



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 1, 2016

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.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

52nd Legislature, 2nd Regular Session

It is day 82 of the session and 106 bills have passed, one has been vetoed, and 89 have been signed by the Governor.

A link to the Governor's announcement regarding action on bills is posted [HERE](#).

Recent action on tracked bills

HB2667: dental care; treatment; volunteer care – expands immunity from liability in a medical malpractice action to dental professionals providing services in connection with a nonprofit clinic. Recent action: 3/31 Senate Committee of the Whole approved.

SB1169: mental health power of attorney – removes the ability of a principal who is subject to a mental health care power of attorney to revoke the mental health care power of attorney or to disqualify an agent during times the principal is found to be incapable, and modifies an inpatient treatment facility's options when a patient who is subject to a mental health care power of attorney requests in writing to be discharged from the facility or manifests the desire to revoke all or parts of the mental health power of attorney. Recent

action: 3/30 passed House 50-0; ready for Senate action on House amendments.

SB1196: silver alert; Alzheimer’s disease – includes Alzheimer’s disease or dementia as a condition to issue a Silver Alert. Recent action: 3/30 passed House 55-0; ready for Senate action on House [amendment](#).

SB1283: controlled substances prescription monitoring program – requires medical practitioners to obtain a patient utilization report from the Controlled Substances Prescription Monitoring Program’s central database tracking system before prescribing certain controlled substances and outlines exemptions to this requirement. Recent action: 3/28 passed House 58-0; ready for Senate action on House amendments; House Committee of the Whole (COW) floor amendment [HERE](#).

SB1293: mediation; confidential communications; exception – permits court-appointed mediators to disclose specific information to law enforcement, the Department of Child Safety or Adult Protective Services under certain circumstances. Recent action: 3/30 passed House 56-0; ready for Senate action on House amendments.

SB1296: guardianship; proceedings; ward’s relationships – requires the court, when appointing a guardian, to follow previous orders of the family court under specified circumstances. Establishes co-guardianships, allows interested parties to petition the court for contact with a ward, and requires notification of certain conditions. Recent action: 3/30 passed House 56-0; ready for Senate action on House amendments.

SB1441: long-term care insurance; rules – Recent action: 3/30 House Committee of the Whole (COW) approved with [amendment](#) short title change.

SCR1006: first responders; honoring – the members of the Legislature honor and express their sincere gratitude to all first responders in the State of Arizona. Recent action: 3/30 unanimously adopted by House; to secretary of state.

Please note the Council tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. All of the bills tracked this session can be found on the [FULL List](#) web report provided [HERE](#). (Be sure to view the recent action for these bills and click on the bill numbers for more information including bill versions, adopted amendments, proposed amendments, votes, fact sheets and more.)

DON’T FORGET!

You can find and watch Live Proceedings at:
http://azleg.granicus.com/Mediaplayer.php?publish_id=5

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

Find House agendas [HERE](#)

Find Senate agendas [HERE](#)

Deadlines

Senate [2016 Session Timeline](#)

[House Important Deadlines](#)

Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links if you wish to contact them by phone or email.

Members of the [House](#)

Members of the [Senate](#)

Summary of Action

As of **day 82, 1,219 bills posted; 106 passed and 89 signed; one (1) vetoed; 109 memorials or resolutions** have been **posted; 17 have passed**. Note: some of this session's bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and are tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the *Legislative Update* web report. 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 web report provided [HERE](#).

Note: the web report provides you with the current status information on bills and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This list will be condensed to reflect those aging-related bills still moving forward. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*. If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving this information, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to gaca@az.gov.

Share your thoughts!

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts 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
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

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

Other resources on the www.azleg.gov website

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

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

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

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

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

Fiscal News

From the **Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC**

Monthly Fiscal Highlights March 2016 is provided [HERE](#) and reports “Year-to-date, base General Fund revenues are 3.4% above the prior year, and are \$31.9 million above the Baseline forecast.”

Tracking Arizona's Recovery March 2016 is provided [HERE](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

Updates

S.192

Older American Act (OAA) Reauthorization Bill

Latest action: Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill, as amended Agreed to by voice vote.

H.R.4551

Keeping our Promise to Seniors Act

Introduced on 2/12/2016 by Representative David Jolly (FL-13)

Text [HERE](#)

On 3/23/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R.3961

Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers Act of 2015

Introduced on 11/5/2015 by Representative Peter A. DeFazio (OR-4)

To require the establishment of a Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security and Medicare benefits under titles II and XVIII of the Social Security Act.

Text [HERE](#)

On 3/23/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R.3860

Ensuring Access to Affordable and Quality Home Care for Seniors and People with Disabilities Act

Introduced on 10/29/2015 by Representative Tim Walberg (MI-7)

This bill amends the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 with respect to the exemption from minimum wage and maximum hour requirements of domestic service employment to provide companionship services for individuals who because of age or infirmity are unable to care for themselves. Definitions of "companionship services" and "domestic service employment" are detailed. Excluded from companionship services are any relating to the care and protection of the aged or infirm which require and are performed by trained medical personnel.

The exemption shall now extend to third-party employment of an employee to provide companionship services to such individuals, including non-medical in-home personal care or household work related to their care. "Third-party employment" means employees who provide companionship or live-in domestic services while employed by an employer or agency other than the family or household using their services, whether or not such an employee provides services to more than one household or family in the same workweek

when providing such services.

Exempted also from the Act's maximum hour requirements are third-party employment in domestic service of an employee who resides in the household in which the services are provided.

On 3/23/2016, referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

H.R.3588
Guaranteed 3 Percent COLA for Seniors Act of 2015

Introduced on 9/22/2015 by Representative Eliot L. Engel (NY-16)

Directs the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor to prepare and publish a monthly Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers that indicates changes over time in expenditures for consumption which are typical for individuals in the United States age 62 and older. Amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) OASDI of the Social Security Act to: (1) require the use of such index to compute cost-of-living increases for Social Security benefits; and (2) provide, in the case of individuals who have attained age 62, for an annual cost-of-living increase of at least 3%.

3/23/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

Other legislation

H.R.4878
Better Care, Lower Cost Act

Introduced on 3/23/2016 by Representative Erik Paulsen (MN-3)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare Better Care Program to provide integrated care for Medicare beneficiaries with chronic conditions, and for other purposes.

Text [HERE](#)

On 3/23/2016, referred to the House Ways and Means.

H.R.4837
S.O.S. Veterans Caregivers Act

Introduced on 3/22/2016 by Representative Raul Ruiz (CA-36)

The bill includes a veteran who has a serious illness or injury (currently, a serious injury) incurred or aggravated in the line of active duty on or after September 11, 2001, as an “eligible veteran” for purposes of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) program of comprehensive assistance for family caregivers of eligible veterans. As part of the program, the VA shall give each caregiver designated as the primary provider of personal care services

for an eligible veteran, not less than annually, a multidimensional assessment to measure the burden and strain the caregiver has felt. The VA's annual report on such program shall include a description of the satisfaction experienced by caregivers and veterans with such program.

H.R.4835
Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Act

Introduced on 3/22/2016 by Representative Michael M. Honda (CA-17)

To facilitate nationwide availability of volunteer income tax assistance for low-income and underserved populations, and for other purposes.

On 3/22/2016 referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

H.R.4235
Women's Pension Protection Act of 2015

Introduced on 12/10/2015 by Representative Janice D. Schakowsky (IL-9)
The bill amends the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA) to: (1) extend spousal consent requirements to defined contribution pension plans, and (2) allow certain long-term part-time workers to participate in pension plans that include either a cash or deferred arrangement or a salary reduction agreement. Financial product or service providers who sell retirement financial products or services must provide purchasers of their products or services an easily accessible link to the website of the Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to obtain information relating to retirement planning or later life economic security. The Women's Bureau of the Department of Labor shall award grants to certain community-based organizations to improve the financial literacy of women who are working age or in retirement.

On 3/23/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor or Pensions.

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

2016 Alzheimer's Disease Facts and Figures is provided [HERE](#). Includes a Special Report on the Personal Financial Impact of Alzheimer's

Kaiser Health News

Big Financial Costs Are Part of Alzheimer's Toll on Families is linked [HERE](#).

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>

From the **Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation**

Perspectives – Traditional Medicare...Disadvantaged? [HERE](#)

From **National Institutes of Health**

[News release](#) – World's older population grows dramatically

The world's older population continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. Today, 8.5 percent of people worldwide (617 million) are aged 65 and older. According to a new report, "[An Aging World: 2015](#)," this percentage is projected to jump to nearly 17 percent of the world's population by 2050. (1.6 billion).

U.S. Department of Health & Human Services

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease updated information can be found at:

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

The Brookdale Foundation Group – Funding

The National Group Respite Program *2016 Request for Proposals for Agencies Interested in Establishing a Group Respite or Early Memory Loss Program for Elders with Dementia* [HERE](#).

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**
Friday Updates, April 1, 2016

DOJ Announces Launch of 10 Regional Elder Justice Task Forces

On March 30, the Department of Justice (DOJ) announced the launch of 10 regional Elder Justice Task Forces. Task Forces coordinate the efforts of federal, state, and local prosecutors, law enforcement, and agencies that provide services to the elderly to identify and pursue nursing homes that are not providing adequate care to their residents. The new Elder Justice Task Forces will have representatives from the U.S. Attorneys' Offices, state Medicaid Fraud Control Units, state and local prosecutors' offices, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), state Adult Protective Services agencies, Long-Term Care Ombudsman programs and law enforcement.

- [Click here](#) to view the press release.
- [Click here](#) to learn about the Ombudsman program.
- [Click here](#) to learn about the Elder Justice Initiative.

Rides to Wellness Demonstration & Innovative Coordinated Access Grants

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced the availability of approximately \$5.3million of funding from two programs to support the Rides to Wellness Demonstration and Innovative Coordinated Access and Mobility Grants (R2W Demonstration Grants). The goal of the competitive R2W Demonstration Grants is to find and test promising, replicable public transportation healthcare access solutions that support the following goals: increased access to care, improved health outcomes and reduced healthcare costs. Eligible applicants include: States, Tribes, and designated or direct recipients for funds under 49 U.S.C. 5307, 5310 or 5311. Proposers must serve as the lead agency of a local consortium that includes stakeholders from the transportation, healthcare, human service or other sectors. Members of this consortium are eligible as subrecipients. Further, proposers must demonstrate that the proposed project was planned through an inclusive process with the

involvement of the transportation, healthcare and human service industries. Eligible projects must have implementation ready capital and operating projects that enhance access, such as: mobility management; health and transportation provider partnerships; technology; and other actions that drive change. These R2W Demonstration Grants will develop best practice solutions that other communities can replicate. All applications must be submitted by 5:00 p.m. ET on Tuesday, May 31, 2016.

[Click here](#) to view grant details.

Train-the-Trainer: Responding to Alzheimer's

The International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) is hosting a two day, no cost training for law enforcement and first responders to learn about how to properly and appropriately respond to calls regarding individuals with Alzheimer's disease. Participants of this course will be taught to become subject matter experts for responding to Alzheimer's disease for their agency. This training is appropriate for law enforcement, first responders, and mental health professionals that work directly with first responders, especially those who have prior training experience. As a result of this training, participants will be able to:

- Better understand Alzheimer's disease
- Identify the different situations first responders might encounter persons with Alzheimer's disease
- Distinguish symptoms of Alzheimer's disease from other conditions
- Learn techniques to effectively question and interview a person with Alzheimer's disease
- Communicate and collaborate with caregivers
- Engage community resources
- Establish protocols for search-and-rescue specific to this population

The event will take place on **Tuesday, April 19, 2016, and Wednesday, April 20, 2016 in Sunrise, Florida.**

[Click here](#) to view details and register.

In case you missed it last time...

Alzheimer's Association, Alzheimer's & Dementia Policy Forum

Report on milestones for care and support under the U.S. National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease [HERE](#).

From **The Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**
AGenda Aging & Work Blog

Building Usability: 3 ways for employers to create a supportive environment for working caregivers provided [HERE](#).

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

Arizona's 29th Annual Transit Conference presented by AzTA & ADOT

April 10-12, 2016, High Country Conference Center at Northern Arizona University, Flagstaff AZ

Information & registration [HERE](#).

Arizona Geriatrics Society 9th Annual Spring Geriatric Mental Health and Aging Conference

Friday, April 15, 2016, Plaza Arboleda Conference Center, 2502 North Dodge Boulevard, Tucson AZ

More information at: www.arizonageriatrics.org/2016-annual-spring-conference-homepage

REMINDER: Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A 2016 Aging Summit

May 19-20, 2016, High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff AZ

More information and register online [HERE](#)

If 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 events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or

marketing materials.

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

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
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