



# Hey, CSL

# What's Up?

February 2009

Volume II, Number 2

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

I hope that all of us are in full swing with the FTB Code 402 campaign. We did a great job last year, and I know we can do it again. This is the time of year to start educating seniors about what we do, and how we depend on their support. Although large donations are nice, remember President Obama raised the most money from a lot of small donations. It worked for him, and it can work for us as well.

Our bad news continues as Senior Senator Roberta Marti is resigning from CSL effective February 1, 2009. She has been a member of the CSL since 2002 and was a Joint Rules Committee (JRC) member representing the Housing and Transportation Policy Committee with Senior Senator Bud Winslow as her alternate. Unfortunately, Senior Senator Winslow has informed me that he is in poor health and unable to assume JRC membership. He has been a member since 1992. Both of these members will be missed. JRC representatives from that policy committee will be announced soon.

I would like to remind you that when the JRC meets we are representing the entire member-

ship. We are restricted by the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act of 2004 as to what actions we can take. We cannot take action on items that are not on the agenda, and the agenda must be posted 10 days prior to the meeting. Also, the items on the agenda must explain enough about the subject that the public will be able to make choices as to attend the meeting or not. If any member has something that they feel the JRC should be discussing, or acting upon, please let me know at least 12 days prior to the next meeting. I will see to it that it is placed on the agenda in time. Our next meeting will be April 7 and 8, 2009.

I also wanted to remind everyone that when you submit a travel expense claim, at least 30 to 45 days is the expected wait time to receive your reimbursement.

Congratulations to all of you for your hard work on our proposals. January's Legislative visits by the Legislative Committee and JRC were well received and highly successful. We currently have seven proposals authored with possibly three to four more. It looks like it will be another successful year for the CSL. Check out the authored bills on page 3 of this publication.

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**What are Members up to?**

**Senior Senator Joe Cox** – Was recognized for his service to seniors and was presented a Resolution of Commendation by the Los Banos City Council which was read on live TV by the Los Banos Mayor Tommy Jones.

**Senior Assembly Member Fran Givens** – Participated as an invited dignitary on the behalf of the Amvets' Family Readiness Group and the Welcome Home Defenders of Freedom Committee at the Welcome Home Ceremonies of the 137<sup>th</sup> Quarter Master Army Reserve at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena. Also honored were the WWII, Korean and Viet Nam Vets.

**Senior Senator John Sorensen and Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen** – Have addressed several AARP chapter meetings and the local CoA Legislative meeting regarding CSL and the importance of Code 402.

**Senior Assembly Member Julia Rosenberg** – Presented CSL to the Cerritos District Alumnae Group of the Women's Clubs in her area and has been asked to be the keynote speaker in April at their District Convention in Buena Park.

**Senior Assembly Member Dorothy Sorensen** was elected the chairperson of the Bay Area Caucus with **Senior Assembly Member Nery Hertschen and Senior Assembly Member Quincy Campbell** the vice chairs, and **Senior Assembly Member Evelyn Tom** the secretary and treasurer.

**Senior Senator Kitty Mesler** – Placed an ongoing ad for CSL in the "Canyon", a local paper for Lytle Creek, CA.

**Senior Assembly Member Richard Wolfe** – Presented CSL at the Los Angeles (LA)

Commission on Aging and the LA County Board of Supervisors. He's also working with LA City Councilman Bill Rosendahl to introduce CSL to the LA City Council and to Assembly Woman Bonnie Lowenthal.

**Senior Assembly Member Marcia Gould** – Mailed to the office the "News for California's Retired Teachers" with includes an article on the CSL.

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

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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](mailto: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.

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*To keep milk from turning sour, keep it in the cow.*

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

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**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](mailto:jrosenberg@roadrunner.com).

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

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**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.

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**Office Closures**

The CSL office will be closed on the following dates:  
March 31 – Caesar Chavez Day

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**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 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

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

AP-21 AB 249 (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**

**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 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 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

**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 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

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*If you don't read the newspaper you are  
uninformed. If you do read the newspaper you are  
misinformed.  
- Mark Twain*  
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**Department of Veterans Affairs  
October 30, 2008 - News Release  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

<http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1609>

**New Law Authorizes Veterans' Salutes during  
National Anthem**

WASHINGTON – Veterans and active-duty military not in uniform can now render the military-style hand salute during the playing of the national anthem, thanks to changes in federal law that took effect this month. “The military salute is a unique gesture of respect that marks those who have served in our nation’s armed forces,” said Secretary of Veterans Affairs Dr. James B. Peake. “This provision allows the application of that honor in all events involving our nation’s flag.”

The new provision improves upon a little known change in federal law last year that authorized veterans to render the military-style hand salute during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag, but it did not address salutes during the national anthem. Last year’s provision also applied to members of the armed forces while not in uniform.

Traditionally, members of the nation’s veterans’ service organizations have rendered the hand-salute during the national anthem and at events involving the national flag while wearing their organization’s official head-gear.

The most recent change, authorizing hand-salutes during the national anthem by veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel, was sponsored by Sen. Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma, an Army veteran. It was included in the Defense Authorization Act of 2009, which President Bush signed on October 14, 2008.

The earlier provision authorizing hand-salutes for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering or passing of the flag was contained in the National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect January 28, 2008.

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*Respiration is composed of two acts – first  
inspiration and then expektoration.*  
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**Joint Rules Committee Meetings**

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>
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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