

Welcome to the Legislative Update for January 25, 2015

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 federal legislation or activities 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 52nd Legislative, 1st Regular Session opened Monday, January 12, 2015

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](#) (Be sure to click on the committees to view the members as well as any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.)

Schedules

Arizona State Legislature ALIS Today calendar [here](#)

Senate Weekly Schedule [here](#)

House Weekly Schedule [here](#)

Deadlines

Senate [2015 Session Timeline](#)

House [Important Deadlines](#)

State of the State

Governor Ducey delivered his first State of the State Address which can be found at this [link](#).

Summary of Action

As of **day 14, 728 bills posted, one bill passed, one signed**, 46 memorials or resolutions posted and **one passed**.

Some of the bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and will be tracked by the Council and appear on the **Legislative Updates** web report page. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list does not represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It does mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FULL LIST link: <http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=25423&listid=55049&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 updated as we have an opportunity to get through the bills and will be edited throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by **Arizona Capitol Times**.

Bills highlighted

H2021: adult protective services; information online; 1/26/15 hearing at 2:00 pm, House Room 5.

S1136: nursing facility assessment; continuation; 1/28/15 hearing at 2:00 pm, Senate Room 1.

Fiscal News

Governor Ducey unveiled the Executive Budget on January 16; the press release with links to the budget materials is provided [here](#). Recommendations include \$1.2 million from the General Fund for Adult Protective Services and \$1.1 million from the General Fund to reinstate the ALTCS adult preventive dental benefit for persons with developmental disabilities.

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights January 2015 [here](#)

It reports "Year-to-date, base General Fund revenues are 4.6% above the prior year and are \$(60.7) million below the enacted budget forecast."

Tracking Arizona's Recovery January 2015 [here](#)

FY 2016 Baseline Book [here](#) (see links page 2)

You can find more JLBC Budget and Revenue Updates [here](#).

Share your thoughts! 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(s) 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](#).

Website Resources

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

Learn about the budget process [here](#).

Review the Arizona Constitution [here](#).

Learn more at Frequently Asked Questions linked [here](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW:

Reauthorization of Older Americans Act

S.192

A bill to reauthorize the Older Americans Act of 1965, and for other purposes
Introduced on 1/20/2015 by Senator Lamar Alexander (TN)

1/20/2015, referred to the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions committee.

S.69

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 1/7/2015 by Senator David Vitter (LA)

Declares that, in the event the debt of the federal government reaches the statutory limit, the authority of the Department of the Treasury to pay with legal tender the principal and interest on debt held by the public, and the authority of the Commissioner of Social Security to pay monthly Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act, shall take priority over all other obligations incurred by the government.

On 1/7/2015 read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.141

Protecting Seniors' Access to Medicare Act of 2015

Introduced on 1/8/2015 by Senator John Cornym (TX)
Text and summary pending.

On 1/8/15, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.Res.25

A resolution commemorating 50 years since the creation of Medicare and Medicaid Programs

Introduced on 1/8/2015 by Senator Ron Wyden (OR)

Referred to the Committee on Finance on 1/8/2015.

H.R.97

Protecting Employees and Retirees in Business Bankruptcies Act of 2015

Introduced on 1/12/2015 by Representative John Conyers, Jr. (MI-13)

1/12/15 referred to the Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial & Antitrust Law. Text provided [here](#)

H.R.164

Ensuring the Full Faith and Credit of the United States and Protecting America's Soldiers and Seniors Act

Introduced on 1/6/2015 by Representative David Schweikert (AZ-6)

Requires the following to take equal priority over all other federally incurred obligations in the event that the public debt reaches the statutory limit: (1) the authority of the Department of the Treasury to pay with legal tender the principal and interest on debt held by the public; (2) the authority of the Commissioner of Social Security to pay monthly Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance benefits under title II of the Social Security Act; and (3) the payment of pay and allowances for members of the Armed Forces on active duty.

On 1/6/2015, H.R. 164 was referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.259 To amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to provide a tax credit for expenses for household and eldercare services necessary for gainful employment

Introduced on 1/9/2015 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13)

Text provided [here](#)

1/9/2015 bill referred to the house Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.263

Adult Day Center Enhancement Act

Introduced on 1/9/2015 by Representative Barbara Lee (CA-13)

To expand and enhance existing adult day programs for younger people with neurological diseases or conditions (such as multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease, traumatic brain injury, or other similar diseases or conditions) to support and improve access to respite services for family caregivers who are taking care of such people, and for other purposes.

Text [here](#)

On 1/9/2015, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce

H.R.290

Creating Access to Rehabilitation for Every Senior (CARES) Act of 2015

Introduced on 1/13/2015 by Representative James Renacci (OH-16)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to eliminate the 3-day prior hospitalization requirement for Medicare coverage of skilled nursing facility services in qualified skilled nursing facilities, and for other purposes.

1/13/15, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

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](#).

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your 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

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>.

NEWS & RESOURCES

White House Conference on Aging [here](#)

National Alzheimer's Project Act

Updated information can be found at: <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/#102714Mtg>.

(Be sure to scroll down the page.)

Presentation slides for the January 26 Advisory Council meeting are available at <http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/index.shtml#012615Mtg>.

Department of Justice

Elder Justice Initiative website: <http://www.justice.gov/elderjustice/>

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

[Senior SNAP Enrollment Initiative](#)

[5 Ways Congress Can Support Seniors in 2015](#)

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

Friday Updates, January 23, 2014

DOL Appeals FLSA Rulings

On Thursday, January 22, the Department of Labor (DOL) filed an appeal against the recent rulings that vacated the agency's Fair Labor Standards Act regulation. Previously, in two separate opinions, U.S. District Court Judge Richard Leon vacated the FLSA rule, citing an improper process and lack of statutory authority for the changes. DOL previously issued statements indicating strong disagreement with the rulings and has now formally appealed the case to the U.S. Court of Appeals. At this time, no schedule has been set for resolution of the lawsuit.

To access DOL's continued updates on the litigation, [click here](#).

Webinar: Building Partnerships to Promote Oral Health for Older Adults

On Tuesday, **February 10 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET**, Oral Health America (OHA) is hosting an informative webinar on its state partnership opportunities with the older adult program, the Wisdom Tooth Project®. Through the partnership, aging organizations and oral health coalitions can help improve access to resources for older adults. The goal of the webinar is to expand the network of state oral health coalitions and aging organizations working in collaboration.

Participants will learn more about OHA and how to get involved with the Wisdom Tooth Project. Also, Matthew Bond, Manager of Grants and Programs of the DentaQuest Foundation, will present on Oral Health 2020.

[Click here](#) to view details on the webinar.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

WHAT: 2015 AzTA Legislative Day at the Capitol

WHEN: January 27, 2015

More information [here](#)

WHAT: Is it Post-Surgical Anesthesia Delirium or is it Alzheimer's Disease?

WHEN: January 30, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m., Morin Auditorium at Banner Sun Health Research Institute, 10515 W Santa Fe Dr., Sun City, AZ 85351.

To register, call 623-832-3248 as seating is limited.

WHAT: Annual Conference on Successful Aging; Promoting Successful Aging and Brain Health

WHEN: Friday, February 20, 2015, 7:30 am to 5:00 pm, DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Tucson-Reid Park

More information [here](#)

WHAT: Arizona Chapter 2nd Annual Case Management Conference

WHEN: February 21, 2015, the Scottsdale Plaza Resort, 7200 N Scottsdale Rd., Scottsdale AZ

More information [here](#)

WHAT: 24th Annual Alzheimer's Education Conference

WHEN: February 27, 2015, East Valley Institute of Technology, 1601 West Main Street, Mesa AZ 85201

More information [here](#)

Coming later this spring

Arizona Transit Association

2015 AZTA/ADOT conference April 12 – 15, 2015

More information [here](#)

Mark your calendar

From the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing

The national organization, the Association of Late Deafened Adults (ALDA), will hold their 27th annual national conference (ALDAcon) in Scottsdale, Arizona, from September 16 to September 20, 2015. Here is a link to the conference page: <http://www.alda.org/aldas-2015-convention/>. Registration for this conference will open in January. You can also follow ALDA on their Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/ALDAInc>.

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>.

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. (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.)

Our apologies for the formatting issues.

Thank you for your interest; have a good week.

~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 and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.