



# **CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

## **SANTA CLARA COUNTY NEWS**

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Senior Senator Bob Jaffee, Editor

### **CSL 2006 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

#### **STATE PRIORITIES**

##### **CSL URGENCY PROPOSAL**

**AP-28-Sr. Asy.member Monk-& Sr. Senator Levy-LONG-TERM CARE OPTIONS. SENATOR ALQUIST--BILL NO. PENDING.** *This proposal would establish the right of any person in need of long-term Care services that are available in an institutional setting to receive those services in the community and to make changes in programs and agencies to implement that right.*

**AP-9 Sr. Asy. Members Glasmeier and Woods; Tribal gaming Funding for Senior Centers.** Proposal would set aside 20% from tribal gaming payments to the State to fund senior citizen centers.

**AP-10 Sr. Asy.Member krohn; Peace Officer Abuse Training.** Proposal enhances and improves training of peace officers in elder and dependent adult abuse.-**Assemblymember Dymally-BILL NUMBER PENDING.**

**AP-14- Sr. Asy.member Lucero-Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. ASY.MEMBER DYMALLY--BILL NO. PENDING.** Proposal requires that hearing aids be made available for over-the-counter sales and vendors be encouraged to submit a plan to the Hearing Aid Dispensers Bureau

**AP-16- Sr. Asy.member Lucero-Pharmaceutical Expiration Dates;** (H) Proposal requires the inclusion of an accurate "best before" date on pharmaceutical products.

**AP-18- Sr. Asy.member Taylor-Senior Mobilehome Park Rent Control.** Proposal imposes rent control on seniors-only Mobilehome parks that limits rent increases to the CPI.

**AP-19-Sr. Asy.member Trotter- Senior Facility Infrastructure Upgrades.** Proposal establishes a study of the infrastructure needs being shaped by increases in the senior population and includes funding for upgrades and renovations.

**SP-2 Sr. Senator Fromm- IHSS Criminal Background Checks. Assemblymember Cook, BILL NUMBER PENDING.** authorities to obtain criminal background checks and subsequent arrest notification for non-IHSS providers.

**SP-4-Sr. Senator Griswold – Property Tax Exemptions.** Proposal increases the homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors.

**SP-17-Sr. Senator Mack- Large Print Prescription Warnings. ASSEMBLYMEMBER HUFFMAN-BILL NO. PENDING.** Proposal requires pharmacists to include large print inserts with prescriptions warning of drug interactions.

**SP-18 Sr. Senator Wright – Oral Health in Nursing Homes.** Proposal requires that the DHS review the oral health component of nursing home treatment plans on a quarterly basis for proper completion and that appropriate referrals to dental professionals be made, with failures reported as abuse.

(OVER)

**SP-22 Sr. Senator Murphy – Line 52 Contributions.** Proposal permits designations to be made to line 52 on amended tax returns.

### **FEDERAL PROPOSALS**

**AFP-2 Sr. Asy.members Shontz & Gould- Parkinson’s Prescription Renewal. AUTHOR AND BILL NO. PENDING.** Proposal changes the renewal period for Parkinson’s Medicare prescriptions from 30 to 180 days.

**AFP-3 Sr. Asy.member Mitchell- Aircraft Portable Oxygen Devices.** Proposal requires aircraft operators to allow passengers on oxygen therapy to carry on and operate portable oxygen devices.

**AFP-5 Sr. Asy.member Lucero-Sale of Personal Information.** Proposal requires business entities to obtain written permission from seniors prior to the sale of personal information.

**SFP- 11-Sr. Senator Gehrig- Medicare Podiatric Preventive Care.** Proposal expands Medicare coverage to include a co-pay for one annual podiatric care visit.

**NOTE: SOME LEGISLATORS HAVE COMMITTED, BILL NUMBERS ARE PENDING.**

### **YOUR INCOME TAX REFUND**-Excerpts from AARP January Article- Stan Hinden

A surprise refund has been added to the Federal income tax. The refund allows a refund of a long-distance telephone tax created to help fund the Spanish-American 1898 War. The tax was adopted under the Teddy Roosevelt days, as a luxury tax when only wealthy people had telephone service. Federal courts have ruled that the 3 percent tax does not apply to long-distance service, as it is billed today. Telephone users will continue to pay federal taxes on local service. Refund amounts vary with the number of customer’s income tax exemptions. For one exemption the standard refund will be \$30; two exemptions \$40; three, \$50; four or more, \$60. They’re available to anyone who paid federal long-distance taxes on land, cell phone or voice over internet protocol (VoIP) service. For those who think the refund is not enough, another option would be, check your old phone bills through 41 months to claim the actual long-distance taxes you paid.

### **NOTE: ADDITIONAL INCOME TAX INFORMATION FOR 2006**

Your State Income tax form, (LINE 52)-CALIFORNIA FUND FOR SENIOR CITIZENS- is a voluntary contribution to The CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE (CSL). The CSL is funded through two options, the State Income Tax form, LINE 52 and the CALIFORNIA FOUNDATION ON AGING/CSL, a 501 (C) 3 charitable organization. Send contributions:

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