



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. 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-14 Sr. Asy. Member Lucero - Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. 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. Proposal authorizes IHSS public 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. Proposal requires pharmacists to include large print inserts with prescriptions warning of drug interactions.

(OVER)

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.

SP-22 Sr. Senator Murphy – Line 54 Contributions. Proposal permits designations to be made to line 54 on amended tax returns.

FEDERAL PROPOSALS

AFP-2 Sr. Asy. Members Shontz & Gould - Parkinson’s Prescription Renewal. 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.

CSL UNDER “NEW MANAGEMENT”

In the 2005 State Legislative session, legislation was passed separating the CALIFORNIA COMMISSION ON AGING (CCOA) and the CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE, (CSL) effective July 1, 2006.

Senior Senator Jim Levy was appointed temporary Executive Director, by the JOINT RULES COMMITTEE (JRC), not to exceed one year. Volunteers will staff the CSL office until a permanent staff is hired. The Joint Rules Committee elected Senior Assemblymember Sharon Monck, JRC Chair and Senior Senator Anne Mack, Legislative Committee Chair. Elected Vice Chairs were Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assemblymember Austin Lucero.

State Senator Alquist’s Senate bill SB1249, created a permanent qualifying base of \$250,000 to remain on the State Income Tax form, **line 54,-“CALIFORNIA FUND FOR SENIOR CITIZENS”-.**

CSL held their annual 2006 Legislative Session in the State Capitol Senate and Assembly chambers. Five Senate and five Assembly committees heard testimony presented by forty Senior Senators and eighty Senior Assemblymembers in the committee hearing rooms. The third day ended with a newly elected JOINT RULES COMMITTEE of five Senior Assemblymembers and five Senior Senators from the ten proposal hearing committees.

CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE funding depends on voluntary donations. Individuals and organizations are encouraged to donate to **line 54 and the “CALIFORNIA FUND ON AGING-CSL”.** NOTE: **Line 54 and Foundation** donations are tax deductible .

The CSL OFFICE has relocated to 1020 “N” Street, Suite 513, Sacramento, CA 95814.
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