



Hey, CSL

What's Up?

September 2008

Volume I, Number 9

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

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Chair's Corner

By Joseph A. Cox

It is very gratifying to see so many of our proposals pass both houses of the legislature. This is what we are all about—improving the “Quality of Life for Aging Californians.” This is a noble cause and the California Senior Legislature can be proud of the part it is playing.

I have just returned from the U.S. Submarine Veterans of WWII National Convention. This convention was held in Louisville, Kentucky. All of us are well beyond the senior citizen threshold. What is remarkable is to see so many with major disabilities still attending. Wheel chairs, walking sticks, motorized wheel chairs, manual operated wheel chairs, breathing devices, pill boxes and sons and daughters helping their parent were well represented. They exhibited the same spirit that our California Senior Legislature members exhibit. With all of their disabilities they were present and still taking part in the activities.

The moral of the story is, “STAY ACTIVE AND STAY INVOLVED.”

What are Members up to?

Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren – Was sworn in as chairperson of the Merced County Area Agency on Aging, PSA 31.

Senior Assembly Member Charles Mitchell – Has successfully partnered with Dr. Richard Casaburi, Professor of Medicine of Harbor/UCLA Hospital. Dr. Casaburi works with Congestive Occupational Pulmonary Diseases and is very active in communicating with his patients regarding donating to the CSL.

Senior Senator Jim Levy – Gave a presentation on CSL to the Orange County Senior Citizens Advisory Council (PSA 22).

Senior Senators Austin Lucero and John Sorensen and Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen – Participated in the San Leandro Health Fair. Their table was paid for by them and Senior Senators Joanna Kim-Selby, Robert Jaffee, and Anne Mack, and Senior Assembly Members Quincy Campbell, Nery Hartschen, Ann Warren, and Evelyn Tom.

Senior Senator Dee Erman – Won first place on her booth in a recent senior health fair.

Senior Senator Jim Levy and Senior Assembly Member Pat Trotter – Gave a presentation on CSL to the Fullerton CSU AmeriCorps WECARE.

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 and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

Take every birthday with a grain of salt. This works much better if the salt accompanies a

Margarita.

CSL embarks on new Funding Venture

by Horace Mann

Corporate sponsorship can add significantly to our annual budget. Do you have any ties to a corporate office, past employer, family member, friend, yourself? Please send any leads to Senior Senator Horace Mann at www.fbmann@juno.com or my home address 17900 Ocean Drive, #41, Fort Bragg, CA 95437. Please do not send just corporate or business name without the name of the person responsible for corporate giving.

Did You Know?

By Horace Mann

There are over one million mobile homes in California of which only one percent have earthquake insurance. It is estimated that as many as 90

percent of those homes are owned by seniors. The California earthquake Authority is drastically reducing rates for earthquake insurance for mobile homes (as much as 50 percent). It would behoove us to get the word out to all seniors that now is the time to consider applying for earthquake insurance coverage. A rate calculator is available on the CEA website at www.earthquakeauthority.com.

Any news for the October Newsletter need to be submitted to the CSL office by October 6, 2008.

The older we get, the fewer things seem worth waiting in line for.

Greetings from Session Planning

by Lola Young

Just a little over a month until the session. All is going well. We are in the final laps to be ready for October 20th. Some of you may know, one of the major glitches this year is the fact that the Senate Chambers will be in renovation for the entire month of October, so it will not be available to us. We will be having the Senior Senate floor sessions in Room 4203. It is no substitute for the chambers, but it is the best option we have. Please bare with us Senior Senators, and be aware that there will not be any desks. We are going to do the best we can to accommodate everyone. It would be helpful to each of you if you would bring something hard to write on, like a clipboard or a book (Resource Manual would work).

As always, the state legislature will have priority at the capitol

during our session. Be prepared to be flexible throughout the session. As far as we know now, the Assembly Chambers will be available, and our opening Session will be held in the Assembly Chambers.

Just a reminder, no sharp objects on chamber desks. No food or drink in the chambers. The center aisle is reserved for visiting dignitaries and members should not be using the center aisle during opening session.

Joseph Murphy has agreed to be our crier this year. Please remember to stand when he announces the name of the dignitary, and remain standing until the escorts have reached the podium.

I am looking forward to working with all of you at this year's session. I know that with your help, even with a few glitches, we can still have a successful session. SEE YOU IN OCTOBER!

Some people can have all the lights on and still be in the dark.

Good news

The CSL office staff (Sherry) now has a cell phone for members to call in an emergency. This phone number is to be called only after hours in emergencies such as problems with traveling to CSL meetings or locating Sherry during the Session or things along this order. The office phone number is still to be used during office hours when you know that Sherry is at work.

The new cell number is:
(916) 710-1599.

Addition to Jailhouse Journal Article

In last month's newsletter there was a paragraph telling about one of our Senior Senators, Bruce Steir, who wrote a biography on his experiences of being an OB/GYN doctor. This was a memoir, not a biography and it gives insights into his motivations to study medicine, become an OB/GYN and provide abortions, his experi-

ences as an intern, resident, medical officer in the US military and his anecdotal experiences in the jailhouse environment while incarcerated.

I also neglected to include the website where you can review this book. That website is www.jailhousejournal.com.

My apologies to Senior Senator Bruce Steir and I do encourage all of you to check this book out.

Birthdays are good for you. The more you have, the longer you live.

Office Closures

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates:
 October 20-22 – Annual Session

Current CSL Legislation

- AP-2 AB 2139 (De La Torre)
 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young
 IHSS Provider Auto Insurance
- AP-4 AB 2100 (Wolk/Berg/Krekorian)
 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn
 Elder Abuse Reporting
- AP-10 AB 2516 (Mendoza)
 Senior Assembly Member Sharon Monck
 Prescriptions: electric transmissions - **Failed**
- AP-12/2006 AB 1765 (Blakeslee)
 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
 Elder Abuse: Mandated Reporters - **Failed**
- AP-12/2007 AJR 21 (Portantino)
 Senior Assembly Member Arthur Serrin
 Housing authorities: federal vouchers and certificates: shared housing – **(Chaptered)**
- AP-13 SB 1058 (Alquist/Florez)
 Senior Assembly Member Sol Fingold
 Health & Care Facilities: Bacterial Infections
- AP-19 SB 977 (Correa)
 Senior Assembly Member Pat Trotter
 Senior Facility Infrastructure Upgrades
- AP-22/SP-8 AB 1900 (Nava)
 Senior Assembly Member Martin Tucker & Senior Senator Erwin Fromm
 Seniors: elder abuse: death records: fees.
- AP-28 AB 2051 (Anderson)
 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn
 Elder abuse offender registry - **Failed**

- (Krohn) AB 2543 (Berg)
 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn
 Geriatric & Gerontology Workforce Expansion Act
- SP-2/2006 SB 692 (Ashburn)
 Senior Senator Fromm
 IHSS: criminal background checks - **(Chaptered)**
- SP-16 AB 2229 (Huffman)
 Senior Senator Dolores G. Wright
 Medi-Cal: dental examinations - **Failed**
- SP-18 AB 2160 (Carter)
 Senior Senator Kitty Mesler, Senior Assembly Members Juanita Beighle, Fran Givens, and Jane Godager
 Mello-Granlund Older Californians Act: disability: definition
- SP-22 AB 2460 (Davis)
 Senior Senator Marvin Goldman
 Consumer Loans: seniors - **Failed**
- SP-29 AJR 111 (Huffman)
 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
 Senior Volunteer Month - **(Chaptered)**
- AFP-1/2004 SJR 12 (Simitian)
 Retired Member Helen Karr
 Elder Abuse Awareness Stamp - **(Chaptered)**
- AFP-2 (Lopes) H.R.3648 (Rangel)
 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes
 Mortgage Forgiveness Debt Relief Act of 2007
(Public Law #110-142 12/20/2007)
- AFP-7 AJR 31 (Jones/Machado)
 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
 Government Negotiated Drug Prices - **(Chaptered)**

Other Supported Legislation

AB 152 Beall
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

AB 725 Lieber
Housing: universal rental housing application

AB 1022 Saldaña
Continuing care home service

AB 1158 Benoit
Witnesses: conditional examinations

AB 1444 Benoit
Physical Therapists: scope of practice - **Failed**

AB 1526 Lieber
Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act of 2006.

AB 1554 Jones
Health care coverage: rate approval

AB 1887 Beall
Health care coverage; mental health services

AB 2038 Lieber
Persons with disabilities: victims of crime

AB 2101 Wolk/Krekorian
Residential Care Facilities - **Failed**

AB 2105 DeSaulnier
Elder and dependent adult abuse

AB 2137 Saldaña
Insurance: rescission of long-care contracts

AB 2149 Berg
Investment Advisors

AB 2150 Berg
Insurance: sales designations

AB 2157 Horton
Skilled nursing and intermediate care facilities: licensing - **Failed**

AB 2319 Horton
Identification cards: renewal by mail

AB 2370 Bass
Residential care facilities for the elderly

AB 2439 De La Torre
Steven M. Thompson Physician Corps Loan Repayment Program: fees

AB 2475 Horton
Skilled nursing facilities - **Failed**

AB 2543 Berg
Geriatric and Gerontology Workforce Expansion Act

AB 2598 Leno
Residential care facilities for the elderly - **Failed**

AB 2796 Nava
Civil obligations

AB 2947 Eng
Elder and dependent adult abuse: waiver of rights

AB 2967 Lieber
Health care cost and quality transparency

SB 981 Perata
Health care coverage; noncontracting emergency physician claims

AB 3000 Wolk
Health care decisions: life sustaining treatment

SB 1140 Steinberg
Financial abuse of elder or dependent adults

SB 1164 Scott
Investigators

SB 1216 Scott
Insurance: long-term care

SB 1259 Margett
Witness testimony: support persons: elder abuse - **Failed**

SB 1343 Battin
Witness testimony: support persons: elder abuse

SB 1400 Simitian
Sweepstakes

SB 1406 Correa
Optometry

SB 1474 Alquist
Chronic dialysis clinics - **Failed**

SCR 112 Padilla
Services for older adults

S 2708 Boxer
Caring for an Aging America Act of 2008

Sneak Preview of 2009 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 3 Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn
Financial Elder Abuse Reporting

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

AP 6 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Food Safety

AP 7 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Relating to Hearing Aids

AP 8 Senior Assembly Member Austin Lucero
Pharmaceuticals: Labels

AP 9 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
Nursing Home Reform

AP 10 Senior Assembly Member Alice Loh
SSI/SSP Benefits

AP 11 Senior Assembly Member Roland Gerbracht
Crimes against Elders

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

AP 13 Senior Assembly Member Samuel Park
California Senior Legislature: California Senior Citizens' Club

AP 14 Senior Assembly Member Eleanor Bloch
Emergency Transportation

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

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

AP 17 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young, Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senators Erwin Fromm, Edward Woods, and Bill Young
Skilled Nursing Facilities: End-of-life privacy

AP 18 Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe
Caregivers

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

AP 21 Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen
Senior Convalescent Care Facilities: Personal equipment: Permanent marking

AP 24 Senior Assembly Member Bernard Weintraub
Nursing Homes: Corporate ownership

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

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 3 Senior Assembly Member Lola Young, Martin Tucker, Sally Wieck, and Senior Senator Erwin Fromm, Jim Levy, and Bill Young
Federal Poverty Guidelines

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

AFP 6 Senior Assembly Member Foster Lopes
Social Security Adjustment

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

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

AFP 9 Senior Assembly Member Bernard
Weintraub
Transparency in Nursing Home Ownership

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 1 Senior Senator Marion Faustman
Universal Health Care

SP 2 Senior Senator Clifford Erven
Goods and Services Tax

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

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

SP 5 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Senior Housing: Security

SP 6 Senior Senator Joe Murphy
Alzheimer Silver Alert Program

SP 7 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
Stroke Education Campaign

SP 8 Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby
Senior Volunteers

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

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 11 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Senior Financial Abuse

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 17 Senior Senator Bruce Steir
Elder Death Reviews

SP 18 Senior Senator Richard Lundin
Statewide Elder Protection Courts

SP 19 Senior Senator Craig Orange
Prescription Medication Labels

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 2 Senior Senator Joe Murphy
The Alzheimer Silver Alert Program

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

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

SFP 5 Senior Senator Marion Faustman
Prescription Drug Safety

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

SFP 7 Senior Senator Horace Mann
Medicare Support for Shingles Immunization

Upcoming Health Care Meeting

The Institute of Medicine is presenting "The Health Care Workforce for Older Americans: Promoting Team Care" on October 7, 2008, in Los Angeles, CA. This meeting will focus on efforts to promote interdisciplinary team care for older adults. This symposium follows the release of the IOM report, "Retooling for an Aging America – Building the Health Care Workforce." You can find out more about this on <http://www.iom.edu/?ID=53452>.

Senior Assembly Member Shirley Krohn will be participating in the symposium regarding geriatric issues.

Los Angeles County Seniors Take Survey

by Julia Rosenberg

The County of Los Angeles Community and Senior Services, the City of Los Angeles Department of Aging and Los Angeles County Commission on Aging (LACCOA) collaborated to conduct a large-scale needs assessment of older residents in the Los Angeles County. A survey completed by over 16,500 seniors revealed health emerging as the greatest area of need in this assessment.

This is the first concise survey of this magnitude conducted in the country. The title of the study is: "L.A. SENIORS COUNT!"

Here are the results:

- 61% had inadequate or lacked dental insurance
- 47% lacked prescription drug insurance
- 18% lacked affordable dental care 31% had not had a dental exam in the last 3 years
- 51% had not had a pneumonia shot
- 33% had not had a flu shot
- 54% were interested in physical exercise
- 33% were interested in health promotion or disease prevention
- 22% lacked information about opportunities for productive activities
- 13% reported wanting a job
- 24% reported interest in volunteering and community involvement
- 29% reported social isolation and desire for interaction
- 35% wanted safety information or had safety issues 18% had concerns about social security benefits 25% had concerns about identity theft
- 20% had concerns about or needed a will or trust 25% needed help with routine housework
- 27% needed help with meal preparation
- 19% needed help with grocery shopping
- 25% needed help with home repairs
- 19% lacked transportation for medical appointments

Joint Rules Committee Meetings

September 15, 2008	12:00 p.m.	Sacramento
September 16, 2008	9:00 a.m.	Sacramento
October 20, 2008	10:00 a.m.	Sacramento
October 22, 2008	2:45 p.m.	Sacramento

**“Help the Golden State
Support the Golden Years!”**

Legislative Committee Meetings

October 22, 2008	2:30 p.m.	Sacramento
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California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Field Hearing Topic</u>
October 15-16, 2008	Redding (Shasta County)	Access to Health Care
December 3-4, 2008	Orange County	Access to Health Care

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