



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for April 29, 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

Budget bills were introduced in the Senate and the House this week. Both have convened today. Advocates are watching to see if provisions positively impacting older Arizonans remain such as ALTCS dental services, funding for caseload growth of Adult Protective Service, and allowing ADHS to use monies in the Health Research Account in an amount specified in the general appropriations act for Alzheimer's disease research. (See HB2695: general appropriations act; 2016-2017 and HB2704: budget reconciliation; health; 2016-2017)

The **FULL List** of legislation tracked now includes all of those bills for your review. The budget bills appear at the top of the report. (Be sure to click on the bill numbers for more information including fact sheets, bill versions, amendments, votes, and see action on these bills.) **FULL List** web report provided [HERE](#).

Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC

FY 2017 House and Senate Plan – As Introduced (4/28/2016) found [HERE](#).

JLBC Monthly Fiscal Highlights – April 2016 provided [HERE](#) and states “Year-to-date, base General Fund revenues are 3.0% above the prior year, and are \$27.0 million above the Baseline forecast.”

Tracking Arizona's Recovery April 2016 [HERE](#).

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 110, **1,247 bills posted; 106 passed, 1 vetoed and 105 signed; 114 memorials or resolutions** have been **posted; 29** have **passed**. Note: some of this session's bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and have been 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. 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](#).

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

Updates

S.192

Older American Act (OAA) Reauthorization Bill

4/19/2016 became Public Law No. 114-144.

Summary provided [HERE](#)

Enrolled Text [HERE](#)

From the **Administration for Community Living/ACL** - Older Americans Reauthorization Act Signed into Law: http://www.acl.gov/NewsRoom/NewsInfo/2016/2016_04_19.aspx

H.R.4919

Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2016

Introduced on 4/12/2016 by Representative Christopher Smith (NJ-4)

Text [HERE](#)

Latest action: 4/28/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security and Investigations.

H.R.3989

Support Our Military Caregivers Act

Introduced on 11/5/2015 by Representative Elise M. Stefanik (NY-21)

This bill permits an individual to elect to have an independent contractor perform an external clinical review of any of the following:

- a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) denial of an individual's application to be a caregiver or family caregiver eligible for VA benefits;
- with respect to an approved application, a VA determination of the level or amount of personal care services that a veteran requires;
- a request by a caregiver or family caregiver for a reconsideration of the level or amount of personal care services that a veteran requires based on post-application changes; and
- a revocation of benefits by the VA.

Latest action: On 4/20/2016 Subcommittee Hearings Held.

Other legislation

H.R.5088

To prevent abusive billing of ancillary services to the Medicare program, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 4/28/2016 by Representative Jackie Speier (CA-14)

On 4/28/2016, referred to the House Ways and Means.

H.R.5073

To establish EUREKA Prize Competitions to accelerate discovery and development of disease-modifying, preventive, or curative treatment for Alzheimer's disease and related dementia, to encourage efforts to enhance detection and diagnosis of such diseases, or to enhance the quality and efficiency of care of individuals with such disease.

Introduced on 4/27/2016 by Representative Steve Cohen (TN-9)

On 4/27/2016 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.5036

To clarify the application of spousal impoverishment protections for recipients of home and community-based services under Medicaid

Introduced on 4/21/2016 by Representative Betty McCollum (MN-4)

On 4/21/2016 referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

H.R.5009

To amend title XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act to ensure prompt coverage of breakthrough devices under the Medicare and Medicaid Program, and for other purposes.

Introduced on 4/20/2016 by Representative Charles W. Boustany (LA-3)

On 4/20/2016, referred to the House Energy and Commerce.

H.R.4988

Protection of Social Security Benefits Restoration Act

Introduced on 4/18/2016 by Representative Patrick Murphy (FL-18)

This bill amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act to prohibit the application of, and repeal authority for, administrative offsets to Social Security, railroad retirement, and black lung benefits.

On 4/18/2016, referred to the House Ways and Means.

H.R.4942

DELIVER Act of 2016

Introduced on 4/14/2016 by Representative Joe Barton (TX-6)

Delivering Elderly Lunches and Increasing Volunteer Engagement and Reimbursement Act of 2016 amends the Internal Revenue Code to increase the standard mileage rate for the tax deduction for the charitable use of a passenger automobile to deliver meals to homebound individuals who are elderly, disabled, frail or at risk. The bill increases the rate from the standard charitable rate of 14 cents per mile to the standard business mileage rate which is 54 cents per mile for 2016.

H.R.4938

Free File Act of 2016

Introduced on 4/14/2016 by Representative Peter J. Roskam (IL-6)

The bill is intended to make permanent the Internal Revenue Service Free File program.

H.R.4932

ROBOCOP Act

Introduced on 4/13/2016 by Representative Jackie Speier (CA-14)

To amend the Communications Act of 1934 to expand and clarify the prohibition on inaccurate identification information and to require providers of telephone service to offer technology to subscribers to reduce the incidence of unwanted telephone calls, and for other purposes.

On 4/13/2016, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

S.2864

A bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to prevent catastrophic out-of-pocket spending on prescription drugs for seniors and individuals with disabilities.

Introduced on 4/27/2016 by Senator Ron Wyden (OR)

On 4/27/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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: USA.gov provides contact information at: <http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

NEWS& RESOURCES

From **Kaiser Health News**

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

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/>.

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

Statement regarding signing of S.192, the Older Americans Act Reauthorization [HERE](#)

Friday Updates, April 29, 2016

New Quality Measures Added to Nursing Home Compare Website

On Wednesday, April 27, the Centers for Medicare& Medicaid Services (CMS) issued six new quality measures to the [Nursing Home Compare website](#). Some of the measures were informed by the Medicare-claims data submitted by hospitals. This marks the first time that CMS has issued quality measures that expand beyond data that is self-reported by nursing homes. "Beginning in July 2016, CMS will incorporate all of these measures, except for the antianxiety/hypnotic medication measure, into the calculation of the Nursing Home Five-Star Quality Ratings. CMS is not incorporating the antianxiety/hypnotic medication measure because it has been difficult to determine appropriate nursing home benchmarks for the acceptable use of these medications."

[Click here](#) to view the updated website.

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

Elder Justice Innovation Grant Opportunity

The Administration for Community Living (ACL) is seeking applications for Elder Justice Innovation grants. The purpose of the Elder Justice Innovation Grants program is to support the development and advancement of new and emerging issues related to elder justice. Funded projects will contribute to the improvement of the field of elder abuse prevention and intervention at large, such as by developing materials, programs, etc., that can be widely disseminated and/or replicated, or by establishing and/or contributing to the evidence-base of knowledge. For FY 2016, the following have been identified as priority areas: self-neglect, abuse in guardianship, elder abuse forensic centers, and elder abuse in Indian Country. All applications must be submitted electronically by **11:59 p.m. ET on Monday, June 20, 2016**.

[Click here](#) to view details.

ENCORE.ORG second acts for the greater good website [HERE](#)

In case you missed it last time...

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

May is Older American’s Month and *Blaze a Trail* is the 2016 theme.

Information and resources: <http://oam.acl.gov/>

Tip sheets: <http://oam.acl.gov/2016/tipsheets.html>

April 16 - Healthcare Decision Day

Governor Ducey proclaimed April 16 as Health Care Decision Day in Arizona

A link to the proclamation is provided [HERE](#).

Life-care planning resources can be found on the Arizona Attorney General’s website at: <https://www.azag.gov/seniors/life-care-planning>.

INFORMATION& RESOURCES:

Community forums on disability: *Presenting the Partners in Progress: Together We Make a Difference Tour*

News release [HERE](#)

More information on the **Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council** at: <https://addpc.az.gov/>.

Citizen Safety Forum - presented by the Maricopa County Attorney’s Office and the Chandler Police Department on **May 4, 2016, Chandler Community Center**, 125 East Commonwealth Avenue in Chandler. More information [HERE](#).

Behavioral Health & Older Adults Conference *Integrating Behavioral Health & Primary Care*, Friday, June 17, 2016 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the **Tucson Convention Center**.

More information [HERE](#).

Plan Ahead!

Walk 4 Hearing, Saturday, November 12, 2016 at Riverview Park, 2100 West 8th Street, Mesa AZ. More information [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**.