



CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE

SANTA CLARA COUNTY NEWS

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Senior Senator Bob Jaffee, Editor

NOTE: STATE LEGISLATURE ADJOURNED IN JULY

CSL URGENCY PROPOSALS

SP-20 Senior Senators Levy & Smith: CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE. This proposal reduces the minimum contribution level for CSL tax check-off to \$250,000. revises CSL election rules--**SB 1249--SENATOR ALQUIST-SENT TO ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. - HEARING POSTPONED BY COMMITTEE.**

SP 19 SR. SENATOR Griswold: property tax exemptions. Would increase homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors. **AB 2738-ASSEMBLYMEMBER WYLAND -ASSEMBLY REVENUE & TAXATION COMMITTEE.—SET FOR 2ND HEARING. HELD FOR SUBMISSION**

LEGISLATION SUPPORTED BY CSL

AB 1928 Assembly member Berg ;aging and Long Term Care---amended to add division 11 to section 19900, --provide funds for *independent living centers* assisting individuals with disabilities to remain in their homes. Funds to be appropriated from the federal trust fund in the absence of a state budget by July 1 of a fiscal year. **ASSEMBLY APPROP. COMM.—HELD UNDER SUBMISSION.**

AB 1929 Assemblymembers Berg & S. Horton----Area agencies on aging: electronic transfer of funds. Amended Welfare and Institution code to add “quickly” as possible. **SENATE HUMAN SERVICES-HELD FOR SUBMISSION.**

AB 2486 Assemblymembers Ridley-Thomas-In-home Supportive services: Criminal background checks.—amended section 12301.6 to read “no fees shall be charged for background checks. **SENATE HUMAN SERVICES.- HELD FOR SUBMISSION..**

SB 1312 – Senator Alquist –Long Term health care facilities: inspections—amended section 1274 & 1422 would require every health facility for which a license or permit has been issued, to be inspected periodically. **-PASSED AS AMENDED. REREFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS**

SB 1609-Senator Simitian—Reverse Mortgages: Annuities: Amended section 1632 to require lender to show certification that borrower was referred to a housing counseling agency.-before granting loan.- **REFERRED TO BACK TO ASSEMBLY-HEARING SCHEDULE FOR AUGUST 9,**

(OVER)

FEDERAL TOP 4 PROPOSALS

AFP 2 Sr. Assemblymember Loh: FOOD STAMP Would prevent a reduction in food stamp eligibility for seniors receiving Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. **.Assembly Human Services Committee.**

AFP 4 Sr. Assemblymember Mitchell: PORTABLE OXYGEN CONCENTRATOR DEVICES ON AIRCRAFT. Would require aircraft operators to allow passengers needing oxygen therapy to carry on portable oxygen concentrators.

AFP 6 Sr. Assemblymember Godager: SOCIAL SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE PAYEES. Would prohibit care facility operators and conservators who operate facilities from being designated as Social Security representative payees unless related by blood or marriage.

SFP 1 Sr. Senator Faustman: REHABILITATION ENTITLEMENT FOR THE BLIND. Creates a rehabilitation entitlement for the blind that is adequate for reeducation and independence.

JUMP IN MEDICARE PREMIUMS-AARP BULLETIN TAKEN FROM DOW JONES INTERNATIONAL NEWS.-Excerpts from news media noted.

The monthly premiums for supplementary medical insurance will rise from \$88.50 to at least \$98.40. The Bush administration projected Tuesday. The projection assumes that Congress will cut Medicare payment rates for physicians by about 4.7% next year. Many analysts don't believe such a cut will occur, and the cost of the insurance would go higher than current projections.

Kirsten Sloan, AARP's national coordinator for health issues said, "we're going on several years of repeated double-digit increases, and it's also roughly three times the rate of the Social Security (cost-of-living) increases. It puts a real squeeze, particularly on moderate-income seniors. One way to slow cost increases for seniors is to slow costs through the health care system through greater use of technology." Legislation designed to take the paperwork out of medical care could save money and reduce medical errors."

POLITICAL WEBSITE WITH NO PARTY LINES –excerpts from Los Angeles Times

Briefly, a group of prominent political consultants from opposite sides of the fiercely fought presidential elections in 2000 and 2004 joined forces Tuesday (JULY 11) to launch a website aimed at bridging the divisions those campaigns helped to widen. The effort is striking because it includes the central figures from the last two presidential races, which sharply polarized the nation along lines of race, gender, cultural attitudes and geography. To quote Matthew Dowd, one of the site's founders and the chief strategist in President Bush's 2004 reelection campaign, "The perceived polarization that exist in this country, is not a good thing for each party or for the country's advancement. The site, called Hotsoup.com, intends to provide a forum that connects community leaders from across the country---with national political leaders, experts and celebrities to debate issues and trends in politics, business, science and culture.

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