

March 2009

Volume II, Number 3

The California Senior Legislature's Mission: To Improve the Quality of Life for Aging Californians

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Chair's Corner By Lola Young

Greetings! It looks like everyone is in full swing with the Code 402 campaign. January donations were nearly record breaking for month. Congratulations! that March is officially Checkoff California Month, which is a good reason to get out and promote Code 402 now! March and April are also the most important months to get the message out there as this is tax preparation time for many. We are off to a good start! This is very encouraging, but there is still a long way to go. Keep up the good work!

We have lost some members and we have some new members. I want to welcome Senior Senator Steve Lehman, Senior Assembly Member Michael LePeilbet. Senior Assembly Member Luis Monge, Senior Assembly Member Jean Rios, Senior Assembly Member Kenneth Ryan, and Senior Senator Susan Thompson. We are still 8 members short of our 120 seats. If you have a vacancy in your PSA, please encourage your PSA to fill that vacancy as soon as possible. We will miss Senior Senator John Hopkins, Senior Senator Richard Griswold, and Senior Assembly Member Don Mabon. Congratulations to Senior Assembly Members JD Leitaker and Vernon

Uecker as they are now Senior Senators.

It is March already, folks, and proposals need to be turned in by June 1. I hope you are looking for ideas, and getting started on your proposals. Remember, vour proposal MUST BE ON THE PROPER FORM. Leg counsel will not accept a proposal that is not on the proper form. It is your responsibility to use the proper form when you submit your proposal. The form is in your resource manual and Sherry will be sending these forms out in the mail this month. In the past, Sherry has been kind enough to retype the proposals on the form when members forget. That will not happen this year because, during that time of year, Sherry's time is required to make sure is ready for the everything Session. I have instructed Sherry to return proposals to the sender if they are not on the proper form. The due date for proposals is June 1. There will be no extension this year. When the JRC and Leg Committees meet in July, the proposals will be assigned to policy committees. In order to get the proposal books printed and to our members in a timely manner, so you can have plenty of time to review them and be ready to discuss them at the Session, we must have them ready for Leg

Counsel by June 1.

We had some excellent proposals submitted last year, as evidenced by the number of them that have been authored. Congratulations to all of you! Moreover, I am already getting calls from other senior organizations that are ready with their support for many of our bills. It looks like another successful year for CSL. Remember, seniors all over the state are depending on us to be their voice.

-----What are Members up to?

Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero – Spoke at a Valentine's Luncheon for the Society of Former Special Agents of The FBI, San Francisco Peninsula Chapter regarding the CSL and was presented with a medallion afterwards.

Senior Assembly Member June Glasmeier – Was chairperson of the annual Senior Congress sponsored by Future Foundation. The topic this year was "Thanks for the Memory" with 300 in attendance.

Senior Senator Bill Young and Senior Assembly Member Lola Young – Attended a press conference centered around the recent budget signing and Senior Senator Young's picture was in the Sacramento Bee.

Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren – Made a presentation to the Los Banos City Council at the Public Forum. This was broadcast live on TV.

Senior Assembly Member George Tucker – Has been invited to speak on CSL at the Kiwanis Club due to a letter to the local newspaper editor.

If any members would like a copy of any of the above, please contact the CSL office.

If there is any organization or individual that you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, please send the contact name and address to the CSL office at <u>sjenkins@seniorleg.ca.gov</u> or by snail mail or phone call and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

You know you're getting older when Happy Hour is a nap.

Any news for the April Newsletter need to be submitted to the CSL office by April 6, 2009.

New Proposals Opportunities

I hope all of you are thinking of the new proposals that you are going to write and submit this year. Starting this Legislation season should be getting all of you excited and inspire each of you to new heights in proposal writing. Sherry will be sending out the forms and details in a couple of weeks and this year's deadline is June 1, 2009.

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul. -George Bernard Shaw

Greetings from Session Planning

by Julia Rosenberg

The Session Planning Committee finalized the contract for a block of rooms and room rate with the Holiday Inn for the October Session!

Several items of interest include:

ROOM RATE IS ONLY \$84 this year at the Holiday Inn. Make your reservation early (we will tell you how in later issues).

FREE TRANSPORTATION from airport to the holiday inn if the CSL office knows your schedule.

(We are still in the process of negotiating rates to provide THIS.)

SHARING A ROOM? NEW STATE RULES: You must have a RECEIPT IN YOUR NAME for your portion of room to be reimbursed. DO NOT walk away from the hotel reception desk until you double check the name on your room receipt. We will continue to publish reminders on this IMPORTANT CHANGE.

Currently we are establishing a keynote speaker for Opening Session and we NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS for the Session! If you know of someone, please let us know. While we are working on a few new concepts to spice up our time in Sacramento, we are always open for YOUR ideas/ suggestions. Do you have an idea? Please call me at 310-316-1013 or email: jrosenberg@roadrunner.com.

AND you know you can always call Sherry....she coordinates all information with all committees.

Office Closures

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates: March 30 – Vacation March 31 – Caesar Chavez Day April 3 – State Furlough Day April 27-30 - Vacation

Current Authored CSL Legislation

SP-6 SB 38 (Alquist) Senior Senator Joe Murphy Silver Alert Program

SP-8 (Correa) Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby Senior Volunteer Month

SP-17 (Ammiano) Senior Senator Bruce Steir Elder Death Reviews

SP-18/2008 AB 152 (Carter) Senior Senator Kitty Mesler, Senior Assembly Members Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Jane Godager Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act: disability: definition

SP-22 SB 91 (Correa) Senior Senator Connie Eaton CSL Funding Repeal Date

SP 23 AB 392 (Feuer and Jones) Senior Senator Bill Young Support for the Ombudsman Program and the Senior Legal Hotline

SFP-2 (Correa) Senior Senator Joe Murphy Silver Alert Program

AP-8 AB 1370 (Soloria) Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero Pharmaceuticals: Labels

AP-21 AB 249 (Carter) Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen Convalescent Care Facility Personal Equipment ID

AP 16 AB 324 (Beall) Senior Assembly Members Lola Young, Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senators Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy, and Bill Young California Elder Economic Security Standard Index

AP 24 AB 1457 (Davis) Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub Nursing Homes: Corporate ownership AFP-3 AJR 6 (Beall) Senior Assembly Member Lola Young Federal Poverty Guidelines

2008/09 CSL Legislation Remainder of the Top Twenty Proposals

AP 3 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn Financial Elder Abuse Reporting

AP 6 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero Food Safety

AP 7 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero Relating to Hearing Aids

AP 9 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh Nursing Home Reform

AP 10 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh SSI/SSP Benefits

AP 12 Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse: Sexual abuse or touching

AP 14 Senior Assembly Member Eleanor Bloch Emergency Transportation

AP-17 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young Nursing Home End-of-Life Privacy

AP-19 Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe Grading System for Nursing Homes

AP 20 Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senator Erwin Fromm Medi-Cal Benefits: Personal and incidental needs

SP 1 Senior Senator Marion Faustman Universal Health Care

SP 3 Senior Senators Richard Griswold, Connie Eaton, and Senior Assembly Members June Glasmeier and Larry Hartmann Property Tax

SP 5 Senior Senator Richard Lundin Senior Housing: Security

SP 11 Senior Senator Richard Lundin Senior Financial Abuse

SP 19 Senior Senator Craig Orange Prescription Medication Labels

Reminder of the Top Eight Federal Legislative Proposals

AFP 1 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh Social Security: Cost-of-living adjustment

AFP 2 Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub Nursing Homes: Disclosure of ownership information

AFP 5 Senior Assembly Member Jane Ann Godager, Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Senior Senator Kathleen Mesler Social Security Cards

AFP 7 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes Federal Income Tax: Deductions: Medical expenses

SFP 4 Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren Medicare Coverage of Dental Care

SFP 6 Senior Senator John Sorensen and Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen Unsolicited Blank Checks

The Rest of the CSL's Legislative Proposals

AP 1 Senior Assembly Members Phyllis Purcell, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Lenwood Long Transportation: Seniors

AP 2 Senior Assembly Members Phyllis Purcell, Juanita Beighle, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Roberta Marti

Disabled Persons' and Disabled Veterans' Parking Spaces: width and availability

AP 4 Senior Assembly Member Evelyn Freidman and Senior Senator Edward Woods HIV/AIDS Education for Older Adults

AP 11 Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht Crimes against Elders AP 13 Senior Assembly Member Samuel Park California Senior Legislature: California Senior Citizens' Club

AP 15 Senior Assembly Members Billie Taylor and Senior Senator Mickey Peabody Notarized Documents: Execution by patient in skilled nursing facility

AP 18 Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe Caregivers

AP 25 Senior Assembly Member Phyllis Purcell, Juanita Beighle, John Kirwin, and Senior Senator Patricia Jones Funding of Congregate and Home-Delivered Meals

AFP 4 Senior Assembly Member Arthur Serrin Affordable Housing: Families of servicemen and servicewomen deployed to Afghanistan and the Gulf War Zone of Iraq

AFP 6 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes Social Security Adjustment

AFP 8 Senior Assembly Member Margaret Sowma Medicare: Home health agencies: Patient rights

AFP 10 Senior Assembly Members Patricia Wilson and Richard Wolfe Federal Social Security: Continuing disability reviews

AFP 12 Senior Assembly Member Lawrence Hartmann Required Tire Safety Information

SP 2 Senior Senator Clifford Erven Goods and Services Tax

SP 4 Senior Senator Dolores Wright Target Population: At-risk seniors

SP 7 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby Stroke Education Campaign

SP 9 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby Automated External Defibrillators: Signs: Public awareness campaign

What's Up, CSL?

SP 10 Senior Senators Jim Levy, Richard Lundin, Bob Jaffee, and Senior Assembly Members Austin Lucero and Lola Young Increased Access to Community-Based Services

SP 12 Senior Assembly Member Jane Ann Godager Powers of Attorney

SP 13 Senior Senator Horace Mann State Department of Mental Health: Suicide prevention program

SP 14 Senior Senator Bob Jaffee Paratransit

SP 15 Senior Senator Connie Eaton, and Senior Assembly Member June Glasmeier Affordable Senior Housing: Second units

SP 16 Senior Senator William Young and Senior Assembly Member Lola Young In-Home Supportive Services: Expanded services

SP 18 Senior Senator Richard Lundin Statewide Elder Protection Courts

SP 20 Senior Senator George Winslow Public Safety: Crosswalk, curb, and sidewalk improvement

SP 21 Senior Senator Dolores Wright Free Sport Fishing Licenses

SP 22 Senior Senator Connie Eaton Funding for the California Senior Legislature

SFP 1 Senior Senator Richard Lundin Federal Annuitants: Health premiums

SFP 3 Senior Senator Clifford Erven Senior Consumer Protection: Deceptive marketing practices

SFP 5 Senior Senator Marion Faustman Prescription Drug Safety

SFP 7 Senior Senator Horace Mann Medicare Support for Shingles Immunization A government big enough to give you everything you want, is strong enough to take everything you have.

-Thomas Jefferson

We could certainly slow the aging process down if it had to work its way through Congress.

- Will Rogers

Code 402

Be sure to check out the new line number for the CSL voluntary contributions on the California State Income Tax Return. It will now be Code 402 and will remain that number from now on.

Banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property until their children wakeup homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.

- Thomas Jefferson

Good-by to Nell Soto

Former Senator and Assembly Woman Nell Soto passed away on February 26. She had devoted most of her life to public service and was known as a woman of persistence and tenacity. Her legislative priorities included education, infrastructure, public safety, transportation and the environment. She was from Pomona and represented the 61st District. She will be missed!

Joint Rules Committee Meetings

April 7-8, 2009 June 9-10, 2009 July 7-8, 2009

September 17-18, 2009 October 26-29, 2009 Sacramento Sacramento Sacramento with Leg Committee Sacramento Sacramento

"Help the Golden State Support the Golden Years!"

Legislative Committee Meetings

May 13-14, 2009 July 7-9, 2009 Sacramento Sacramento

California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule

Date

April 7-8, 2009 June 2-3, 2009 August 4-5, 2009 December 1-2, 2009 Location Fresno Sonoma Sacramento Long Beach

Field Hearing Topic

Elder Abuse Senior Centers of the Future TBD TBD

California Senior Legislature 1020 N Street, Room 513 Sacramento, CA 95814