



# **CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

## **SANTA CLARA COUNTY NEWS**

Volume 49 Number 9

September, 2007

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-THIRD-READ-ASSEMBLY APPROP. COMM.**

**AP-14- Sr. Asy.member Lucero-Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. ASSEMBLYMEMBER 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.  
**SENATE 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-**AUTHOR AMENDED-HEARING 8/20-SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

**SP-2 Sr. Senator Fromm- IHSS Criminal Background Checks. SENATOR MULLIN SB 692**Authorities to obtain criminal background checks and subsequent arrest notification for non-IHSS providers. **SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.- NO CHANGE**

**SP-3 Sr. Senator Goldman – Senior Citizens I.D. Cards. –ASSEMBLYMEMBER KREKORIAN. AB 966.** Proposal requires the DMV to notify seniors who choose not to renew driver's licenses that a senior -citizen ID card is available free of charge.- **SENATE APPROP. COMM. HEARING 8/20**

**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 – ASSEMBLY REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE . NO CHANGE.**

**(OVER)**

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

### **FEDERAL PROPOSALS**

**AFP-1 Assemblymember Karr-(Note: 2005 proposal) SJR 12-Senator SIMITIAN;--a joint resolution asking the President and Congress to issue a special elder abuse awareness postage stamp to raise money and to raise awareness of this issue. Letters are requested to Congressional representatives and the President SENATE – THIRD READING..**

### **CSL SUPPORT**

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

**Assembly Member Jones AB 853 Home care services-Amended Health and Safety Code. -  
ASSEMBLY INSURANCE COMMITTEE 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. **SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE NO CHANGE**

**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 COMM. SECOND READING.**

### **ACCESSIBLE HEALTH CARE-Excerpts from AARP C.E.O. Bill Novelli’s memo**

“Accessible and affordable health care is becoming out of reach for more and more Americans---especially for Californians, who must deal with even higher expenses due to increased energy and housing costs. This is very frightening because health care is a crucial part of every individual’s retirement security. In fact without adequate health coverage, a single illness or chronic condition can topple almost anyone’s retirement plans”.

Your state leaders in Sacramento are now beginning to pay attention to this crisis and Governor Schwarzenegger, Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez and Senate President pro Tem Don Perata have produced promising ideas. The Governor has proposed a plan to provide comprehensive health care to all Californians.. and your state legislators are considering it”.

### **MORE ABOUT PRESCRIPTION DRUGS—excerpts from AARP C.E.O. Bill Novelli memo.**

“The new Medicare Part D was only a first step. Now something must be done to keep down the costs of lifesaving drugs. Since 1996, the average manufacturer’s price of prescription drugs has grown at more than double the rate of general inflation. At the same time, there is a **backlog of over 500 generic drug applications at the Food and Drug Administration.** These delays in generic drug approvals are costing consumers billions. To deal with these challenges, the importation of safe and less expensive drugs from other countries should be legalized. Also, Medicare should be allowed to negotiate lower drug prices with manufacturers”.

### **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