



STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
**CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE**

1020 N Street, Room 513, Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone (916) 552-8056 Fax (916) 552-8013

www.4csl.org

## **PRESS RELEASE**

OCTOBER 30, 2009

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren, newly elected Joint Rules Committee Chair  
(209) 826-0936, or Senior Senator Anne Mack, Legislative Committee Chair  
(650) 493-7798, CSL Office (916) 552-8056

### **California Senior Legislature Announces Top Senior Legislative Proposals**

The California Senior Legislature (CSL) announced its Top Ten State and Top Four Federal priorities at a news conference at the State Capitol October 30, 2009. Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren, Chair of the CSL Joint Rules Committee and Senior Senator Anne Mack, Chair of the Legislative Committee were on hand to talk about CSL's Top Ten State and Top Four Federal priorities for 2009.

#### **Top Ten State Legislative Proposals**

**SP-20 Senior Senator Eaton: Property Tax Exemptions.** This proposal increases the homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors.

**AP-24 Senior Assembly Member Krohn: Elder Abuse Prevention.** This proposal removes the sunset date from the elder abuse prevention provisions of the Financial Elder Abuse Reporting ACT of 2005.

**SP- 6 Senior Senator Mack: Sale of Senior Residence.** This proposal allows seniors 65 years and older to move anywhere in California without increased property taxes under Prop 13.

**AP-3 Senior Assembly Member Young: Nursing Home End-of-Life Privacy.** This proposal requires nursing homes to provide privacy for a resident who has been diagnosed as terminal.

**AP-23 Senior Assembly Member Lopes: Home Sale Capital Gain Exclusion.** This proposal conforms California Tax Law to Federal Law extending the \$500,000 capital gain exclusion for home sales for two years after a spouse's death for a widow(er) 60 or older.

**Mission: To Improve the Quality of Life for Aging Californians**

Funded by the California Fund for Senior Citizens – FTB Code 402

**AP-20 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Hearing Aid Availability and Cost.** This 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-7 Senior Assembly Member Weintraub: Gerontological Nurse Practitioner Training.** This proposal establishes a pilot project for training RN's as Gerontological Nurse Practitioners.

**AP-26 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Identity Theft Prevention.** This proposal prohibits businesses from using Senior's Social Security Numbers as identifying numbers and holds those who violate responsible for damages.

**AP-2 Senior Assembly Member Rolfe: Use of IHSS in Declared Disaster Shelters.** This proposal funds IHSS program providers to assist evacuated seniors and disabled in emergency shelters.

**SP-7 Senior Senator Lundin: Abuse by Financial Institutions.** This proposal prevents financial institutions from targeting and abusing senior citizens by keeping seniors from entering into bad or marginal investments.

### **Top Four Federal Legislative Proposals**

**AFP-8 Senior Assembly Member Lopes: Medical Expense Tax Deductions.** This proposal allows persons 60 and older to fully deduct all medical expenses.

**AFP-11 Senior Assembly Member Lopes: Income Tax on Social Security Benefits.** This proposal eliminates all income taxes on the total amount of Social Security Benefits for persons 65 or older.

**SFP- 4 Senior Senator Mack: Capital Gains Tax on Sale of Senior Residence.** This proposal eliminates Capital Gains Tax on the sale of principle residences of seniors 65 and older.

**SFP-8 Senior Senator Hartmann: Tire Safety Identification.** This proposal requires tire manufacturers to clearly label tires with month and year of manufacture and include the info on sales receipts.

## **Second Top Ten State Legislative Proposals**

**SP-8 Senior Senator Lundin: Long-Term Care Facility Security and Surveillance.**

This proposal increases security and surveillance at all long-term care facilities and provides security training.

**AP-25 Senior Assembly Member Bloch: Disaster Emergency Transportation for Disabled and Seniors.** This proposal mobilizes paratransit, paramedics, and others to move disabled and seniors to safe places in the event of natural disasters.

**SP-9 Senior Senator Lundin: Exclusive Elder Protection Courts.** This proposal requires the establishment of courts to exclusively adjudicate cases associated with older Californians.

**AP-6 Senior Assembly Member Weintraub: Health Care Facility Event Reporting.**

This proposal requires semi-annual reports to be posted on the Department of Public Health website and in written form of adverse events in health care facilities, of inspection and investigation results, and of medical errors.

**AP-12 Senior Assembly Member Shontz: Waiving Fees for Security Freeze on Senior's Credit Report.** This proposal prohibits Consumer Credit Reporting Agencies from charging seniors a fee for placing a security freeze.

**SP-1 Senior Senator Young: Expanded IHSS Services.** This proposal redefines IHSS to include support services for recipients involved in community activities within the assigned hours.

**AP-11 Senior Assembly Member Ryan: Interstate Provision of Medicaid Services.**

This proposal requires the Department of Health Care Services to initiate contact with border states regarding the establishment of a coordinated provision of Medicaid services to border residents and to report progress to the CSL.

**AP-14 Senior Assembly Member Schwartz: Community College Education for Older Adults.** This proposal requires the establishment of community college programs replicating programs at Saddleback College to provide education and training for older adults.

**SP-21 Senior Senator Fromm: Conservatee and Dependent Adult Abduction.** This proposal expands the definition of abduction to include removal or restraint within the State of incompetent non-consenting dependent adults or conservatee without conservator or court consent.

**AP-13 Senior Assembly Member Serrin: Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program Awareness.** This proposal requires Social Services and County Welfare to contact senior centers with meals programs and advise them regarding SNAP and assist in implementation.

## **Second Top Four Federal Legislative Proposals**

**SFP-1 Senior Senator Winslow: Gender Discrimination.** This proposal memorializes Congress and the Administration to adopt the United Nations Convention on the elimination of discrimination against women (CEDAW).

**AFP-5 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Hearing Aid Availability and Cost.** This proposal requires that hearing aids for sale to California customers be made available for over-the counter sales and vendors be encouraged to submit a plan to the Hearing Aid Dispensers Bureau.

**AFP-1 Senior Assembly Member Fingold: Grocery Scanner Recall Alerts.** This proposal requires grocery checkout scanners to alert employees and customers when the product being purchased is subject to recall.

**SFP-7 Senior Senator Woods: Medicare and Medicaid Minimum Hospital Stay Coverage.** This proposal requires Medicare and Medicaid to provide coverage for a minimum 24-hour hospital stay for senior citizens having invasive surgery.