



THE ADVOCATE

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Autumn 2019

JOINT RULES COMMITTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE

The focus of this edition of *The Advocate* is the Master Plan for Aging. The first meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee was conducted on September 17th. The next meeting is scheduled for November 4th. The first meeting of the Long Term Care Subcommittee is October 28th from 2-5pm and again on November 12th. The Research Subcommittee will meet on October 24th from 1:30-4:30pm. For additional information go to: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-aging/>. Future editions of *The Advocate* will provide updates on the progress being made. Here is a time-line of actions to date:



JOHN POINTER

June 10, 2019

Governor Gavin Newsom signed an Executive Order calling for the creation of a Master Plan for Aging to be developed by October 1, 2020. Governor Newsom said the plan must address person-centered care, the patchwork of public services, social isolation, bedridden seniors in need of transportation, the nursing shortage and demand for in-home supportive services that far outpaces capacity.

June 12, 2019

California Health and Human Services Agency conducted a stakeholder conference call to discuss the Executive Order and the Administration's efforts on the Master Plan for Aging.

June 23, 2019

CSL submits list of member nominations for the Stakeholder Advisory Committee to California Health and Human Services Agency. As part of CSL's response to CHHS's call for volunteers to participate on the Stakeholder Advisory Committee, it was proposed to use CSL as a grass roots vehicle to "test" proposals that come out of the committees.

July 3, 2019

State Treasurer Fiona Ma conducted a 10-city affordable housing regulatory tour and noted the state's housing crisis is a major obstacle to older Californians' ability to age in place. She emphasized the need for a California Master Plan for Aging and the need to prioritize the development of affordable housing and associated services.

August 1, 2019

We Stand With Seniors conducted a lunch briefing in the Capitol that focused on California's Master Plan for Aging. Findings were shared from a new statewide voter survey that identified voters' priorities and perspectives on the state's Master Plan for Aging.

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MISSION OF CSL

Helping to preserve and enhance the quality of life of older Californians and their families.

ABOUT CSL

The California Senior Legislature is a volunteer body that was established under California law in 1980. Over its 39-year history the organization has been responsible for more than 200 bills signed into law to help seniors.

THE ADVOCATE is published quarterly and distributed to members and supporting agencies throughout the state.

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LEG COMMITTEE CHAIR'S MESSAGE



ANNE WARREN

Whew! This has been a busy, exciting and educational year for CSL. Ten of our top priority proposals were authored:

AB 50 (Kalra) Medi-Cal Assisted Living Waiver,
AB 387 (Gabriel) Prescription Drug Labeling
AB 797 (Grayson) Wire Transmitters as Mandated Reporters
AB 970 (Salas) Transportation for Rural, Isolated Seniors
AB 480 (Salas) Mental

Health: Older Adults

SB 280 (Jackson) Fall Prevention

SB 309 (Rubio) Tax Checkoff

SB 695 (Portantino) Land Use Planning: Housing for Seniors

SB 725 (Rubio) Veterans Rental Housing Assistance

HR 1788 (Hill) Reducing Medicare Penalties

The current status? SB 309 has been signed by the governor. It allows CSL to remain on the state tax checkoff form. AB 970 and SB 280 are awaiting the governor's signature. SB 725 has become a two-year bill.

HR 1788, one of the Federal Resolutions, has been authored and is still winding its way through the House of Representatives. (This is the first year of the two-year legislative cycle. There is still hope.)

What happened to the other authored bills, you ask? The Medi-Cal Assisted Living Waiver, to increase those serviced from 5700 to 18,000 will require funding and got bogged down in Appropriations.

Prescription drug labeling was turned into an establishment of a pharmaceutical task force to determine for what the drugs can be used and issue a report of their findings.

The bill to make wire transfer companies mandated reporters of suspected senior fraud was fought by the wire service companies.

Mental health issues in our communities are recognized as a complex problem and the solution(s) will be numerous. The Governor's Task Force for the Master Plan on Aging will address this in their work.

The bill on Land Use Planning, Housing Element was amended to only address Special Education.

TA-DAH! The final tally is ONE possibly THREE bills will be signed into California law. And ONE bill, perhaps, will be included in the extensive changes being made to Medicare.

Not a bad year for CSL all in all. However, during the year, the Governor announced his priority for "A Master Plan on Aging" and some bills that we supported were signed, but many will be revised to be incorporated into the Master Plan.

This coming year will also be exciting. CSL members have submitted some awesome proposals; the collaborative work on the Aging Master Plan will generate some new thinking on life for seniors and people with disabilities.

The new ideas should help to make California truly an age-friendly state. ♦

— Anne Warren

CSL 2019 PRIORITIES

The CSL announced its State and Federal legislative priorities in November 2018. We sought authors for our legislative priorities during the months of January and February 2019. Of those priorities three bills have made it to the Governor's desk. They are identified below. We also identified the status of a bill involving mental health and Medi-Cal. Finally, the status of our one Federal bill (HR 1788) is presented below as well as the status of the Re-Authorization of the Older Americans Act.

State

- 1. AB 970 (AP-2) — ASM Salas: Transportation: Seniors' & Disabled Individuals' Access to Transportation to Medical Services** This measure authorizes the use of moneys in the Greenhouse Gas Emissions program for grants to counties to provide transportation to nonemergency medical services for the senior and disabled populations located in rural, desert, and mountain areas through the use of energy renewable vehicles. **Status: Vetoed by the Governor.**

CSL 2019 PRIORITIES (cont'd)

2. SB 280 (AP-7) — Sen. Jackson: Fall Safe Housing (cont'd) built into new housing using funds generated by the Act. **Status: Approved by the Governor.**

3. SB 725 (SP-7) — Sen. Rubio: Veterans Housing: Affordable Rental Housing This measure establishes a rental housing assistance program and would require the Department of Veterans Affairs to coordinate access to affordable housing with existing state and federal veterans' services and provide detailed information about the assistance in a specified resource publication. **Status: June 18 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.**

4. AB 50 - ASM Kalra: Medi-Cal: Assisted Living Waiver Program This bill requires the Dept. of Health Care Services to submit a request for renewal of the Assisted Living program with specified amendments to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2019. **Status: In committee: Held under submission.**

5. AB 480 - ASM Salas: Mental Health: Older Adults. This bill would establish within the State Department of Health Care Services an Older Adult Mental Health Services Administrator to oversee mental health services for older adults. **Status: In committee: Held under submission.**

6. AB 387 (AP-18) - ASM Gabriel: Labeling of Prescription Drugs This measure requires physicians and surgeons to include the purpose the medication is prescribed for on the prescription label, unless the patient requests that this information be omitted. **Status: In committee: Held under submission.**

7. AB 797 (SP-10) - ASM Grayson: Mandated Reporters: Financial Abuse of Elder or Dependent Adults This bill would amend the definition of "Mandated Reporters of Suspected Financial Abuse of an Elder or Dependent Adult" to include the officers and employees of businesses licensed under the Money Transmission Act. **Status: In committee: Held under submission.**

Federal

HR 1788 (SFP 2) Congresswoman Hill To amend title XVIII of Social Security Act to limit the penalty for late enrollment under Part B of Medicare Program to 15 percent and twice the period of no enrollment and exclude periods of COBRA, retiree, and VA coverage from such late enrollment fee. **Status: Assigned to Energy and Commerce Committee and Ways and Means Committee.**

Older Americans Act Reauthorization : On Monday, September 16th, the House Education and Labor Committee released proposed text for its Older Americans Act Reauthorization bill. On Wednesday, September 18th, the Committee adopted a number of amendments to the bill and advanced it to the full House with a recommendation to pass the legislation. The bill authorizes significant funding increases across all OAA programs. This includes an immediate increase of seven percent in the first year and six percent for the four years thereafter, which amounts to a 35 percent increase over the reauthorization period. However, that the authorized funding levels are a suggestion from the Education and Labor Committee and that final funding amounts will be determined by the Appropriations Committees and may vary from the authorization. ♦

2019 ANNUAL SESSION

OCTOBER 31 — NOVEMBER 2

STATE CAPITOL

The Annual Session is conducted each year to develop legislative proposals at both the State and Federal levels. Our legislative priorities for the coming legislative session are identified and submitted to legislators to sponsor and seek their passage and ultimately go to the Governor for signing into law.

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING TIMELINE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

August 6, 2019

The Governor announced the members of the Alzheimer's Prevention and Preparedness Task Force. The Task Force will be chaired by Former First Lady Maria Shriver.

August 15, 2019

California Health & Human Services announced the selection of members of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee. The Stakeholder Advisory Committee will advise the Cabinet Workgroup on Aging in the development of the Master Plan. A list of committee members can be found at: <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-aging/>

August 23, 2019

California Health & Human Services added a feature on their website (<https://www.chhs.ca.gov/home/master-plan-for-aging/>) entitled "Together We EngAGE that encourages Californians to share their ideas and suggestions on how we can collectively build an age-friendly California.

August 26, 2019

Anastasia Dodson joins the California Department of Aging (CDA) as Project Director for the Master Plan for Aging.

September 16, 2019

The Scan Foundation conducted the 2019 Master Plan for Aging Forum. It focused on emerging issues impacting California's older adults and people with disabilities. Participants heard from policy leaders and engaged with consumers, providers, advocates, researchers, and other stakeholders.

September 17, 2019

The first meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee was conducted. **A summary of the meeting can be found at** https://www.chhs.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/MPA-SAC-Meeting-Summary_9-17-2019.pdf . Your attention is also directed to opening remarks by Kim McCoy Wade who articulated four person-centered goals to help shape the framework of the Master Plan for Aging.

September 24, 2019

The Health and Human Services Agency will announce selections to the Research and Long Term Support and Services Subcommittees in October.

October 14, 2019

California Health & Human Services announced the selection of members of the Research Subcommittee.

October 16, 2019

California Health & Human Services announced the selection of members of the Long Term Support Services Subcommittee.

October 24 & 28, 2019

First meeting of the Research Subcommittee is October 24th. The first meeting of the Long Term Services and Supports Subcommittee is October 28th. Their second meeting is November 12th.

November 4, 2019

Second meeting of the Stakeholder Advisory Committee is November 4th.

March 2020

The Long Term Care Subcommittee is to submit a report to the Governor on a number of Long Term Care issues.

November 1, 2020

A Master Plan for Aging will be developed and issued. ♦

MASTER PLAN FOR AGING LEGISLATION TO DATE

The status of several bills introduced in support of the Master Plan For Aging are as follows:

AB 1136 authored by ASM Adrin Nazarian

This bill would establish the California Department of Community Living within the California Health and Human Services Agency **Status: Held under submission**

AB 1137 authored by ASM Adrin Nazarian

Existing law requires the Department on Aging to develop minimum standards for service delivery, including cost containment and fiscal incentives consistent with the delivery of services at the appropriate level. This bill deletes that cost containment and fiscal incentives requirement. **Status: Held under submission**

AB 1287 authored by ASM Adrin Nazarian

This bill would require the California Department of Aging, in partnership with other specified departments and in consultation with stakeholders, to develop a plan and strategy for a phased statewide implementation of the No Wrong Door system. **Status: Approved by the Governor**

AB 1382 authored by ASM Cecilia Aguiar-Curry

This bill would require the state to adopt a Master Plan for Aging, emphasizing workforce priorities. **Status: Vetoed by the Governor**

SB 228 authored by Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson

This bill would require the Governor to appoint a Master Plan Director and establish an Aging Task Force, consisting of 15 members, with the President pro Tempore of the Senate, the Speaker of the Assembly, and Governor each appointing 5 members to the task force. **Status: Approved by the Governor**

SB 611 authored by Senator Anna Caballero

This bill would develop the Housing Older Persons Effectively (HOPE) Task Force, which will report to the Legislature on housing needs and solutions for older persons who wish to age in place, or who have specific housing/community needs related to aging and long-term care. **Status: Vetoed by the Governor. In Senate. Consideration of Governor's veto pending. ♦**

DONATE TO CODE 438

The California Senior Legislature has been working to improve the lives of California's six million seniors since 1981. This nonpartisan organization has sponsored over 200 new laws helping seniors with financial abuse, health care, the Silver Alert program, and more.



Support the California Senior Legislature this tax season. **Donate to Code 438.**

CALIFORNIA STATE VOLUNTARY TAX CONTRIBUTION FORM

Habitat for Humanity Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund.....	437	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	.00
California Senior Citizen Advocacy Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund.....	438	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	.00
Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund.....	439	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	.00
Add code 400 through code 440. This is your total contribution.....	110	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	.00

Donate to Code 438.

Tell your tax preparer to check Code 438 on your state income tax return.

For more information, visit 4CSL.org or call 916-552-8056.



Become a Friend of the CSL

Your FREE membership will keep you apprised of news and updates within this critically important organization. We encourage you to join us in our efforts to reach and collaborate with our growing and increasingly important constituency of Californians.

In return for **free** membership in the *Friends* a member will receive regular monthly issues of the *Friends of the CSL e-newsletter* which will include stories about those making a significant impact in their communities, upcoming events, calls to action, and details on legislation critical to older Californians proposed by both CSL and other aging organizations in the State.

Members will also receive:

- The CSL Advocate Newsletter
- Press Release of Annual Legislative Priorities
- Legislative Committee Reports
- Participation in calls to action
- Invitations to advocacy events at the Capitol, such as Senior Rally Day
- Information on donating to the Tax Check Off using Code 438 as well making direct donations to the CSL.

Finally, membership in Friends would give members an opportunity to:

- Provide input on issues affecting seniors in California that need to be addressed through legislation or the Governor's annual budget;
- Promote legislative proposals drafted by CSL;
- Promote its accomplishments and serve as a resource on senior issues; and
- Interact with other citizens groups, organizations and agencies.

The newsletter will also be used to communicate information on the 2020 Tax Check Off Program to raise awareness of the CSL and its participation on the Tax Check Off.

To enroll, potential members are directed to Get Involved on the navigation bar of 4CSL.org. They are then asked to click on Friends of CSL and provide their email address, city and first and last name.

Please let us know what issues you consider important to older Californians and their families. And please help support the mission critical work of the CSL by becoming a Friend of the CSL.