



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Welcome to the Legislative Update for October 2016

This email newsletter 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. **Between legislative sessions of the Arizona State Legislature**, the *Legislative Updates* focuses on news and information. 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!

(Be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest information and resources.)

ELECTION RESOURCES

General Election is November 8, 2016.

Arizona Secretary of State Elections: <http://www.azsos.gov/elections>

& Arizona Votes 2016: <http://www.arizona.vote/>

Citizens Clean Elections Commission General Election information:

<http://www.azcleelections.gov/en/general>

Ballot Measure Analyses by the Arizona Legislative Council at <http://www.azleg.gov/ballot-measure-analyses/>

FEDERAL OVERVIEW

Updates

H.R.5985

Department of Veterans Affairs Expiring Authorities Act of 2016

Introduced on 9/9/2016 by Representative Jeff Miller (FL-1)

Section 103 of the bill includes extension of authorization of appropriations for assistance and support services for caregivers.

9/29/2016 Became Public Law No: 114-228.

H.R.5844

ACTION for National Service Act

Introduced on 7/14/2016 by Representative John B. Larson (CT-1)

To establish a National and Community Service Administration to carry out the national and volunteer service programs, to expand participation in such programs, and for other purposes.
9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

H.R.5701

Grandparent-Grandchild Medical Leave Act

Introduced on 7/8/2016 by Representative Raul Ruiz (CA-36)

This bill amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 and the federal civil service law to entitle to leave an eligible employee, including a federal employee, to care for an adult child, grandparent, or grandchild (as well as for a spouse, child, or parent), if that person has a serious health condition.

9/19/2016 referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

H.R.5613

Continuing Access to Hospitals Act of 2016 or the CAH Act of 2016

Introduced on 7/1/2016 by Representative Lynn Jenkins (KS-2)

The bill requires the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to continue to instruct Medicare contractors not to enforce requirements for direct physician supervision of outpatient therapeutic services in critical access and small rural hospitals through 2016. The Medicare Payment Advisory Commission must report on the effect of extending this instruction on: (1) Medicare beneficiaries, and (2) hospital staffing needs.

9/22/2016 received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.5496

Family Medical Leave Act Protections for Part-Time Workers act of 2016

Introduced on 6/16/2016 by Representative Janice Schakowsky (IL-9)

This bill amends the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to make an employee eligible for coverage if that employee has been employed for at least 12 months by a covered employer from whom the leave is requested.

The bill repeals the current requirement that the employee have served at least 1,250 hours during the 12-month period before the leave request.

9/19/2016, referred to the Subcommittee on Workforce Protections.

H.R.5367

Seniors' Security Act of 2016

Introduced on 5/26/2016 by Representative Donald Norcross (NJ-1)

his bill amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) (OASDI) of the Social Security Act (SSAct) to require the computation of cost-of-living adjustments to use the Consumer Price Index for Elderly Consumers (CPI-E).

The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor shall prepare and publish the CPI-E for each calendar month. The CPI-E shall also be used for cost-of-living adjustments for federal civilian employee annuities and for the retired and retainer pay of members of the armed forces. SSAct title XVIII (Medicare) is amended to prohibit any increases in Medicare part B premiums for calendar years beginning with 2017 to the extent they would exceed 30% of the difference between the amount of benefits payable to an individual for that December

and the amount of benefits payable for that November (both amounts determined before the deduction of a premium). This change shall allow premium increases of up to 30% of that difference.

9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor and Pensions.

H.R.5342

FAIR COLA for Seniors Act of 2016

Introduced on 5/26/2016 by Representative Richard M. Nolan (MN-8)

The bill directs the Social Security Administration to make a one-time cost-of-living increase of 3.9%, effective with the month of June 2016, to benefits under title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act. Increase shall not be considered a general annual benefit cost-of-living increase in calendar years 2016-2017.

9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions.

H.R.5320

Social Security Must Avert Identity Loss (MAIL) Act of 2016

Introduced on 5/25/2016 by Representative Sam Johnson (TX-3)

(Sec. 2) This bill amends title II (Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance) of the Social Security Act to direct the Social Security Administration to ensure that no document it sends by mail includes a complete Social Security account number unless necessary.

9/26/2016 Received in the Senate and Read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

H.R.5196

Americans Giving Care to Elders (AGE) Act of 2016

Introduced on 5/11/2016 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-3)

This bill amends the Internal Revenue Code to allow caregivers a tax credit for up to \$6,000 of the eldercare expenses incurred for their parents (or ancestors of such parents). It also amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to: (1) increase and extend through FY2020 the authorization of appropriations for the National Family Caregiver Support Program, and (2) require the Department of Health and Human Services to award a grant to or enter into a cooperative agreement with a public or private nonprofit entity to establish a National Resource Center on Family Caregiving to provide information on and support for family caregiver support programs.

9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

H.R.5018

Elder Protection and Abuse Prevention Act

Introduced on 4/21/2016 by Representative Matt Cartwright (PA-17)

This bill amends the Older Americans Act of 1965 to direct the Administration on Aging of the Department of Health and Human Services to: (1) ensure that all programs funded under such Act include appropriate training in elder abuse prevention and services addressing elder justice and exploitation; and (2) update periodically the need for such training related to prevention of abuse, neglect, and exploitation (including financial exploitation) of older adults.

The Administration has a duty and function to: (1) establish priority information and assistance services for older individuals; and (2) develop a National Eldercare Locator

Service, with a nationwide toll free number.

The Administration shall establish a National Adult Protective Services Resources Center. Each area plan shall provide that the area agency on aging: (1) increases public awareness of elder abuse and financial exploitation, and removes barriers to elder abuse education, prevention, investigation, and treatment; and (2) reports instances of elder abuse. The Administration shall make grants to states with approved plans for elder abuse and neglect screening. A state operating a nutrition project shall encourage distributors of nutrition services to distribute information on diabetes, elder abuse, neglect, financial exploitation, and the annual Medicare wellness exam. A state, an area agency on aging, a nonprofit organization, or a tribal organization shall use a grant for an older individuals' protection from violence project to replicate successful prevention and training models.

The Administration shall award grants to and contract with eligible organizations for projects to engage volunteers over age 50 in supporting older adults (and their families or caretakers) who have experienced or are at risk of elder abuse.

A state may use funds under the National Family Caregiver Support Program to support the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Higher Education and Workforce Training.

H.R.4919

Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2016

To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism.

9/19/2016 Referred to the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education.

Other Legislation

H.R.6084

Improving Cancer Treatment Education Act of 2016

Introduced on 9/20/2016 by Representative Steve Israel (NY-3)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide comprehensive cancer patient treatment education under the Medicare program and to provide for research to improve cancer symptom management. Includes caregivers in education.

On 9/20/2016 referred to the House Ways and Means.

H.R.4816

Small Public Housing Agency Opportunity Act of 2016

Introduced on 3/21/2016 by Representative Steve M. Palazzo (MS-4)

This bill amends the United States Housing Act of 1937 to subject a small public housing agency (PHA) to the same requirements as a PHA. A small PHA is a PHA for which the sum of the number of public housing dwelling units and the number of vouchers under Section 8 (tenant-based assistance) it administers is 550 or fewer. Text [HERE](#)

9/21/2016 Hearings Held by the Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance Prior to Referral.

S3401

Improving Veterans Care in the Community Act of 2016

Introduced on 9/27/2016 by Senator Mike Crapo (ID)
To amend title 38, United States Code, to consolidate and expand the provision of health care to veterans through non-Department of Veteran Affairs health care providers, and for other purposes.

9/27/2016 Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.

S.3343

Child and Elderly Missing Alert Program Act of 2016

Introduced on 9/15/2016 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.

Elder is individual who is 60 years of age or older.

On 9/15/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

S.3339

Halt Tax Increases on the Middle Class and Seniors Act

Introduced on 9/15/2016 by Senator John McCain (AZ)

Related Bill: [H.R.3590](#)

On 9/15/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

S.Res.597

A resolution designating September 2016 as National Kinship Care Month

Introduced on 9/29/2016 by Senator Ron Wyden (OR)

9/29/2016 Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

Share your opinions with members of Congress!

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

The Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation

[*Snapshot of Where Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump Stand on Seven Health Care Issues*](#)

From [Kaiser Health News](#)

By Anna Gorman October 4, 2016
[*When Pretend Play is Real For Alzheimer's Patients*](#)

By Judith Graham October 13, 2016
[*Exercise, Even In Small Doses, Offers Tremendous Benefits For Senior Citizens*](#)

National Alzheimer's Project Act updated information can be found at:
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>. The **National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease: 2016 Update** is available at: <https://aspe.hhs.gov/report/national-plan-address-alzheimers-disease-2016-update>

The **Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force** will be launching Calls to Action next month outlining ways each of us can help make a difference, offer hope for those directly impacted or find assistance. Look for more information coming soon!

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

From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disability/NASUAD**
Friday Updates, October 7, 2016

Report on Oral Health Services for Older Adults and Persons with Disabilities

During calendar year 2015, NASUAD engaged in collaboration with the DentaQuest Foundation to identify and promote effective oral health interventions for older adults and people with physical disabilities. This initiative involved collaborating with partners from the dental, aging, and disability fields in order to increase knowledge regarding issues and challenges related to dental services for older adults and people with disabilities. The project also included a survey of state agencies and a review of state coverage policies to determine current programs providing oral health services; understand access and utilization; recognize existing collaborations for outreach to beneficiaries; and identify challenges with oral health policy across state agencies. Additionally, NASUAD engaged in a review of state Medicaid oral health coverage policies that specifically target older adults and people with disabilities to understand the current dental policy and financing framework regarding these populations. [Click here](#) to view the report.

Friday Updates, September 30, 2016

Long-Term Care Facility Final Rule

September 28, 2016, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) released a Final Rule that updates Federal requirements for long-term care (LTC) facilities. The Rule will affect approximately 15,000 LTC facilities and close to 1.5 million Americans, and is the first major update to LTC regulations since 1991. There are a number of significant provisions in

the Rule, including: prohibiting the use of pre-dispute arbitration agreements; improving LTC staff ratios as well as their training on caring for residents with dementia; greater flexibility for dietitians and therapy providers, and; improving person-centered care and care planning. The Rule becomes effective on November 28, 2016.

[Click here](#) for more information regarding the new LTC facility Final Rule.

Center on Aging & Work at Boston College AGenda

[Financial Resources: A Critical Workplace Support for Caregivers of Older Adults](#)

Judi Casey WorkLife Consultant, Monday, October 3, 2016

Generation to Generation – a campaign mobilizing adults 50+ to help young people thrive.

More information: <http://generationtogeneratedation.org/>

Powered by [ENCORE.org](http://encore.org)

From the **U.S. Food & Drug Administration**

4 Medication Safety Tips for Older Adults [HERE](#)

Better Hearing Institute

[Link to Memory, Cognitive Function Elevates Urgency of Treating Hearing Loss](#)

National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine

September 2016 Report

[Families Caring for an Aging America](#)

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

From the **Governor's Office**

Newsroom: <http://azgovernor.gov/newsroom>

#AZAWESOME Shareables: <http://azgovernor.gov/governor/shareables>

Fiscal News

Joint Legislative Budget Committee

JLBC – [Monthly Fiscal Highlights September 2016](#)

JLBC Staff – October 2016 Revenue and Budget Update [HERE](#)

Compass: Directions for Caregivers after the Dementia Diagnosis

Wednesday, October 19, 2016; 10 am – 11:30 am

Banner Health Research Institute, Morin Auditorium, 10515 W Santa Fe Drive, Sun City, AZ 85351

Call 602-839-6850

Weaving The Old With The New: Care for the Caregiver, 12th Annual Conference on Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia in Native Americans

Friday, October 21, 2016 from 7:30 am to 3:45 pm, Twin Arrows Navajo Casino Resort, 2281 Resort Blvd., Flagstaff AZ 86004

More information [HERE](#)

Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family, Monday, October 24, 2016, 11 AM

2nd Annual National Red Ribbon Kickoff Event, Addiction: The Elephant in the Room

Arizona State Capitol, Senate Lawn, 1700 W. Washington, Phoenix Arizona

More information at: <http://substanceabuse.az.gov/goyff/meeting/now-you-see-me-addiction-elephant-room/2016/10/24>

Arizona Summit on Volunteerism & Civic Engagement

November 3-4, 2016, ASU West Campus, Glendale

Registration [HERE](#)

AZ Caregiver Summit

November 5, 2016, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

All Saints Catholic Church, 1534 Recker Rd., Mesa AZ 85205

Register at: www.eventbrite.com/e/az-caregiver-summit-tickets-27691751775 or call 602-882-5197

Arizona Geriatrics Society 28th Annual Fall Symposium

Optimizing Care and Preventing the Preventable

November 11 & 12, 2016, Desert Willow Conference Center, Phoenix

[View the full program and register online](#)

ASU Morrison Institute for Public Policy
State of Our State Conference
November, 16, 2016, 8 AM – 1:30 PM
Phoenix Airport Marriott
Registration online [HERE](#)

21st Annual Caregiver Education Conference, Caregiver Consortium
Friday, November 18, 2016 from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, DoubleTree Hotel, 445 S. Alvernon
Way, Tucson
More information [HERE](#)

AHCCCS is hosting three public forums to solicit input from ALTCS members and families on the person-centered service planning process.
Forum notice: [http://listserv.azahcccs.gov/ListImages/AHCCCS-HCBS-L/PCP Public Forum Flyer.pdf](http://listserv.azahcccs.gov/ListImages/AHCCCS-HCBS-L/PCP%20Public%20Forum%20Flyer.pdf)

AHCCS News& Updates:
<https://www.azahcccs.gov/shared/news.html>

Arizona Department of Economic Security Feature Stories [HERE](#)

Arizona Attorney General’s Senior Resources [HERE](#)

Arizona Department of Health Services
Public Health Licensing [HERE](#)
Arizona Healthy Aging (A- HA) [HERE](#)

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A
Map of Regions [HERE](#)

In case you missed it last time...

Alzheimer's Association Facts and Figures 2016

http://www.alz.org/documents_custom/2016-facts-and-figures.pdf

State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) – free health benefit counseling service for Medicare beneficiaries and their families or caregivers.

More information [HERE](#)

The **SHORT** List web report provided [HERE](#) includes the abbreviated list of bills tracked by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging during the last session. You can see the final outcome of legislation at the top of the report. (Be sure to click on the bill number for more information including fact sheets, bill versions, amendments, votes, and action taken on the bill.) 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 could be of interest or have an impact on older Arizonans. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

Plan ahead for the next legislative session!

See the *NEW Website & features* at: 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](#).

Share your thoughts at any time!

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts at any time 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: [Legislative Maps](#)

Current 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](#)

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 marketing or fundraising materials.

Between sessions, we offer the *Legislative Update* on a monthly basis.

~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