



# **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 Monck & Sr. Senator Levy- LONG-TERM CARE OPTIONS**

**SENATORS ALQUIST & DYMALLY-BILL SB 633.** *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.* **AMENDED, REREFERRED TO ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMM.**

###### **AP-14- Sr. Asy.member Lucero-Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. ASY.MEMBER**

**DYMALLY—AB 311**-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 .

**ASSEMBLY HEALTH COMMITTEE. NO CHANGE**

###### **AP-19-Sr. Asy.member Trotter- SENATOR CORREA- Senior Facility Infrastructure Upgrades.**

**SENATOR CORREA-SB 977.** Proposal establishes a study of the infrastructure needs being shaped by increases in the senior population and includes funding for upgrades and renovations.

**TRANSFERRED TO RULES COMMITTEE. NO CHANGE**

###### **AP-25-Sr.Asy. member Young --Skilled nursing facilities end-of-Life Privacy.-ASY.MEMBER**

**SALAS-AB 1142** Would require all skilled nursing facilities in the state to provide a private room or at a minimum a room designated as hospice-

**AMENDED, REREFERRED TO SENATE RULES COMMITTEE.**

###### **SP-2 Sr. Senator Fromm- IHSS Criminal Background Checks. Assemblymember Cook,**

**AB 459-** Authorities to obtain criminal background checks and subsequent arrest notification for non-IHSS providers. **-BILL IS NOW SB 692.**

###### **SP-3 Sr. Senator Goldman – Senior Citizens I.D. Cards. –ASSEMBLYMEMBER KREKORIAN.**

Proposal requires the DMV to notify seniors who choose not to renew driver's licenses that a senior **AB 966** -citizen ID card is available free of charge.- **REREFERRED TO SEN. TRANS. & HOUSING.**

**SP-4-Sr. Senator Griswold – Property Tax Exemptions.** Proposal increases the homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors. **Senator Symth- AB 351 ASSEMBLY – TRANSPORTATION AND HOUSING**

**(OVER)**

**AB1276 ASY.MEMBER KARNETTE-Previous year Sr. Asy.member Gould- Pharmacies:  
Prescription Containers: Labels REREFERRED TO ASY .BUS. & PROFESSIONAL COMM.  
NO CHANGE.**

**NOTE: DELETED CSL PROPOSALS DID NOT HAVE AN AUTHORED BILL.**

**.FEDERAL PROPOSALS---NO BILLS AUTHORED**

**CSL SUPPORT**

**AB-267 Assembly Member Calderon—ANNUITY SALES-SENIORS.**

**REREFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE.**

**Assembly Member Jones AB 853 Home care services-Amended Health and Safety Code. --  
ASSEMBLY HUMAN SERVICES NO CHANGE.**

**AB 399—ASSEMBLYMEMBER FEUER/BERG- LONG TERM HEALTH CARE FACILITIES-Bill  
requires the department to complete its investigation of the complaint within 40 working day of  
receipt. REREFERRED TO SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**AB 495 —ASSEMBLYMEMBER TRAN—TAXATION: HOMEOWNER’S PROPERTY TAX  
Bill would increase homeowners’ exemption from \$7,000 to \$25,000 for qualified renters who are 62  
year old or older—ASSEMBLY REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE.**

**BUDGET AND TRANSPORTATION—GOVERNOR SAYS “BE CREATIVE”**

According to newspaper reports, “funding for the transit hangs in the balance, as final budget negotiations are now underway between Governor Schwarzenegger, Senator Perata, Senator Ackerman, Assemblyman Nunez, and Assemblyman Vilines. These five top state elected officials will decide whether a funding cut will happen and, if so, how deep it will be. As you know the deeper the cuts, the more Bay Area transit agencies will have to slash services and raise fares”.

Speaking of the Bay Area, where is the vision and creative thinking of our elected officials? Where is the creative thinking of the VTA Board of Directors? The tough issues are assigned to the staff. However, the staff is involved with budget, schedules and fares. The services provided to the impaired and handicapped, were complained about for months. The staff was instructed by the presiding Board Chair to improve the Outreach operation. Without **any** impact on VTA, the system became more **USER FRIENDLY**.

Transportation for the unimpaired seniors who no longer drive are left with a problem, and are unable to use public transportation or the lack of transportation available to them. The elected city, county, and state officials are cognizant of the problem and assign the issue to the staff for study. The staff has Ignored the NEEDS ASSESSMENTS for the last ten years. Transportation for seniors is the top priority. Studies by various consultants, public forums and workshops have verified the NEEDS ASSESSMENTS survey. To continue with the study of Senior Transportation would prove to be an exercise in futility. As the Governor says **“WE MUST BE CREATIVE.”**

**SENIOR LEGISLATORS SERVING SENIORS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY**

Sr. Senator	Sr. Senator	Sr. Assembly	Sr. Assembly	Sr. Assembly
Bob Jaffee	Anne Mack	Austin E. Lucero	Foster Lopes	Denny Weisgerber
985-2457	1-650) 493-7798	293-6431	984-3304	262-1776