

PART II

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CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE FACT SHEET

In 1980, the State Legislature requested the California Commission on Aging to develop a forum through which older Californians could develop their legislative priorities. After consultation with major seniors' groups, the Commission and the State Legislature convened the first session of the California Senior Legislature (CSL) in 1981.

The CSL is a non-partisan, volunteer organization made up of 120 elected members, 60 years of age and older. The 40 Senior Senators and 80 Senior Assembly Members are elected by their peers to represent seniors throughout the state. Elections are coordinated by the 33 Area Agencies on Aging every four years. Any person 60 years of age or older, who is a registered voter and a permanent resident of his/her Planning and Service Area, is eligible to run for the CSL.

The CSL gives senior citizens the opportunity to become familiar with the legislative process through actual involvement, and provides them a forum to present their legislative priorities to the State Legislature.

Each October, the CSL meets in Sacramento to convene a legislative session in the chambers and hearing rooms of the State Capitol. During the session, CSL members participate in presenting and hearing testimony, debating issues and voting approval or disapproval of their senior legislative proposals. Of the approved proposals, the members adopt 10 state and 4 federal priorities, which then receive special attention throughout the year.

Senior Legislators seek state lawmakers to author the CSL priority proposals and then work through the year to ensure adoption of the legislative bills. Since its inception, the CSL has had an excellent track record of accomplishments with better than 70 percent of its priority proposals enacted into law.

The Joint Rules Committee (JRC) has twelve members. During the Annual Legislative Session, five Assembly Members are elected in odd-numbered years and five Senators are elected in even-numbered years, each for two-year terms. The Chair of the Legislative Committee is an ex officio voting member and the Immediate Past-Chair of the JRC is an ex officio non-voting member. The JRC meets no less than six times and the Legislative Committee meets no less than four times annually.

The CSL is funded by the California Fund for Senior Citizens, a voluntary donation check-off item on the California State Income Tax Form. Donations are also made through its CSL/California Foundation on Aging Fund. For additional information, contact the California Senior Legislature, 1020 N Street, Room 513, Sacramento, CA 95814, phone (916) 552-8056 or Fax (916) 552-8013.

FUNDING

I. California Fund for Senior Citizens

California taxpayers of all ages can support programs and services for older Californians through the California Fund for Senior Citizens (CFSC).

1. What Is The CFSC?

- a. The CFSC, established in 1983, is a check-off program designed to provide funding for activities to the older citizens of California.
- b. There is no minimum or maximum level of contributions that can be made to the fund.
- c. Particularly between April 15th and the end of the year, CSL members are asked to help actively promote the publicity-generating activities of the CFSC.

2. How Will My Contribution Be Used?

Contributions to the CFSC provide the operating budget for the annual legislative session and ongoing activities of the CSL.

3. Why Should I Contribute to These Programs?

- a. Contributions to the Fund provide the support to the CSL which is made up of 120 volunteers 60 years of age and older.
- b. These senior volunteers help–shape legislative responses to such vital issues as nursing home protection laws, long-term care programs, Alzheimer care funding and research, transportation and nutrition programs, elder abuse, and adult protective services.
- c. The funds are spent pursuant to the purview of the CSL Joint Rules Committee in a manner consistent with the CSL bylaws that are established through a majority vote of the CSL. Unused funds are carried over to the following year.

4. **How Can I Make A Contribution to the CFSC?**

- a. When you prepare your state income tax return, you may contribute any amount you choose (\$1 or more), to the CFSC.
- b. If you have a professional tax preparer complete your return, let him or her know that you want to make a contribution to the CFSC.
- c. Your contribution is deductible on both federal and state tax returns as charitable contributions.

NOTE: Tax preparer must be a certified donation reporter if filing electronically.

II. California Foundation on Aging Fund – Tax ID #77-0187875

1. The “California Foundation on Aging Fund (CFOA),” a private non-profit beneficial corporation [501(c)(3), allows the CSL to have some financial flexibility.
2. While the CFSC, the yearly State Income Tax Check-off, is still the primary source of revenue for the CSL, other fundraising activities have been instituted to help offset costs. The Annual Sessions could not have been held over the past few years without these added donations to the CSL.
3. This CSL fundraising campaign is a year-round effort and we provide “gift” envelopes specifically designed to solicit special contributions from potential donors.
4. These contributions are primarily generated by hardworking CSL members who push this effort throughout the year, but particularly between April 16 and the October Annual Session. Members are asked to participate in the fundraising drive for the CFOA/CSL fund.
5. The JRC members, as well as all CSL members and staff, play a significant role in getting contributions for this fund via targeted mailings and direct solicitations to small businesses and large corporations.
6. Working together, staff and CSL members have made an impact on getting contributions. CSL members take seriously their responsibility for helping with this very important CSL special fundraising effort.
7. Between April 15th and the annual session, members are asked to participate in the fundraising drive for the CFOA/CSL fund.
8. Checks are made payable to: “CFOA/CSL.” All donations are tax-deductible as charitable contributions.

9. Each member's role in this CSL fundraising includes contacting his/her state assembly member and senator to ask if he/she can count on them for an ad in the Annual Session Program Book.
10. CSL members should also contact their congressional member, local businesses and friends to purchase ads in the Annual Session Program Book.
11. Checks for advertisements should be made payable to the "CFOA/CSL Fund."

TAX DEDUCTIBLE DONATION POLICY GUIDELINES

The CSL is permitted to accept various types of donations under the following State and Federal Codes:

1. The State of California Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Section 9305 authorizes the CSL to accept gifts and grants from any source to assist in its performance. These gifts can be cash, checks, money orders or other items such as computer equipment, computer software, and training of the staff, telephone equipment and installation of equipment.
2. If the gift is NOT an unconditional gift of money, State of California Government Code Section 11005 and State of California Administrative Manual Section 8634(2) requires the approval of the Director of Finance before a gift can be accepted. The Department of Finance must be notified of the nature of the type of gift (Gift examples: computer equipment, telephones, staff training, etc.), the value of the gift, the donor and the intended use of the gift.
3. When gifts other than unconditional gifts of money are requested, the donor should receive a copy of the December 3, 1999 letter from the Department of Finance.

NOTE: A copy has been requested by the CSL office.

4. If the gift is other than money, you are required to obtain prior written approval from the Department of Finance. A copy of the letter from the Department of Finance must also be provided to the donor.
5. Unconditional gifts of money and other forms of items and services to the CSL are deductible under Internal Revenue Services Code 170(c).
6. When a gift is received by the CSL (either as money, material items or services) that has an approximate value of \$250 and/or more, the Internal Revenue Service and the Franchise Tax Board require that CSL provide the donor with a letter of acknowledgment that the gift has been received.

INTEGRATED ADVOCACY AND LIAISON

The CSL is one of several state and local agencies working for senior citizens in the State of California. By embracing the tenets of Integrated Advocacy, these agencies can enhance the effectiveness of senior advocacy. As part of this effort, it is important to maintain a close liaison amongst these groups as organizations and as individuals.

I. Opportunities for Liaison at the Local Level

CSL Members should ask Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) Advisory Councils to:

1. Provide them with copies of the four-year Area Plan and the annual update;
2. Provide them with copies of the Triple-A Council of California (TACC) Legislative Platform and discuss document;
3. Provide them copies of the local legislative platform and discuss;
4. Clarify what resources and resource material the Area Agency can make available to them;
5. Clarify the process to be used for consistent dissemination of legislative information; and,
6. Clarify how the Area Agency and its Advisory Council can assist CSL members during their tenure. This recommendation may take many forms depending on the Area Agency's staffing and involvement in advocacy activities at the local level.

II. Examples

1. Several AAAs have a designated staff person responsible for all Area Agency advocacy activities. Duties could include staff liaison for the CSL, coordinating the CSL election, publicity, legislative review coordinating all Advisory Council advocacy activities, Senior Legislative Day, etc.
2. The Area Agencies could suggest ways the CSL member and Advisory Council's advocacy efforts could be coordinated at the local level.
3. It is recommended that CSL activities be a standing agenda item at every AAA's Advisory Council monthly meeting.
4. Recommend that CSL members meet with Area Agency staff as well as other senior groups as they begin to develop their legislative proposals.
5. Prior to attending the annual session, CSL members and Area Agency staff should review the Proposal Book.

III. Cooperation at the State Level

The more the CSL, California Association of Area Agencies on Aging (C4A), and TACC work together, the more we accomplish.

Each CSL member must take responsibility for making cooperation work in his/her area.

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN? COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS IN AGING

A-95	A review process by which local advisory input on certain proposed grants is made available to the U.S. Office of Management and Budget to help ensure that Federally assisted projects are consistent with locally adopted plans and priorities (now called EO-12372).
AAA	Area Agency on Aging. Thirty-three Area Agencies are designated by the State Department of Aging under provisions of the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended. Each AAA is responsible for planning and administering programs in the Planning and Service Area (PSA) which respond to the needs of persons 60 and over.
AAP	Affirmative Action Plan.
AARP	AARP.
ACTION	Federal agency under which are grouped all the volunteer service programs (i.e. VISTA, RSVP, Peace Corps, etc.).
ADHC	Adult Day Health Care. A licensed community-based program administered by the California Department of Aging that provides a day program of health, therapeutic and social services for frail elderly and other functionally impaired adults. ADHC is a medical benefit.
ADL	Activities of Daily Living – activities essential to daily functioning, including eating, bathing, grooming, toileting, dressing, walking and transferring.
AoA	Administration on Aging. A federal agency under the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Human Development Services. The Assistant Secretary has authority for the administration of funds under the Older Americans Act. The regional office for AoA (Region IX) is located in San Francisco.
APS	Adult Protective Services. Administered by Department of Social Services.
ASA	American Society on Aging (formerly WGS). Organization of older persons, practitioners, scholars, researchers, public officials, students and others actively concerned with the field of aging. Main office in located in San Francisco.
CAA	Community Action Agency.
CAADS	California Association of Adult Day Services.
C4A	California Association of Area Agency Directors.

CAHF	California Association of Health Facilities.
CAHA	California Association of Homes for the Aging. (Changed its name to California Association of Homes and Services for the Aging.)
CAL-TRANS	California Department of Transportation.
CANDE	California Association of Nutrition Directors for the Elderly.
CARCH	California Association of Residential Care Homes.
CCoA	California Commission on Aging. Serves in an advisory capacity to the California Department of Aging and as the principal advocate body for older persons. The Commission consists of 25 members: 19 appointed by the Governor, 3 appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, and 3 appointed by the Senate Rules Committee. CDA California Department of Aging. State agency designated by Federal and State government to administer funds under the Older Americans Act. Responsible for planning, coordinating and monitoring programs and for stimulating the development of a statewide network of comprehensive services to the elderly. Also responsible for Community-Based Long Term Care (CBLTC).
CFOA	California Foundation on Aging, a 501(c)(3) charitable organization created to receive contributions for several organizations, including CSL.
CSL	California Senior Legislature.
CBLTC	Community-Based Long Term Care. CBLTC services are available to persons in their own homes or in the community where they are living (including persons living in congregate housing and, in some cases, residential care homes). CBLTC services may be one or more of the following: nutrition/prepared for delivered meals; homemaking; housekeeping/chores: personal care, grooming, bathing, dressing; care and supervision as provided in social day care centers; adult day health care; respite care.
CBSC	Community-Based System of Care.
CHFC	California Health Facilities Commission. Collects data at discharge from all acute care hospitals in California.
CRCAC	Community Residential Care Association of California. DDS Department of Developmental Services.
DDS	Department of Developmental Services.
DHHS	Department of Health and Human Services. The federal agency from which funds for administering the Older Americans Act are obtained. Main office is in Washington, D.C.

DHS	Department of Health Services.
DMH	Department of Mental Health.
DRG	Diagnostic Related Groups. Used to determine Medicare payments to acute care hospitals.
DSS	Department of Social Services.
EDD	Employment Development Department.
FCA	Federal Council on Aging.
FGP	Foster Grandparent Program
GEN/GSN	Greatest Economic Need/Greatest Social Need.
HCD	California Department of Housing and Community Development
HCFA	Health Care Financing Administration within the federal Department of Health and Human Services.
HDM	Home Delivered Meals.
HICAP	Health Insurance Counseling and Advocacy Program. Administered by CDA through contracts to local service providers. Provides counseling, health insurance information, and legal assistance for persons 60 years and over.
HUD	Housing and Urban Development (Federal).
IADL	Instrumental Activities of Daily Living. A scale established to determine if a person can carry out such activities as: telephone, housework, laundry, money management, transportation, shopping, meal preparation, managing medications and continence care.
I&A	Information and Assistance. Changed in 1992 from Information and Referral.
ICF	Intermediate Care Facility. Licensed by the Department of Health Services. Residents require 24-hour supervision and some nursing care.
IFF	Intrastate Funding Formula.
IHSS	In-Home Support Services. Funded with Title XX, Social Services Block Grant monies are allocated to counties through the State Department of Social Services. Each county Social Services Department administers its

IHSS programs providing home care and maintenance, chore service, and other specified in-home services for the safety of eligible clients.

ILC	Independent Living Centers. Funded under the Rehabilitation Act through the Department of Rehabilitation. Currently, 22 centers in California offer a wide range of services to the disabled and their families with the goal of having persons with disabilities live independently in communities of their choice.
JTPA	Job Training and Partnership Act
LTC	Long-Term Care.
MEDI-CAL	Medical services program for low-income persons authorized by Title XIX of the Social Security Act. Referred to as Medi-Caid nationally.
MEDI-CARE	Medical insurance program available to most persons receiving Social Security retirement, survivors, or disability benefits under Title XVIII of the Social Security Act.
MFO	Medi-Cal Field Offices. Regional offices of the Department of Health Services responsible for conduct of pre-admission screening and for conduct of approval of Treatment Authorization Requests (TARs) for entry to SNFs/ICFs and ADHCs.
MIS	Management Information System.
MPSC	Multipurpose Senior Center.
MSSP	Multipurpose Senior Services Project. Funded by CDA; provides case management to assist frail elderly persons to remain in their homes.
N4A	National Association of Area Agencies on Aging.
NAMP	National Association of Meals Program.
NASUA	National Association of State Units on Aging.
NCOA	National Council on Aging. Provides leadership and guidance in the development of services for older persons. Membership includes professionals and the concerned public working in the field of aging.
NCSC	National Council of Senior Citizens.
NIA	National Institute on Aging.
NIH	National Institute on Health.

- NPI National Paralegal Institute.
- NF Nursing Facilities (see also SNF).
- NSP Nutrition Services Providers.
- OAA Older Americans Act. Established in 1965 to promote and provide assistance in the development of programs of benefit to the elderly aged 60+ and to provide funding for such programs through State Units on Aging and Area Agencies on Aging.

Title III B. Supportive Services and Senior Centers. Encourages establishment of supportive services in the following program areas: transportation, health, mental health, housing, legal assistance, respite care, information and assistance, ombudsman, case management, adult day care, security/crime, in-home services, community services and senior center support, employment/second career, and consumer services.

Title III C.1. Nutrition Services. Provides grants for nutrition projects which serve at least one hot meal a day, five or more days a week, in a congregate setting.

Title III C.2. Nutrition Services. Home Delivered Meals Program provides a meal to older persons who are homebound by reason of illness, disability, or isolation.

Title III D. In-Home Services for Frail Older Individuals. Part D added in 1987 to provide in-home services to frail older persons, including victims of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, and to families of such victims.

Title III E. Additional Assistance for Special Needs of Older Individuals. Part E added in 1987. Provides for grants for services such as transportation, outreach, etc.

Title III F. Preventive Health Services. Part F added in 1987. Provides for grants for periodic preventive health services to be provided at senior centers or alternative sites.

Title III G. Supportive Activities for Caretakers Who Provide In-Home Services to Frail Older Individuals. Part G added in 1992 (formerly this Title was Prevention of Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation of Older Individuals, which was moved to Title VII, Chapter 3).

Title IV. Training, Research, and Discretionary Projects and Programs. Part A. Education and Training. Improve quality of service and help meet critical shortages of adequately trained personnel for programs in the field of aging.

Part B. Research, Demonstration, and other Activities. Improve quality and efficiency of programs serving older individuals through research and development projects and demonstration projects.

Title V. Community Service Employment for Older Workers. Established to promote useful part-time job opportunities in community service activities for low-income persons who are 55□.

Title VI. Grants for Native Americans.

Title VII. Vulnerable Elder Rights Protection Activities. Added in 1992.

Chapter 2 - State Long-Term Ombudsman

Chapter 3 - Prevention of Elder Abuse, Neglect, and Exploitation

Chapter 4 - State Elder Rights and Legal Assistance

Chapter 5 - Outreach, Counseling, and Assistance Program

OCA	Older Californians Act.
OEO	Office of Economic Opportunity.
OHDS	Office of Human Development Services.
PSA	Planning and Service Area. The State is divided into 33 PSAs. A PSA can be a geographic area as large as seven counties or as small as a city (Los Angeles). These geographic areas are established to help promote local program planning and operation. Each PSA contains an Area Agency on Aging (AAA).
RAM	Reverse Annuity Mortgage.
RCF	Residential Care Facility. Licensed by the Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division. Provides 24-hour nonmedical care for disabled adults and children.
RCFE	Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly. Licensed by the Department of Social Services, Community Care Licensing Division. Group housing arrangement providing varying levels of care and supervision.
RDA	Recommended Dietary Allowance.
RFF	Request for Funds.
RFP	Request for Proposal.

RSVP	Retired Senior Volunteer Program.
SEED	SEED Community Project. Development of CBLTC at local level under auspice of the Department; working with 11 Area Agencies on Aging.
SLIDING FEE	A scale based on levels of income, providing categories to Determine
SCALE	the cost of service for non Medi-Cal eligible clients.
SNF	Skilled Nursing Facility. Licensed by the Department of Health Services. Provides 24-hour skilled nursing care.
SSA	Social Security Administration.
SHCoA	Statehouse Conference on Aging.
SSI/SSP	Supplemental Security Income/Supplemental Security Payments.
TA	Technical Assistance.
TACC	Triple-A Council of California. Made up of Chairs from the 33 AAA Advisory Councils.
TITLE III	See OAA.
TITLE XVIII	Medicare.
TITLE XIX	Medi-Cal/Medicaid. See Medicaid.
TITLE XX	Social Services Block Grant - Federal funds augmented with State funds, under authorization of the Social Security Act, allocated to County Welfare Departments by the Department of Social Services for the provision of social services. Also provides Adult Protective Services (APS).
VISTA	Volunteers in Service to America.
WAIVED	MSSP services reimbursed by the Title XIX program as specified by SERVICES the Section 2176 waiver for home and community-based services.
WHCOA	White House Conference on Aging.