



CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE

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Senior Senator Bob Jaffee, Editor

CSL URGENCY PROPOSALS

AP-24- Senior Assembly Member Karr: CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE.

This proposal reduces the contribution required for the California Fund for Senior Citizens and removes the indexing requirement. **revises CSL terms in office.**

SP-20 Senior Senators Levy & Smith: CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE. This proposal reduces the minimum contribution level for CSL tax check-off to \$250,000; and provides sufficient time for the CSL to designate a new administrative entity.

NOTE: AP-24 AND SP 20 COMBINED INTO ONE BILL

SB 1249 –SENATOR ALQUIST -- TO GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURE

AB 2738-ASSEMBLYMEMBER WYLAND -ASSEMBLY REVENUE & TAXATION COMMITTEE.— SET FOR 2ND HEARING HELD FOR SUBMISSION

SP 19 Sr. Senator Griswold: property tax exemptions. Would increase homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors. **HELD FOR GOVERNORS SIGNATURE.**

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 APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE. HELD FOR GOVERNORS SIGNATURE.**

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 GOVERNORS SIGNATURE**

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. **TO GOVERNOR FOR SIGNATURE.**

(OVER)

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. **CHAPTERED INTO LAW.**

AB1238 – CREATED A NORTH COUNTY TRANSIT DISTRICT FOR SAN DIEGO COUNTY.
CHAPTERED INTO LAW.

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 independence.

MEDICARE “MEANS TESTING”-Reprint from *“THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO PRESERVE SOCIAL SECURITY AND MEDICARE”*

Medicare’s premium hike announcement marks the beginning of a new era for Medicare. For the first time in the programs’ 41 year history, seniors will no longer pay the same amount for the same health care services. Part B premiums will be subject to **MEANS TESTING**, forcing more than one million beneficiaries to pay significantly higher premiums starting in January. Within three years, these higher income seniors’ premiums are projected to be double or triple the amount of a standard premium and even more seniors will be affected.

Congress’ stated goal for **MEANS TESTING** of the Part B is to save money, however, the Congressional Budget office reports that **MEANS TESTING** saves barely three-tenths of one percent of Medicare’s budget over the next 10 years.

MEANS TESTING will drive wealthier and healthier seniors out of traditional Medicare and into private plans, in fact, **CMS** predicts 50,000 seniors will leave in the first year alone⁵⁶. This exodus will increase overall costs, threaten public support for Medicare and not coincidentally, boost profits for private insurers. The privatization of Medicare began three years ago when the MMA was passed but most seniors don’t even realize its happening.

“NOTE: Means Testing, determines your Part B premiums based on your annual income”.

SENIOR LEGISLATORS SERVING SENIORS OF SANTA CLARA COUNTY

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