



CALIFORNIA SENIOR LEGISLATURE

April 2011

MEMBER NEWS

Volume IV, Number 4

Improving the Quality of Life for Aging Californians

LEADERSHIP

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OCTOBER SESSION 2011

The new abbreviated schedule for the October 2011 Annual Legislative Session is ready. Copies are available and can be viewed and printed by visiting the CSL website at www.4csl.org.

Chair's Corner

By Richard Dahlgren

Thanks for continuing to promote the opportunity for people to donate to CSL when completing their taxes. The *California Fund for Senior Citizens* (Code 402) is the primary source of funds for CSL.

FOCUS ON 30

All CSL members are encouraged to contribute \$30 to CSL as part of the "Focus on 30" campaign in recognition of the 30th anniversary of the CSL. We are currently in our 30th year, preparing for the 31st Annual Session in October 2011. Your contributions made a big difference last year, so please donate \$30 to the California Foundation on Aging/CSL Fund. (Tax Exempt ID# 77-0187875).

PROMOTE CODE 402

As reported in our April 2011 **Member Alert**, Senior Assembly Member Chuck Molnar ([Santa Cruz County - PSA 13](#)) has helped CSL by producing professional [30](#) and [60 second Public Service Announcements](#), also known as "PSAs." These radio spots can be heard by visiting the

CSL website www.4csl.org. In addition, the spots were distributed to 100 radio stations across California with a cover letter requesting that stations air the recordings and help support the work of CSL.

CODE 402 FUN FACTS:

According to the Franchise Tax Board, the median voluntary contribution to the CA Fund for Senior Citizens is \$5.00, and the area that contributed the most during 2010 was zip code area 91030 (South Pasadena, Los Angeles County) in the amount (median over the year) of \$5,441!

2011 PROPOSAL FORMS DUE

Proposal Forms must be sent into the office by the end of April, or Monday, May 2, 2011. So far, the office has received about 25 proposals. This is a low number when compared to year's past. Write down your ideas using the [proposal introduction form](#) which is posted on the website www.4csl.org.

-Rick Dahlgren
Chair, Joint Rules Committee

BYLAWS **RECOMMENDATIONS**

This article is a review for many senior legislators who were members two or more years ago and may be new for members who were initially elected or appointed during 2010.

Historically, CSL has used the odd numbered year to decide if some portion of the current bylaws need to be changed: either deleted, modified or added. This year during our 31st Annual Legislative Session, we will vote on whether a submitted Bylaw Recommendations will be accepted by a majority of our 120 members.

You will be receiving [bylaw change forms](#) under separate cover. It is important that you read the directions very closely so that your suggested change follows the required format. Below is a copy of **ARTICLE VIII-BYLAWS AMENDMENTS and ARTICLE X- RULES OF ORDER** we will follow at the Bylaw Meeting during the 2011 Annual Legislative Session,

ARTICLE VIII - BYLAWS AMENDMENTS SECTION I
These Bylaws may be amended only in non-election years by majority vote of a quorum of the CSL Annual Session, provided that the amendments have been submitted, in writing, to the JRC for distribution to all CSL

members at least forty-five (45) days prior to the Session.

SECTION II

An Ad-Hoc Bylaws Committee made up of four CSL members not on the Joint Rules Committee, plus one from the Joint Rules Committee appointed by the Chair of the JRC and approved by the JRC, shall meet to review all proposed bylaws amendments submitted by CSL members for consideration at the Annual Session.

SECTION III

Any CSL member may submit Bylaws amendments, but to be considered by the body at the Session, they must have the approval/signature of two other CSL members.

SECTION IV

Amendments to proposed Bylaws amendments may be proposed and adopted by majority vote of a quorum of the CSL at the Annual Session so long as the amendment is germane and does not substantially change the original intent of the proposed Bylaw amendment.

ARTICLE X - RULES OF ORDER SECTION I

The rules contained in ROBERT'S RULES OF ORDER, as revised from time to time, shall govern meetings of the CSL and JRC in all cases in which they are applicable and in which they are not inconsistent with these Bylaws.

Bylaws article submitted by Senior Senator Jim Levy of Orange County- PSA 22
Senior Senator Levy is the Chair of the Bylaws Sub-Committee of the Joint Rules Committee.

TRAVEL EXPENSE CLAIMS

The fun never ends when completing the important sections on the state travel expense claim (TEC) form to ensure faster processing. Here are a few reminders:

1. Note only the last four digits of your social security number on the form.
2. Taping all of your small receipts to a sheet of paper is very helpful. This makes photocopying easier and the preparation of the TEC before sending to the Department of General Services (DGS) goes much faster.
3. In the "Private Vehicle License Number" (Box 2), please write your license plate number when you are claiming mileage. We will look it up here at the CSL office, but if the form is already completed...the processing time on our end is shortened.

The TECs are reviewed and sent to DGS once a week from the CSL office. Once the form is delivered to the DGS, they have ten days to process. When the DGS is finished, they send it to the State Controller's Office (SCO) and they have ten days to process. So, we

anticipate that the process takes approximately four to five weeks.

Our goal is to get these requests "out the door" to the state agencies quickly, so the reimbursement checks can be sent to members as soon as possible.

If you need some help or have questions, please do not hesitate to call Crystal Wallace, at (916) 522-8056, or send an e-mail message with your questions to cwallace@seniorleg.ca.gov

MEMBER ETHICS TRAINING! ARE YOU UP-TO-DATE?

At least 28 members need to update their Ethics Training. California law requires state officials (includes all CSL Members) to complete an ethics training course within six months of their hiring, and every two years thereafter. To help meet this requirement, the Attorney General's Office and the Fair Political Practices Commission have developed the Ethics Training Course.

Please visit the site and take the test. After you have completed the test, you will receive a "Proof of Participation Certificate." Let the office know when you have completed the training, so that we can update our files. Contact Crystal Wallace with any questions at (916) 552-8056 or via e-mail.

MEMBERS IN ACTION

Senior Assembly Member Lauren Rolfe, Napa/Solano County- PSA 28 presented to the City of Fairfield Senior Center on CSL and current legislation which resulted in a \$100 donation to the CSL!

Senior Senator Marcia Gould and Senior Senator Richard Shontz of Los Angeles- PSA 25 recently attended the first Valley Advisory Committee meeting of Senator Fran Pavley and will continue to serve on this committee.

Senior Assembly Member Richard Dahlgren of Merced County - PSA 31 presented on CSL and current legislative proposals to the Soroptimists in Merced County.

Senior Assembly Member Michael Haas of Los Angeles City- PSA 25 has introduced **six proposals** for the CSL members to consider in October 2011.

Senior Assembly Member Mary Ella Anderson of Humboldt County- PSA 1 published an excellent article in the Senior News published by the Humboldt Senior Resource Center in Eureka. The article provided a review of the current CSL supported legislation.

Senior Assembly Member Steve Lehman of Ventura County - PSA 18 announced that SCAN Health Plan received the "2011 Health

Champion Award" and recognized by the Ventura Board of Supervisors.

Senior Senator Shirley Krohn of Contra Costa County- PSA 7 presented as part of a panel on "Insurance Fraud and Mandatory Reporting" at the 2011 "Elder Financial Protection Network's 8th Annual Call to Action."

Senior Senator Joanna Kim-Selby of Contra Costa County- PSA 7 held a 31st Anniversary celebration of **The East Bay Korean-American Senior Service Center** in Oakland. Senior Senator Kim-Selby also serves as the Executive Director of the Center.

Senior Senator Robert Jaffee of Santa Clara County- PSA 10 wrote and successfully published a letter to the San Jose Mercury News pointing out unfortunate costs of entitlements which are hindering the provision of a strong safety net for older people, that is, entitlements to oil companies, corporations and the very wealthy!

APRIL LEG MEETING

The Legislative Committee is meeting in Sacramento on April 26- 28, 2011. The February 2011 Agenda and the meeting minutes from the meeting are posted at www.4csl.org.

Joint Rules Committee Meetings

February 14-15, 2011 Sacramento
 April 11-12, 2011 Sacramento
June 13-14, 2011 Sacramento
 September 12-13, 2011 Sacramento
 October 24-27, 2011 Sacramento

Legislative Committee Meetings

February 15-16, 2011 Sacramento
 April 26-27, 2011 Sacramento with the Alternates
July 12-13, 2011 Sacramento

California Commission on Aging Meetings

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Field Hearing Topic</u>
February 1-2, 2011	Sacramento	Celebrating Caregiving in California
April 5-6, 2011	Santa Cruz	Celebrating Caregiving in California (II)
June 28-29, 2011	San Diego	TBA
September 13-14, 2011	Roseville	TBA
November 14-15, 2011	Los Angeles	No public hearing. Meeting will coincide with Statewide Senior Center Forum

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

**LEGISLATION WE SUPPORT, SPONSOR and/or CO-SPONSOR
(includes CSL PROPOSALS ARE NOW LEGISLATIVE BILLS)****AB 20 (Halderman)**

This bill requires an attorney who solicits or consults with a client for purposes of filing a residential construction defect action to provide certain written information to the client, including a description of a seller's duty to disclose certain facts concerning real property.

AB 40 (Yamada)

Requires the mandated reporter to report elder abuse to both the local ombudsperson and the local law enforcement agency. Makes various technical, non-substantive changes.

CSL proposal AP-12/Loh, CSL is sponsor.

AB 69 (Beall)

Relates to the CalFresh Program. Requires the Department of Social Services seek a federal waiver, demonstration project or other authority to establish a pilot project in 2 areas of the state to more easily enroll eligible recipients into the CalFresh program.

AB 138 (Beall)

This bill would require, if specified conditions are met, the department to report data from the Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Elder Index), as defined, for each service area included in the state plan.

CSL Proposal AP-16 (2008)/Young, CSL is co-sponsor.

AB 310 (Ma)

This bill prohibits health care service plans and health insurers that offer prescription drug coverage from creating specialty tiers for prescription drugs that require payment by an enrollee or insured of a percentage cost of the drugs.

AB 332 (Butler)

Amends existing law regarding identity theft and elder abuse and prescribes penalties for violations thereof. Increases the maximum fines for those offenses.

CSL Proposal AP-11/Shontz, CSL is sponsor.

AB 367 (Smyth)

This bill requires a county adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency to accept a report by a mandated reporter, or any other person, of suspected elder or dependent adult abuse even if the agency lacks jurisdiction to investigate the report, unless the call can be immediately transferred to an agency with proper jurisdiction.

AB 533 (Yamada)

Appropriates from the Federal Trust Fund, to the Department of Aging, the amount of federal funds contained in the Federal Trust Fund necessary to pay area agencies on aging for the administration of programs under their jurisdiction and to the Department of Rehabilitation, to pay independent living centers for the administration of programs under their jurisdiction.

AB 579 (Monning)

Permits the award of attorney's fees and, in some cases, other litigation expenses, to a local governmental entity in an action brought by the owner of a mobilehome park to challenge the validity or application of a local ordinance, rule, regulation, or initiative measure that regulates space rent or is intended to benefit or protect residents in a mobilehome park, if the local governmental entity is determined to be the prevailing party.

CSL Proposal AP-23/Molnar, CSL is sponsor.

AB 641 (Feuer)

This bill would improve oversight of skilled nursing facilities and protect their residents by ensuring citation appeals are properly dealt with in a timely manner and violations are met with a proper level of response

AB 699 (Wagner)

This bill would create a revocable transfer on death deed (TOD), which would transfer real property on the death of its owner without a probate proceeding. Provides the revocable deed must be signed, dated, acknowledged, and recorded to be effective.

AB 999 (Yamada)

Creates the revocable transfer on death deed which would transfer real property on the death of its owner without a probate proceeding. Provides the revocable deed must be signed, dated, acknowledged, and recorded to be effective. Voids revocable deed if, at the time of the owner's death, the property is titled in joint tenancy or as community property with right of survivorship. Provides a person who feloniously and intentional kills a decedent is not entitled generally to property and interests.

AB 1090 (Blumenfield)

Establishes the County Deferred Property Tax Program for Senior Citizens and Disabled Citizens. Authorizes a participating county to defer a claimant's property taxes retroactively, for property taxes due on or before a specified date and prospectively. Requires the amount of property taxes deferred, plus any interest accrued thereon, to be secured by a county property tax lien.

CSL Proposal AP-23/Molnar, CSL is sponsor.

SB 33 (Simitian)

Makes a technical change to existing law providing that a county adult protective services office and a long-term care ombudsman, when investigating the financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult, is not prohibited from requesting financial information from a financial institution. Amends the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act. Provides for mandated reporters of suspected financial abuse.

CSL Proposal AP-34/Krohn, CSL is sponsor.

SB 345 (Wolk)

Amends provisions of existing law that requires the Department of Aging to establish an advisory council for the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman to provide advice and consultation on issues affecting the provisions of ombudsman services. Deletes these provisions.

CSL Proposal AP-32/Krohn, CSL is sponsor.

SB 411 (Price)

The bill requires a home care organization to inform a client of important information before arranging for the provision of home care services, such as, the types and hours of available home care services and the extent to which payment may be expected from specified sources.

CSL is co-sponsor.

SB 444 (Evans)

Amends the Subdivision Map Act as regards subdivisions and rental mobilehome park conversions. Clarifies that a local agency is required to consider the results of a survey in making its decision to approve, or disapprove the map if it finds that the results of the survey have not demonstrated adequate resident support.

SB 529 (Correa)

Requires the Department of Aging, in consultation with the Commission on Aging, the area agencies on aging, and the Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, to develop a long-term care strategic plan to provide guidance and temporary funding for community-based programs that serve seniors.

CSL Proposal SP-11/Levy, CSL is sponsor.

SB 586 (Pavley)

Amends the Banking Law and the California Credit Union Law. Regulates the issuance or use of a signature stamp in financial transactions. Provides for the offense of using a signature stamp in a financial transaction without the express written authorization of a stamp holder who is an elder or dependent adult.

CSL is co-sponsor.

SB 840 (Evans)

Amends existing law requiring the owner of a dwelling intended for human occupancy to install a carbon monoxide device approved by the State Fire Marshall. Includes residential care facilities among the types of dwellings that are subject to those requirements.

SB 897 (Leno)

Relates to the California Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly (RCFE) Act. Enacts the RCFE Residents Foreclosure Protection act of 2011, requires the licensee of a facility to notify the department of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, and authorizes the department to initiate a compliance plan, noncompliance conference, or other appropriate action.

CSL is co-sponsor.

SB 924 (Walters)

The bill would allow consumers to receive the fiscal and physical benefits of directly accessing physical therapy services without increasing their risk of physical harm or expanding the scope of practice for a Physical Therapist.

Read more information about hearing dates and other issues related to these bills by visiting the CSL website at www.4csl.org

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