

CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE



Twenty-Fifth Annual Session
October 17-20, 2005

Summary of 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.

SP-20 Senior Senators Levy & Smith: California Senior Legislature. This proposal reduces the minimum contribution level for CSL tax check-off to \$200,000; revises CSL election rules; and provides sufficient time for the CSL to designate a new administrative entity.

Summary Of Top Ten State Legislative Proposals

AP-1 Senior Assembly Members Glasmeier and Woods: Tribal Gaming Funding for Senior Centers. This proposal sets aside 20% from payments to the State from any money designated for the General Fund from existing or future Tribal compacts for the purpose of funding the operational costs, construction, and renovation of senior citizen centers.

AP-4 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. This proposal requires that hearing aids be made available for over-the counter sales at reasonable prices subject to the regulation of the Department of Health Services.

AP-6 Senior Assembly Member Monck: Electronic Prescription Writing System. This proposal requires the imposition of an electronic prescription writing system to reduce errors, improve access to information, and increase efficiency of the process.

AP-17 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Social Security Number Identification. This proposal prohibits businesses from using social security numbers as identification numbers.

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AP-23 Senior Assembly Member Glasmeier: Number of Disabled Parking Spaces. This proposal increases the number of disabled parking spaces in parking lots and garages.

SP-4 Senior Senator Faustman: Universal Health Care. This proposal requires the establishment of a universal health care system that provides comprehensive, affordable health care including mental health and preventative services.

SP-6 Senior Senator Wright: Oral Health in Nursing Homes. This proposal requires that the DHS review of nursing home treatment plans include a patient's oral exam on a quarterly basis and that appropriate referrals to dental professionals be made, with failures reported as abuse.

SP-16 Senior Senator Griswold: Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Study. This proposal requires the AG to study effective ways of detecting, prosecuting, and deterring abuse.

SP-17 Senior Senator Smith: IHSS Caregiver Background Checks. This proposal requires IHSS caregivers to submit fingerprints and undergo a background checks to determine suitability to participate in the program as a caregiver, unless a waiver is requested by the care recipient.

SP-19 Senior Senator Griswold: Property Tax Exemptions. This proposal increases the homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors.

Additional State Legislative Proposals

AP-3 Senior Assembly Member Abutin: Diabetes Self-Management Education Program. This proposal requires medical providers to refer specified senior patients to a diabetes self-management education program.

AP-5 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Medi-Cal Administrative Costs. This proposal requires a review of Medi-Cal administrative costs the lowering of the costs equivalent to the costs of Federal medical programs.

AP-7 Senior Assembly Member Duff: Funding for Shared Housing Programs. This proposal restores \$1.5 million to the budget to fund shared housing programs with preference for extremely low-income seniors.

AP-8 Senior Assembly Member Findley: Mobilehome Park Rental Agreements. This proposal extends existing mobilehome park rental agreement provisions to apply to mobilehome owners whose lease had expired.

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AP-9 Senior Assembly Members Friedman and Woods: Non-Smoking Sections in Multi-Unit Housing. This proposal requires owners of multi-unit housing to provide non-smoking sections for seniors.

AP-11 Senior Assembly Member Loh: Senior Special Residential Needs. This proposal requires general plans to include seniors as a special population with definable needs and requires 5% of new residential dwellings utilize universal design principles.

AP-12 Senior Assembly Member Rickles: Funding for Low-Income Housing. This proposal establishes a trust fund to finance low-income housing for residents, including seniors and disabled.

AP-14 Senior Assembly Member Bloch: Training Unlicensed Senior Housing Managers. This proposal requires DHHS to coordinate a training program for unlicensed senior rental housing managers.

AP-16 Senior Assembly Member Friedman: Marked Senior Crosswalks. This proposal requires marked senior crosswalks near care facilities for seniors.

AP-18 Senior Assembly Member Goldman: Senior Citizen ID Cards. This 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.

AP-19 Senior Assembly Member Hartschen: Marking Parking Bumpers. This proposal requires nonresidential parking lots to paint parking bumpers in reflective colors.

AP-22 Senior Assembly Member Welch: Safety for Wheelchairs, Mobility Aid Devices, and Power Operated Scooters. This proposal requires the adoption of Federal safety standards for all manufacturers who sell or ship wheelchairs and scooters to California dealers and residents.

SP-1 Senior Senator Faustman: Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired. This proposal moves the authority over services for the blind and visually impaired from the Department of Rehabilitation to every agency that provides public services.

SP-2 Senior Senator Mannia: Education for Private Conservators. This proposal establishes an academic training module, internship, and experience exposure for potential conservatorship appointees.

SP-7 Senior Senator Jaffee: Paratransit Service Funding. This proposal makes additional matching funding available for paratransit services.

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SP-8 Senior Senator Smith: Coordinated Transportation Mobility Council.

This proposal establishes a council to create a transportation database related to elders and disabled; develop more effective utilization of resources; develop a performance measurement; and seek financial support for its functions.

SP-9 Senior Senator Winslow: Use of Automobile Headlights with Windshield Wipers.

This proposal requires automobile manufacturers to equip new vehicles with an automatic headlight device activated by the windshield wiper controls.

SP-11 Senior Senator Young: Senior Citizen Auto Repair Fraud.

This proposal expands the definition of elder abuse to include auto repair fraud committed against senior citizens.

SP-13 Senior Senator Formosa: Peace Officer Abuse Training.

This proposal requires training of peace officers in elder and dependent adult abuse.

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Summary Of Top Four Federal Legislative Proposals

AFP-1 Senior Assembly Member Lacey: Medicare Part B and D Funding. this proposal ensures that only 25% of the Social Security annual COLA is used to pay for the increase in Medicare Part B and D.

AFP-5 Senior Assembly Member Jones: Prohibition of Social Security Number Identifiers. This proposal prohibits agencies from using more than the last four digits of social security numbers as a means of ID.

SFP-4 Senior Senator Gehrig: Medicare Podiatric Preventive Care. This proposal expands Medicare coverage to include routine podiatric care visits.

SFP-10 Senior Senator Levy: Privatization of Social Security. This proposal requires the federal government to adopt a policy opposing privatization of Social Security.

Summary Of Additional Federal Legislative Proposals

AFP-2 Senior Assembly Member Loh: Food Stamp Eligibility. This proposal prevents a reduction in food stamp eligibility for seniors receiving Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage.

AFP-4 Senior Assembly Member Mitchell: Portable Oxygen Concentrator Devices on Aircraft. This proposal would require aircraft operators to allow passengers needing oxygen therapy to carry on portable oxygen concentrators.

AFP-6 Senior Assembly Member Godager: Social Security Representative Payees. This proposal prohibits care facility operators and conservators who operate facilities from being designated as Social Security representative payees unless related by blood or marriage.

SFP-1 Senior Senator Faustman: Rehabilitation Entitlement for the Blind. This proposal creates a rehabilitation entitlement for the blind that is adequate for reeducation and independence.

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SFP-2 Senior Senator Lundin: Federal Annuitant Health Insurance Premiums. This proposal permits federal annuitants to be eligible for “premium conversion” in order to pay their share of health insurance premiums with pretax dollars.

SFP-7 Senior Senator Winslow: Use of Automobile Headlights with Windshield Wipers. This proposal requires automobile manufacturers to equip new vehicles with an automatic headlight device activated by the windshield wiper controls.

SFP-9 Senior Senator Erven: Disabled ID Cards and Licenses. This proposal amends the ADA to authorize states to charge a fee for ID cards and driver’s licenses imprinted with the handicapped symbol.