, 8:00 am to 5 pm, High Country Conference Center, 201 W Butler, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

Conference website is linked [here](#).

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**WHAT: Arizona Bridge to Independent Living/ABIL Independent Living Resource Fair**

**WHEN: Tuesday, October 21, 2014**, Disability Empowerment Center, Virginia G. Piper Sports & Fitness Center, 5025 E Washington, Phoenix AZ 85034

More information [here](#)

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**WHAT: AARP Free Brain Health Event** Training the Grownup Brain

**WHEN: Tuesday, October 28, 2014**, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., Glendale Civic Center, 5750 Glenn Drive, Glendale AZ

NOTE: **Registration is required**, call 1-877-926-8300 to register.

More information [here](#)

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**WHAT: ASU Lodestar Center 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nonprofit Conference on Sustainability Strategies**

**WHEN: November 5, 2014**, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Black Canyon Conference Center, 9440 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix AZ

More information [here](#)

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Mark your calendar

**Vision Rehabilitation and Assistive Technology Expo (VRATE)** coming **November 7, 2014** at the Phoenix Convention Center from 9 am to 4 pm.

Go to: [www.vrate.org](http://www.vrate.org)

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**WHAT: AARP Phoenix Free Shred-A-Thon**

**WHEN: Saturday, November 8, 2014**, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Black Canyon Conference Center in Phoenix

Also: **AARP Fraud Watch Network Event** *Learn How to Protect Yourself from ID Theft & Fraud*

Thursday, **November 13, 2014**, 11:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Black Canyon Conference Center, 9440 N. 25<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85021

Note: **Registration is required.** Click [here for more information](#)

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**WHAT: Fearless Caregiver Conference Phoenix**

**WHEN: November 12, 2014**, 8:30 am to 2:30 pm, Church of the Beatitudes, 555 W. Glendale Avenue, Phoenix AZ 85021

More information [here](#)

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**WHAT: Arizona Geriatric's Society 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Symposium**

**WHEN: Friday and Saturday, November 14-15, 2014**, Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix AZ

More information [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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You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). (Please note: we try to include resources and events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.)

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**Thank you! Enjoy your fall weekend.**

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



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov) and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

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