

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 3, 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 older Arizonans 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!

Shortest legislative session in years

The Sine Die Adjournment of the 52nd Legislature, First Regular Session occurred at 3:34 a.m. this morning.

As of day 81:

1,163 bills posted;

345 passed;

6 vetoed;

193 signed;

89 memorials or resolutions posted; and

36 memorials or resolutions passed.

The Governor's statement on Sine Die found [HERE](#).

With the end of the session, the Governor has 10 days to sign, veto or allow bills to become law.

Highlight of tracked bills passed

H2021: adult protective services, information online – the Department of Economic Security is required to make the Adult Protective Services (APS) registry available to the public online. Signed by the Governor; Senate Engrossed Version of the House Bill [HERE](#).

S1034: AHCCCS; emergency services; case management – requires an AHCCCS contractor to intervene and educate an AHCCCS member on the proper use of the emergency services if used improperly and to report this intervention to AHCCCS. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1136: nursing facility assessment; continuation – continues the nursing facility assessment for eight years and makes various changes related to the nursing facility assessment. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1194: medically underserved areas; loan repayment – expands the types of medical professions that can participate in the Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program and the Rural Private Primary Care Provider Loan Repayment Program. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1282: teledentistry; dental hygienists; dental assistants – creates expanded function dental assistant (EFDA), provides for teledentistry and modifies statute relating to affiliated practice relationships (APR). Fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1288: prescription drug coverage; medication; synchronization – provides synchronization of an insured patient's prescription medication. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1401: home care services; disclosure – outlines reporting requirements relating to a business entity that provides home care services in the state. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

S1404: health care directives; conflicts – presumes that a health care directive, the decision of the patients' agent or surrogate represents the decision of the patient if there is a conflict with a provider's order. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

H2196: nursing assistants; nurse aids – changes title of nurse aide to licensed nursing assistant and a nursing assistant to a certified nursing assistant. Senate Engrossed Version of the House Bill [HERE](#).

H2373: AHCCCS; orthotics – requires AHCCCS contractors to provide services for orthotics when specified conditions are met. Fact sheet [HERE](#).

H2545: direct care personnel; duties – allows direct care staff personnel to execute a pre-hospital medical care directive if the physician of the person with the directive has ordered a hospice plan of care. Fact sheet [HERE](#).

H2605: DHS; stroke care protocols – requires the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) before July 1, 2017 to adopt or amend rules relating to coordination of stroke care services between emergency medical services providers and hospitals. Signed by the Governor; fact sheet [HERE](#).

You can see all the bills tracked by the Council in the **FULL List** link [HERE](#).

Other bills tracked that weren't successful

H2170: lifespan respite care program; appropriation – appropriates \$250,000 from the state General Fund in Fiscal Year 2016 to the Department of Economic Security for

Lifespan Respite Care Program.

H2171: lifespan respite care; program termination – eliminates the provision of law relating to the termination of the Lifespan Respite Care Program.

H2492: AHCCCS coverage; ALTCS; medical services – mandates AHCCCS contractors provide coverage for podiatry services performed by a podiatrist, emergency dental care and extraction for persons over 21, orthotic devices and chiropractic services when ordered by a physician and emergency and preventative dental services for individuals on the ALTCS programs.

NOTE: Fact sheets or bill summaries are taken from the Arizona State Legislature website.

You can watch archived proceedings through the Arizona State Legislature’s website; go to [Arizona Capitol Television](#) for more information.

Some of this session’s bills were 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 may be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

FULL LIST [Link](#) of all bills tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging.

Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee**

JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights March 2015

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/mfh-mar-15.pdf>

The report states “Year-to-date, base General Fund revenues are 5.4% above the prior year and are \$35.8 million above the Baseline forecast.”

Tracking Arizona’s Recovery [here](#)

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(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*.

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

Website Resources

Want to learn more about the legislative process ahead of the next session? 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:

Budget resolutions

H.Con.Res.27

Establishing the budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal years 2017 through 2025.

Introduced on 3/10/15 by Representative Tom Price (GA-6)

Text version (Engrossed in House) [here](#)

Latest action: 3/25/15 Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.

S.Con.Res.11

An original concurrent resolution setting forth the congressional budget for the United States Government for fiscal year 2016 and setting forth the appropriate budgetary levels for fiscal year 2017

Introduced on 3/20/15 by Senator Michael B. Enzi (WY)

Text [here](#)

3/27/15 Resolution agreed to in Senate with amendments by Yea-Nay Vote 52-46.

S.Amdt.983

To establish a deficit-neutral reserve fund relating to supporting programs that keep low-income older individuals healthy and able to live at home, such as those programs funded through the Older Americans Act of 1965.

Amends S.Con.Res.11

Sponsored by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT) submitted 3/26/15; proposed 3/27/15/ and on 3/27/15 Amendment SA 983 agreed to in Senate by Unanimous Consent.

H.R.2

Medicare Access and CHIP Reauthorization Act of 2015

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the Medicare sustainable growth rate and strengthen Medicare access by improving physician payments and making other improvements, to reauthorize the Children's Health Insurance Program, and for other purposes.

Introduced 3/24/2015 by Representative Michael C. Burgess (TX-26)

Text of Version (Engrossed in House) [here](#)

Passed House 3/26/2015; Received in the Senate

H.R.1336

Social Impact Partnership Act

Introduced on 3/4/15 by Representative Todd C. Young (IN-9)

Amends title XX (Block Grants to Social Services and Elder Justice) of the Social Security Act to add a new part C (Social Impact Partnerships).

Text [here](#)

On 3/4/2015, referred to House Financial Services.

H.R.1439

Family and Medical Insurance Leave Act

Introduced on 3/18/15 by Representative Rosa L. DeLauro (CT-3)

To provide paid family and medical leave benefits to certain individuals, and for other purposes.

Text [here](#)

On 3/18/15, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.1448

Transit Accessibility Innovation Act of 2015

Introduced on 3/18/15 by Representative James Langevin (RI-2)

Directs the Secretary of Transportation to implement a transit accessibility innovation program by distributing competitive discretionary grants to public transit agencies for eligible projects in order to encourage public transit systems to take action to address deficiencies in service for individuals with disabilities.

Directs the Secretary, for each fiscal year, to use 2% of funds made available under this Act to carry out activities to ensure that innovative practices, program models, and new service delivery options are collected, reviewed, and disseminated to other public transit agencies for replication in other communities.

Directs the Secretary, for each fiscal year, also to use certain funds to carry out a transportation promotion pilot program to ensure that: (1) public transit agencies fulfill their requirements under the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), and (2) individuals with disabilities have advocates to ensure greater opportunities for integration and access into transit systems.

Requires the Secretary to make grants to: (1) agencies implementing a system established under the Developmental Disabilities Assistance and Bill of Rights Act of 2000 that have demonstrated histories of transportation expertise or advocacy, and (2) nonprofit organizations that have also demonstrated such histories.

Increases from 10% to 15% the limitation on the use of a recipient's annual formula apportionment for provision of nonfixed route paratransit transportation services in accordance with the ADA

On 3/18/15, referred to the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

S.731

Social Security Expansion Act

Introduced on 3/12/15 by Senator Bernard Sanders (VT)

To enhance Social Security benefits and ensure the long-term solvency of the Social Security program.

Text [here](#)

On 3/12/15, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

Updates on Legislation

H.R.988

Elder Justice Reauthorization Act

Introduced on 2/13/15 by Representative Peter T. King (NY-2)

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

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 to state agencies that perform surveys of skilled nursing facilities or nursing facilities.

Latest action: 3/16/15 referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations.

Text [here](#)

Link to CRS Report dated September 3, 2014 [here](#)

H.R.1055

To improve access to oral health care for vulnerable and underserved populations

Text [here](#)

Latest action: 3/23/15, the bill was referred to the Subcommittee on Indians, Insular and Alaska Native Affairs.

H.R.1129

Veterans' Whistleblower and Patient Protection Act of 2015

Introduced on 2/26/15 by Representative Ann Kirkpatrick (AZ-1)

To amend title 38, United States Code, to establish within the Department of Veterans

Affairs an Office of Whistleblower and Patient Protection.

Text [here](#)

On 3/19/15, Subcommittee Hearings held.

H.R.1391

Social Security 2100 Act

Introduced on 3/17/15 by Representative John B. Larson (CT-1)

To protect our Social Security system and improve benefits for current and future generations.

Latest action: 3/25/15, referred to the House Committees Education and Workforce, Ways and Means.

H.R.1468

Global Brain Health Act of 2015

To galvanize United States Government programs in support of brain health for global victims of autism, hydrocephalus and Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 3/19/15 by Representative Christopher H. Smith (NJ-4)

Text [here](#)

Latest action: 3/19/15, referred to the House Energy and Commerce.

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 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

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

The White House Conference on Aging, Phoenix Regional Forum was held on March 31 at the Convention Center. **Watch for** follow-up regional listening sessions in communities around the state. You can find and contact your local Area Agency on Aging to ask about your area's participation at <http://www.azaging.org/where-we-are.html>.

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

Friday Updates, April 3, 2015

Housing and Health Care Partnerships Toolkit

The LeadingAge Center for Housing Plus Services has published a new toolkit, *Housing and Health Care: Partners in Healthy Aging*. The toolkit offers resources and guidance to help providers of affordable senior housing and health care partners work together to improve health, safety, and quality of life for housing residents, while also decreasing unnecessary health services and achieving cost savings.

[Click here](#) to access the toolkit.

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

Chronic Disease Self-Management Program

Summary of National and State Translational Research Findings [HERE](#)

Benefits 101 [HERE](#)

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

May is Older Americans Month – The 2015 theme is *Get Into the Act*

Information and resources [here](#)

From the **National Alzheimer's Project Act**

Updated information can be found at:

<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>

(Be sure to scroll up and down the page for information.)

From the **National Institute on Aging**

[Alzheimer's and Dementia Resources for Professionals](#)

In case you missed it last time

Latest information on the White House Conference on Aging Blog [HERE](#)

INFORMATION & RESOURCES

To view the latest **Coming of Age Western Arizona Council of Governments Area Agency on Aging** newsletter, click [HERE](#).

To view the latest issue of the **Northern Arizona Council of Governments/NACOG** newsletter, click [HERE](#).

Coming **April 18**

HopeFest at Chase Field, Phoenix

More information [HERE](#)

WHAT: Arizona's 6th Annual Statewide Symposium in Support of Service Members, Veterans & Their Families

WHEN: April 22 – 23, 2015, Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix AZ

More information [here](#)

[Registration Packet](#)

[Agenda](#)

WHAT: Arizona Geriatrics Society 8th Annual Spring Geriatric Mental Health & Aging Conference

WHEN: Friday, April 24, 2015, Community Partnership of Southern Arizona Training Center, 2502 North Dodge Boulevard, Tucson AZ

More information [HERE](#)

WHAT: Managing Behaviors and Utilizing Alternative Therapies when Treating Dementia Patients offered by the Metro Phoenix Senior Resources

WHEN: May 5, 2015, Beatitudes Campus, 1610 W. Glendale Avenue, Phoenix AZ

More information [HERE](#)

SAVE the date...

WHAT: Region 6 Conference on Aging

WHEN: Saturday, June 6, 2015, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Bisbee Senior Center, 300 Collins Rd., Bisbee AZ

More information [here](#)

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.

Now that the session has ended, we plan to offer the *Legislative Update* on a monthly basis with a focus on federal activities as well as local, state or national resources and information.

Enjoy the rest of your spring season!

~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**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
* PH: (602) 542-4710 * Fax: (602) 542-4774 * E: gaca@az.gov