



# 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**

**SB 1249--SENATOR ALQUIST-PASSED ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS. COMMITTEE. -- SCHEDULED FOR ASSEMBLY FLOOR.**

**SP-20** Sr. 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--

**AB 2738-ASSEMBLYMEMBER WYLAND -ASSEMBLY REVENUE & TAXATION COMMITTEE.-- SET FOR 2<sup>ND</sup> 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.

### **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.**

**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 ASSEMBLY 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.- **IN SENATE.**

(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.

### **AARP SUPPORTS AB 1363 (JONES) –CONSERVATORSHIP REFORM**

Excerpts Reported by AARP Advocacy Manager, Casey Young

***The Los Angeles Times*** reviewed more than 2,400 cases and documented a disturbing pattern of abuse of our most vulnerable elderly citizens by trusted, court-appointed conservators.

AB1363 (Jones) is the most comprehensive, meaningful response to the sorry state of California's conservatorship program.

Conservatorship is a powerful legal tool that can help or hurt an increasing number of vulnerable adults with cognitive impairments. It affords needed protections, yet drastically reduces fundamental rights. A judge appoints a guardian upon finding that an adult lacks capacity to make decisions for him or herself.

#### **AB 1363 will do the following:**

- **Increased Monitoring** This would help California reach parity with the majority of states that require an annual review of conservatorship.
- **Estate Management Standards** Standards will be promulgated for the management of conservatees' estates, one of the most important and complex tasks faced by conservators. Much of the abuse noted in the ***Los Angeles Times*** related to the mismanagement of conservatees'. Assets which need to be managed for their benefit, and last their entire lifetime.
- **Respect Wishes of Conservatees'** Clear direction is given to conservators to accommodate the desires of conservatees, except when it would impose an unreasonable expense on the estate. It is important that people maintain as much control over their lives as feasible.
- **Strengthen Bonding.** Prohibits the waiver or reduction of the statutory bond insuring the faithful execution of the duties of the conservator, except in very limited circumstances.

### **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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