

# Hey, CSL



October 2009 Volume II, Number 10

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

### **JRC Members**

Lola Young (916) 428-4371 Chair Dee Erman (714) 528-1489 Vice Chair Richard Wolfe (310) 410-0103 Vice Chair Joe Cox (209) 826-4318 Past JRC Chair Richard Dahlgren (209) 826-0936 Joanna Kim-Selby (510) 235-6179 Anne M. Mack (650) 493-7798 Leg Com Chair Kitty Mesler (909) 823-7045 Julia Rosenberg (310) 316-1013 Billie Taylor (209) 575-1290 Carla Treuting (559) 561-4155

### Leg Committee

Anne M. Mack	(650) 493-7798
Chair Craig Orange	(858) 273-7458
Vice Chair	(030) 273-7430
Alice Loh	(805) 543-9055
Vice Chair	
Eleanor Bloch	(415) 435-1148
Fran Givens	(909) 823-4504
Jane Godager	(909) 883-7951
Jim Levy	(714) 535-1509
Lenwood Long	(951) 940-9157
Bruce Steir	(415) 626-8025
Richard Shontz	(818) 704-5369

### **CSL Office**

1020 N Street, Room 513 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 552-8056 Office, (916) 710-1599 Cell (916) 552-8013 Fax sjenkins@seniorleg.ca.gov www.4csl.org

### Chair's Corner

By Lola Young

It is October already, we are counting the days. I look forward to seeing all of you in Sacramento.

This will be my last column as Chair of the JRC. I cannot begin to express what a privilege it has been to serve as your chair this past year.

We have surpassed our goal on Code 402. At this writing, we have five of our proposals signed by the Governor, and three more on his desk. In this economy, and with the budget crisis, that is phenomenal. All in all, a most successful year.

I especially want to thank the members of the JRC, and the members of the Legislative Committee for the excellent job they have done on Code 402 and our legislation this year.

We are about to have a great Session this year, and special congratulations should go to our Session Planning chair, Senior Assembly member Julia Rosenberg, and her committee.

There is an unsung hero in our midst. She takes care of all of us, from plane reservations, to making sure we have all the materials we need for a

successful session. She takes the minutes of all of our JRC meetings, then sees to it that the minutes and agendas distributed to the members. Then she makes sure that members receive their packets, and a cordial welcome to CSL. In her spare time she is taking care of the office, talking to legislators, and legislative aids. She has been my right arm. She has always given 110%. Thank you Sherry Jenkins, for all that you do.

I do not want to forget that the CSL is the sum total of all its members, and all of you play a part in a successful year. I thank all of you for the work you have done. We have 63 proposals to consider at this year's session. It is your hard work on these proposals that begins the work of CSL next year. I hope each of you have at least read through the book, proposal with special emphasis on those proposals that will be heard in your committee. Remember you will be hearing proposals from both the senate and assembly in your committee. Be sure to read through all of them.

SEE YOU ON OCTOBER 26<sup>TH</sup>!

What are Members up to?

Senior Senator Joe Murphy – Served on the San Joaquin County Superior Criminal Court

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Jury for an elder financial abuse case.

Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren – Attended the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to Seniors Fair in Los Banos where Senior Assembly Member Dahlgren was a guest speaker.

Senior Senator John Sorensen and Assembly Members Dorothy Sorensen and Evelyn Tom – Hosted a CSL table at the San Leandro Health Fair at the Marina Senior Center.

Senior Senator Richard Lundin

– Attended the Governor's signing of AB 717 in Twentynine Palms Marine Corp Training Base. This bill establishes an annual "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day" on March 30.

Senior Senator John Sorensen

- Reported that the San Bruno
Chapter of AARP wrote an article
congratulating the CSL on their
successful 2009 legislation.

Bay Area Caucus – Was addressed by Assembly Member Ira Ruskin (D-21) regarding the issues in the State Assembly. He also congratulated the CSL on the good work they have been doing on their legislation. (Look for their picture on page 5.)

Senior Assembly Member Quincy Campbell – Distributed CSL brochures out at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Healthy Aging Fair in Hayward.

Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht - Appeared in The Inyo Register in an article concerning the move of the and Friendship Center Alzheimer's Day Care into a new location due to the removal of all funding for this program by the Governor. The Bishop Community is searching for ways to keep this center open.

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 <a href="mailto:sienkins@seniorleg.ca.gov">sienkins@seniorleg.ca.gov</a> or by snail mail or phone call and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

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

### Updated Contacts Needed

If you have moved, you must let the office know your new address so that you can continue to receive updated mailings. Let Sherry Jenkins know of your change of address, email or telephone number AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

Amazing! You hang something in your closet for a while and it shrinks 2 sizes!

# Greetings from Session Planning

by Julia Rosenberg

The rooms have been booked, the menu has been planned, the speakers have been invited and the Session is coming together. Things are shaping up that we will have a great Session this year and we are looking forward to seeing each and every one of you there!

HEY PHOTOGRAPHERS! We are still looking for someone (member or friend of member) that can volunteer to take photos this year. I think a group photo like we did a few years ago is in order again because our member roster changes and this is a nice memento. Plus it can be pub-

lished in our 30th anniversary book next year! Yes, we're already planning ahead for that one.

Don't forget to check out our new information tables in the back of the banquet room. These are sponsored by various organizations that deal with senior concerns (like we all see at conferences we attend).

Several items of interest include:

- ROOM RATE IS ONLY \$84 this year at the Holiday Inn. Make your reservation early by calling 1-800-465-4329 and mention QSL to receive our special room rate.
- ➢ BANQUET ROOM cannot be entered until 6:00 p.m. due to hotel set up.
- FREE TRANSPORTATION from airport to the holiday inn if the CSL office knows your schedule.
- ➤ 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.
- NEED A TAXI at the Session? NEW STATE RULES say that you are to please use any of the following four:
  - 1. State Capital Cab (916) 225-9996
  - 2. Crown Cab Company (916) 858-7777
  - 3. Yellow Cab Company (916) 444-4696
  - 4. Chazcabcom (916) 952-8531

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## New Deadline for 2010 Proposals

Don't forget that there is now a deadline for submitted proposals of May 1, 2010! So get those proposals started so that there will be a full proposed legislation book next year!

### **CSL Office Closure**

The CSL office will be closed: October 26-29 – Annual Session November 6 – Mandatory Furlough November 11 – Veteran's Day November 12 & 13 – Vacation

Sometimes I think I understand everything, and then I regain consciousness.

### -----------Code 402

Be sure to check out the 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.

We all get heavier as we get older, because there's a lot more information in our heads. That's my story and I'm sticking to it.

### Annual Session Information Tables

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This year we are doing something new to increase the experience of attending the Annual Session and that is information tables around the room at the evening banquets. This is a new thing for the CSL and we are looking forward to seeing the vendors.

So far two companies have leased tables for all three nights. In the knowledge of the swine flu and other diseases prevalent today, Germstar will be joining us and will have information and products for the prevention of spreading diseases. SCAN Health

will also be there to give out information. We are excited to have these two companies join us this year.

My mind not only wanders, it sometimes leaves completely.

### **Another New Member**

There is one more new member this month, this time coming from PSA 4. Senior Assembly Member Gloria Plasencia has been appointed in Lola Young's place as Lola has been appointed to Senior Senator. Be sure to welcome her at the Annual Session. This puts our membership back up to 116!

### WARNING: 2010 Census Cautions from the Better Business Bureau

With the U.S. Census process beginning, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) advises people to be cooperative, but cautious, so as not to become a victim of fraud or identity theft. The first phase of the 2010 U.S. Census is under way as workers have begun verifying the addresses households across the country. Eventually, more than 140,000 U.S. Census workers will count every person in the United States and will gather information about every person living at each address including name, age, gender, race, and other relevant data.

The big question is - how do you tell the difference between a U.S. Census worker and a con artist? BBB offers the following advice:

\*\* If a U.S. Census worker knocks on your door, they will have a badge, a handheld device, a Census Bureau canvas bag, and a confidentiality notice. Ask to see their identification and their badge

- before answering their questions. However, you should never invite anyone you don't know into your home.
- Census workers are currently only knocking on doors to verify address information. Do not give your Social Security number, credit card or banking information to anyone, even if they claim they need it for the U.S. Census. While Census Bureau might ask for basic financial information, such as a salary range, the Census Bureau will not ask for Social Security, bank account, or credit card numbers nor will employees solicit donations.

Eventually, Census workers may contact you by telephone, mail, or in person at home. However, the Census Bureau will not contact you by Email, so be on the lookout for Email scams impersonating the Census.

Never click on a link or open any attachments in an Email that are supposedly from the U.S. Census Bureau.

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### **Current Authored CSL Legislation**

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

SB 91 (Correa & Alquist) SP-22 Senior Senator Connie Eaton CSL Funding Repeal Date – **CHAPTER 29** 

SCR 28 (Correa) SP-8 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby Senior Volunteer Month – **CHAPTER 39** 

SJR 4 (Correa) SFP-2 Senior Senator Joe Murphy Silver Alert Program – **CHAPTER 87** 

AB 152 (Carter) SP-18/2008 Senior Senator Kitty Mesler, Senior Assembly Members Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Jane Godager

Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act: disability: definition

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

AB 324 (Beall) AP-16
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

- VETOED BY GOVERNOR

AB 392 (Feuer and Jones) SP-23 Senior Senator Bill Young – First half Support for the Ombudsman Program and the Senior Legal Hotline – **CHAPTER 102** 

AB 535 (Ammiano) SP-17 Senior Senator Bruce Steir Elder Death Reviews

AB 935 (Feuer and Jones) SP-23 Senior Senator Bill Young – Second half Long-Term Health Care Facilities

AB 1370 (Soloria) AP-8 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero Pharmaceuticals: Labels AB 1457 (Davis) AP-24

Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub Nursing Homes: Corporate ownership –

CHAPTER 532

AJR 6 (Beall) AFP-3
Senior Assembly Member Lola Young
Federal Poverty Guidelines – CHAPTER 92

### Other Supported Legislation

SB 110 (Liu)

People with Disabilities: Victims of Crime

SB 161 (Wright)

Health care coverage: chemotherapy treatment -

**VETOED BY GOVERNOR** 

SB 290 (Leno)

Tenancy: notices – CHAPTER 347

SB 303 (Alquist)

Nursing Facility Resident Informed Consent -

**VETOED BY GOVERNOR** 

SB 341 (DeSaulnier)

Pharmaceuticals: adverse drug reactions: Drug

Safety and Effectiveness Program

SB 344 (Strickland)

Crimes against elders and dependent adults

SB 687 (Alquist)

Long-term care facilities: healthcare associated infection

SB 732 (Alguist)

Medi-Cal: long-term care reimbursement: cost reporting methodology

SB 781 (Leno)

Eviction procedure - CHAPTER 617

SB 804 (Leno)

Mobilehomes: sales and replacements procedure -

**CHAPTER 66** 

AB 108 (Hayashi)

Individual health care coverage – CHAPTER 406

AB 123 (Portantino)

Housing for elderly or disabled persons -

**CHAPTER 82** 

AB 142 (Hayashi)

Health studios: external defibrillator unit requirements

AB 214 (Chesbro)

Health care coverage: durable medical equipment

AB 235 (Hayashi)

Emergency services and care - CHAPTER 423

AB 283 (Chesbro)

California Product Stewardship Act

AB 292 (Yamada)

Personal income taxes: contributions: Alzheimer's

disease - CHAPTER 232

AB 323 (Yamada) Automobile Tires

AB 329 (Feuer)

Reverse mortgages – CHAPTER 236

AB 378 (Cook)

In-Home Supportive Services: provider training

AB 393 (Yamada)

Vehicle warranties: disabled rights

AB 452 (Yamada)

In-Home Supportive Services: California

Independence Act of 2009

AB 498 (Hayashi)

Affordable housing: veterans

AB 583 (Hayashi)

Health care practitioners - Inactive

AB 646 (Swanson)

Physicians and Surgeons: Employment

AB 721 (Nava)

**Physical Therapy Direct Access** 

AB 724 (DeVore)

Revocable Transfer on Death Deed

AB 768 (Torres)

Elder abuse

AB 885 (Nestande)

Area agencies on aging and independent living

centers: funding

AB 1259 (Arambula)

Area agencies on aging: federal funding allocations

AB 1535 (Jones)

Audiologists: hearing aids - CHAPTER 309

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Giving money and power to government is like giving whiskey and car keys to teenage boys.

-P.J. O'Rourke, Civil Libertarian

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#### **Bay Area Caucus**

Back row: Sr Asm Mem Austin Lucero, Sr Asm Mem Foster Lopes, Sr Sen Bob Jaffee, Sr Asm Mem Charles Molnar, Sr Asm Mem Evelyn Tom, Sr Asm Mem Anne Warren, Sr Asm Mem Norma Campbell, Sr Asm Mem Lauren Rolfe, Sr Sen Anne Mack, Sr Asm Mem George Tucker, Sr Sen Joanna Kim-Selby, and Sr Asm Mem Norma Campbell, Sr Asm Mem Norma Rolfe, Sr Sen Front row: Sr Asm Mem Dorothy Sorensen, Sr Asm Mem Vernon Jones, Sr Sen John Sorensen, and State Assemblyman Ira Ruskin

### **Joint Rules Committee Meetings**

October 26-29, 2009 Sacramento November 16, 2009 Los Angeles

### "Help the Golden State **Support the Golden Years!**"

### **Legislative Committee Meetings**

October 29, 2009 Sacramento

### **California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule**

**Date** November 17-18, 2009 February 2-3, 2010 April 13-14, 2010 June 8-9, 2010

September 14-15, 2010 December 7-8, 2010

Location Los Angeles Sacramento Riverside County

Merced Eureka Burlingame Field Hearing Topic Elder Abuse Part II Senior Center Initiative

Mental Health

**TBD** TBD

Joint Activity with State Independent

Living Council

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