



STATE OF CALIFORNIA
CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE
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PRESS ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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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 29, 2010. Senior Senator Lola Young, Past 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 2010.

Top Ten State Legislative Proposals

AP-34 Senior Assembly Member Krohn: Elder Abuse Prevention. (S&L) This proposal removes the sunset date from the elder abuse prevention provisions of the Financial Elder Abuse Reporting ACT of 2005.

AP-11 Senior Assembly Member Shontz: Identity Theft Fines. (S&C) This proposal establishes definite minimum fines for identity theft of \$5,000 for first offense and additional \$3,000 for each additional offense.

AP-4 Assembly Member Tucker: Elder Abuse Fines. (F&I) This proposal increases elder abuse fines by 10% and transfers the additional funds to local entities for combating elder abuse.

AP-25 Senior Assembly Member Lucero: Hearing Aid Availability and Cost. (H) 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.

SP-16 Senior Senator Eaton: Property Tax Exemptions. (F&I) This proposal increases the homeowner's property tax exemption from \$7,000 to \$27,000 for seniors.

Mission: To Improve the Quality of Life for Aging Californians

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

AP-13 Senior Assembly Member Rolfe: Income Tax Mileage Deduction. (H&T)

This proposal authorizes an income tax deduction for mileage equal to the difference between the Federal volunteer mileage deduction and the Federal business mileage deduction.

AP-32 Senior Assembly Member Krohn: Independent Long-Term Care Ombudsman Office. (S&C) This proposal establishes an independent LTC Ombudsman Office within a private nonprofit organization.

AP-7 Senior Assembly Member Sorenson: Prescription Purpose. (H) This proposal requires the prescriber of medication to include the condition or purpose of the drug on the label.

AP-21 Senior Assembly Member Molnar: Senior Citizens Property Tax Deferral Program. (S&L) This proposal rescinds the indefinite suspension of the senior citizens property tax deferral program to allow claimants to claim to postpone ad valorem property taxes under the Senior Citizens Property Tax Postponement Law.

AP-43 Senior Assembly Member Bloch: Disaster Emergency Transportation for Disabled and Senior Citizens. (H&T) This proposal mobilizes paratransit, paramedics, and others to move disabled and seniors to safe places in the event of natural disasters.

Top Four Federal Legislative Proposals

AFP-2 Senior Assembly Member Weintraub: Medicare Coverage of Dental Care and Hearing and Visual Aids. (H) This proposal expands Medicare coverage to include dental care and dental plates; hearing aids; and vision aids, including eyeglasses and contact lenses.

SFP-1 Senior Senator Steir: Public Housing for Senior Veterans. (H&T) This proposal requires that preference for public housing be given to eligible seniors who are honorably discharged veterans.

SFP-5 Senior Senator Hartmann: Tire Safety Identification. (H&T) This proposal requires tire manufacturers to clearly label tires with month and year of manufacture and include the info on sales receipts.

SFP-6 Senior Senator Eaton: Social Security and Medicare Sustainable Program Costs. (H) This proposal requires the enactment of legislation addressing the solvency of the Social Security and Medicare program trust funds so that program costs are sustainable.

Second Top Ten State Legislative Proposals

SP-7 Senior Senator Lundin: Welcome Home Korean Veterans Day. (S&L) This proposal requires the Governor to annually proclaim a day in June to be Welcome Home Korean War Veterans Day.

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

SP-1 Senior Senator Winslow: School District Parcel Tax Exemption. (F&I) This proposal limits the existing exemption from School District special parcel tax exclusively to persons 65 of age or older.

AP-40 Senior Assembly Member Glasmeir: Tax Deduction for Funeral Expenses. (F&I) This proposal allows senior taxpayers to take a tax deduction up to \$1500 for funeral expenses of a spouse or domestic partner.

AP-12 Senior Assembly Member Serrin: State Cal-Vet Program. (H&T) This proposal creates the State Cal-Vet Program to raise awareness of senior homeless veterans programs and to provide rental housing benefits for them.

AP-38 Senior Assembly Member Godager: Designated Payees of Care Facilities Benefits. (H) This proposal prohibits operators of care facilities from being designated payees to receive benefits on behalf of residents.

AP-30 Senior Assembly Member Loh: Remote Patient Monitoring for Seniors. (H) This proposal calls for a pilot program to use remote patient monitoring to monitor the health of seniors.

AP-19 Senior Assembly Member Payne: Tenant Emergency Contact Information. (H&T) This proposal requires landlords to retain current updated emergency contact information for each tenant.

SP-8 Senior Senator Lundin: Long-Term Care Facility Security and Surveillance. (H) This proposal increases security and surveillance at all long-term care facilities and provides security training.

SP-2 Senior Senator Uecker: Funding for Senior Programs. (S&C) This proposal requires continual full funding of MPSS, Long-Term care ombudsman, community-based service, caregiver resource centers, and adult day health care.

Second Top Four Federal Legislative Proposals

SFP-7 Senior Senator Thompson: Notice of Discharge Appeal Rights. (H)

This proposal amends Medicare law to require that a notice of discharge appeal rights be posted in hospital rooms.

SFP-3 Senior Senator Lundin: Federal Annuitant Health Insurance Premiums.

(S&C) This proposal permits federal annuitants to be eligible for “premium conversion” in order to pay their share of health insurance premiums with pretax dollars.

AFP-9 Senior Assembly Member Dahlgren: Senior Center Month. (S&C) This proposal proclaims the month of February as Senior Center Month to recognize them as the center for adult services.