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CONTACT: [Kelley Rooney](mailto:Kelley.Rooney@senate.ca.gov), (916) 767-7002

## **Senator Steven Choi Introduces SB 971 to Expand Older Adult Education Through Local Health Departments**

Sacramento, CA — Senator Steven Choi, Ph.D. (R–Irvine) today introduced Senate Bill 971, authorizing counties to offer voluntary older adult education and technology training through local public health departments, in partnership with community organizations and local school districts. The bill is sponsored by the California Senior Legislature.

The legislation establishes a statutory framework allowing counties to deliver education and prevention programs for Californians aged 60 and over, including digital literacy, health care navigation, fraud prevention, fall prevention, nutrition, emergency preparedness, and social connection. Programs would include information about communal meals and could be implemented using existing local public health infrastructure, without creating a state mandate or new bureaucracy.

**“Older adult education is vital to scam prevention, and ensuring seniors live long, healthy, and connected lives,”** said Senator Choi. **“By helping seniors stay connected, informed, and healthy, we can support independence while reducing avoidable health and social costs.”**

Under SB 971, local health departments may serve as the lead entity for these programs and collaborate with libraries, senior centers, school districts, faith-based institutions, and community organizations.

**“This proposal recognizes that today’s seniors need practical education to navigate health care, technology, and daily life,”** said California Senior Legislature Senior Senator, Steve Lipson. **“Partnering with local public health departments allows communities to meet these needs efficiently and with dignity.”**

The bill will be heard in policy committee in the coming months.

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