



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

July 8, 2010

9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Executive Tower, Grand Canyon Basement Room  
1700 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present**

Kati Bates, Charles Brown, Neva Crogan Pomilla, George Evanoff, Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadine Hoffman, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Joe Woods, Larry Woods, Christine Bryson-Lazo, and Tammy Frazee

**Council Members Absent**

Marilyn Johnson, Simone Kelsh, and Barry Spiker

**Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa and Claire Parriott

**Guests Present**

Connie Nunn Miller

**Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions Review & Approval of Minutes**

Council Chair George Evanoff called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and a welcome and introduction period followed. Council Chair George Evanoff announced the resignation from the Council of former Committee Chair Bill Engler and thanked him for his service. Minutes from the March 4, 2010 meeting were reviewed. *Joyce Finkelstein made a motion to approve the March 4, 2010 minutes as written and Noreen Nickerson-Cruz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Current Event Updates & Discussion**

**Signing of HB 2026 continuing the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging:**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa stated that with the signing of HB 2026 by Governor Brewer on April 5, 2010, the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is extended to July 1, 2020. Ms. De Lisa thanked the Council, Policy Advisors and staff for their support and assistance during the sunset review process.

**Status of Other Legislation Tracked by the Council on Aging**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reviewed the Council's final report of legislation tracked by the Council during the 49<sup>th</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session with the Committee and referenced the following bills passed during this session: HB2026: Advisory Council on Aging; Continuation, HB2028: Hard of Hearing Commission; Continuation, HB 2029: Department of Health Services; Continuation, HB2242: Reverse Mortgages; Regulations, HB 2425: Vulnerable Adults; Attorney's Fees, HB2426: Adult Guardianship & Protective Proceedings, HB 2469: Certified Medication Assistants, and SB1419: Dentists; Dental Hygienists. A copy of the

Council's 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session 2010 Final Report is available through the Council on Aging Office.

### **Current Event Update – Proposition 100**

Beth Kohler Lazare, Health and Human Services Policy Advisor to Governor Brewer, provided an overview of Proposition 100 outlining the potential impact on the state budget if passed or not passed. If passed, the tax will go into effect on June 1, 2010 as a constitutional amendment set to expire in three years. The sunset date is written into the proposition and will require new legislation to continue past the May 31, 2013 expiration date.

In anticipation of the special election the Legislature passed two different budgets, one including the additional tax revenue and one without. If passed, Proposition 100 will add approximately \$1 billion to state revenue each year and will help maintain current funding levels to education, public safety and health and human services. Without the tax increase, 65% of cuts will be to K12 education, taking it down to 2006 funding levels, despite 60,000 new students and no provision for maintenance costs. If Proposition 100 does not pass there would be a \$120 million hit to universities and community colleges, \$100 million in reductions to public safety spending and corrections, another 25% in reductions to health and human services, a further 10% provider rate cut for AHCCCS services, including ALTCS, 20% reduction includes acute care. DES will sustain \$50 million in provider rate cuts. DHS could sustain another \$40 million reduction, with behavioral health services eliminated. An additional \$56 million in cuts will need to be made in order to balance the budget.

It is critical to these services that Proposition 100 passes. Governor Brewer had a long fight to get it on ballot after initially proposing the tax increase over a year ago. Budget cuts will still happen whether Proposition 100 passes or fails, it simply determines the size of the reductions. The tax increase is only to prevent further cuts; any restoration would come with increased revenues. So far polls have been positive with 60% in support of the increase.

Council Chair George Evanoff suggested the Council show their support of Proposition 100. *Council member Joyce Finkelstein made a motion for the Committee to ask the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging to support the passing of Proposition 100 in whatever manner the Council determines appropriate. Noreen Nickerson-Cruz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.* After Committee discussion, Council Chair George Evanoff asked the staff to assemble facts and figures in support of the Council's position to back the passing of Proposition 100.

### **Brainstorming on LPCC Priorities**

Council Chair George Evanoff opened to Committee Members a discussion about potential, additional priorities of the Committee and recommended the Committee might hear about policies that agencies have that affect seniors. Ms. Bryson-Lazo described conflicting guidelines for child and adult day care services when wishing to provide intergenerational programs as an example. Other suggestions included:

1. Inviting the state legislative leadership to talk about their legislative priorities for the year before next session
2. Hearing about the work of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee
3. Considering older driver safety programs as part of the Committee's transit priority

### **Announcements**

- Christine Bryson-Lazo announced that the City of Sedona had recently cut the Senior Referral Specialist position based on the need for budget reductions.

### **Next Steps**

Council Chair George Evanoff asked the staff to assemble facts and figures in support of the Council's position to back the passing of Proposition 100.

### **Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair George Evanoff at 10:27 a.m.*

### **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee will be July 8, 2010 in the Executive Tower Grand Canyon Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.**