



Hey, CSL

What's Up?

January 2009

Volume II, Number 1

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

Happy New Year to all of you. We are beginning a brand new year, and there is a lot of work to be done. First and foremost, all of our minds need to be dedicated to promote CODE 402 on the state income tax form. Remember, it was because of the hard work all of you did in 2008 that we are able to have a four-day session in 2009. This year it will be more important than ever to get out there and promote CODE 402. Times are tough, the economy is slow, the state is in budget crises. However, we should not let that cause us to lose sight of the fact that the survival of CSL depends on whether we meet our goal of \$250,000 by September. If we only meet our goal, we will survive, but in order to continue a four-day session, we must exceed the \$250,000. We cannot do that unless each and every one of us gets out there and promotes CODE 402. We will have some help with the CheckOff California campaign, but that does not mean we can let up. It is our responsibility as members of the Senior Legislature. Together we can do it.

The second thing on our minds needs to be supporting SB 65 (Correa). This is the bill to extend the sunset date of Code 402. If

this bill does not pass, beginning January 1, 2010, we will again have to contend with the cost of living increase, and our minimum amount to raise will increase every year. Do not think that this will be an easy bill to pass. The first bill was not easy, and this bill will not be easy either. Get the message out to any organization you belong to that we need letters of support for this bill. Be prepared to write letters of support when you are asked.

The JRC and Leg Committee walked the halls of the capitol January 7 and 8. We delivered the top twenty state and top eight federal priority proposal books to the legislators. Reports from all team members were very positive. Several legislators have shown an interest in several of our proposals. It looks like we will have another successful year, even with the budget situation. Good job, Leg Committee and JRC members.

The CSL is getting great response from our state legislators, with even most of the new legislators being familiar with the CSL and what we do. I believe it is due to the hard work all of us have been doing to promote the CSL, with the public as well as with our legislators. Congratulations to all of you. Keep up the great work.

What are Members up to?

Senior Senator Jim Levy – Was honored at the Bet B'nai Temple at a Tribute Dinner Celebration.

Senior Assembly Member Marcia Gould – Wrote a column on CSL's priority proposals for the "Not Born Yesterday."

Senior Assembly Member Fran Givens – Attended a traveling Christmas party with Assembly Member Bill Emmerson, Paul Biane, Chair of San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors, and Senator Bob Dutton. She also attended an Open House for the San Bernardino's County School Board.

Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby – Will be honored at a tape cutting ceremony for the St. Sebastian Chapel in Irinjalakuda, Kerala Province, India.

Senior Assembly Member Vernon Uecker – Gave a presentation of CSL to AARP in Corning. He also wrote an article on CSL in the *Enterprise-Record/Mercury-Register*.

Senior Senator Joe Cox and Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren – Were featured in an article in the Merced County Area Agency on Aging's "SNAP."

Senior Senator Tim O'Keefe – Gave his first presentation to Retired Public Employees in Atascadero and is moving on to a Health Fair next at the Madonna Inn. Good job, Tim!

Senior Assembly Member Zelda Hutcherson is now the Chair of the Los Angeles Caucus, **Senior Assembly Member Sam Parks** is the Vice Chair, and **Senior Assembly Member Margaret Sowma** is the secretary.

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 sjenkins@seniorleg.ca.gov or by snail mail or phone call and those people will receive a copy every month either by email or snail mail.

*Experience is a wonderful thing.
 It enables you to recognize a mistake when you make it again.*

 Any news for the January Newsletter need to be submitted to the CSL office by January 5, 2009.

Greetings from Session Planning

by Julia Rosenberg

The Session Planning Committee is busy at work finalizing the negotiations for a block of rooms and the room rate at 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 if the CSL office knows your schedule. We are negotiating rates to provide free transportation to and from the airport to the Holiday Inn.
- 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 after you make sure your name is on your receipt. Reminders on this will continue to come out periodically.

Have an idea for something different? If you have suggestions or ideas on what you would like to have, see or do at this year's Session, please feel free to contact me. Believe me, I did not realize how detailed this position is when I agreed to chair it but I find it very exciting! We have several new concepts we're working on for this session and always welcome your input!

If you can (and are able to) help on this committee, or have any suggestions for us, please call me at (310) 316-1013 or you can email me at jrosenberg@roadrunner.com.

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.

Office Closures

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates:
 January 19 – Martin L King Day
 February 13 – Lincoln's Birthday
 February 16 – President's Day

Never do anything you wouldn't want to explain to the paramedics.

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

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

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

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

AFP-3 (Beall)
Senior Assembly Member Lola Young
Federal Poverty Guidelines

**2008/09 CSL Legislation
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 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 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

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

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

SP 23 Senior Senator Bill Young
Support for the Ombudsman Program and the
Senior Legal Hotline

**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 2 Senior Senator Joe Murphy
The Alzheimer Silver Alert Program

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 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 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

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 17 Senior Senator Bruce Steir
Elder Death Reviews

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

*Government's view of the economy could be summed up in a few short phrases:
If it moves, tax it. If it keeps moving, regulate it. And if it stops moving, subsidize it.*
-Ronald Reagan (1986)

In Memory

Senior Assembly Member Elizabeth Payne's son passed away the week of January 12, 2009. Our sympathies, Elizabeth.

Emily Burns passed away December 4, 2008. Emily was a CSL Senior Assembly Member from 2000 to 2001 in PSA 25.

Farewell and Hello

Senior Senator John Hopkins from PSA 3 has had to resign from CSL and we wish him the best of luck and bid a fond farewell to him. Senior Assembly Member Vernon Uecker is now the Senior Senator from that PSA so congratulations, Vernon. Our new Senior Assembly Member from that area is a man most of you should remember from our October Annual Sessions as a volunteer – Michael LePeilbet. Welcome, Michael! Although, one of your first jobs will be to find us another volunteer to replace you!

Congratulations are in order as well for Senior Assembly Member Larry Hartmann as he was just appointed the Senior Senator for PSA 18 and we want to welcome the new Senior Assembly Member for that area, Steve Lehman. A new roster will be coming out shortly with these new additions.

Editor's Note

Apologies for Jerry Smith's new telephone number in Nevada being put in the last edition wrong. His correct phone number is 775-461-0251.

Did you hear about the 83-year old woman who talked herself out of a speeding ticket by telling the young officer that she had to get there before she forgot where she was going?

Joint Rules Committee Meetings

February 3-5, 2009	Sacramento
April 7-8, 2009	Sacramento
June 9-10, 2009	Sacramento
July 7-8, 2009	Sacramento with Leg Committee
September 17-18, 2009	Sacramento
October 26-29, 2009	Sacramento

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

Legislative Committee Meetings

March 10-11, 2009	Sacramento with Legislative Committee Alternates
May 13-14, 2009	Sacramento
July 7-9, 2009	Sacramento

California Commission on Aging Meetings Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Field Hearing Topic</u>
February 4, 2009	Sacramento	Senior Center Stakeholder Forum
April 7-8, 2009	Fresno	TBD
June 2-3, 2009	Sonoma	TBD
August 4-5, 2009	Sacramento	TBD
December 1-2, 2009	Long Beach	TBD

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