

Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging
3725 WESTWIND BOULEVARD, SUITE 101, SANTA ROSA, CA 95403
(707) 565-5950 FAX (707) 565-5957

**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday October 14, 2015 - 10:00 a.m.
3725 Westwind Blvd, Suite 101, Santa Rosa - Topaz Room

Attendees: Jen Arent (Episcopal Seniors), Colleen Campbell, Crista Chelemedos (Senior Advocacy Services), Stephen Gale (Congressman Mike Thompson), Roseanne Ibarra (Representative Jared Huffman), Sumedha Mona Khana, M.D., Bob Picker, Logan Pitts (Assembly Member Bill Dodd), Jim Redding, Ruth Robeson, Chris Rogers (Senator Mike McGuire), Rabon Saip, Don Streeper

Staff: Rhiannon Coxon, Tracy Repp, Susan Sudduth

Absent: Bonnie Lasky, Joy Lovinger

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions (Campbell): The meeting was opened with a welcome to all and introductions were made.
2. Approval of Minutes from September 9, 2015 (Campbell): Picker/Khanna MSC to accept minutes.
3. Chair Report (Campbell):
 - The Sonoma County AAA Advisory Council has launched its quarterly newsletter. October 21 is the deadline for the Dec /Jan /Feb issue. Contact Coleen Campbell for inclusion.
4. Discuss Goals for the Committee
 - Topics of Interest: List was distributed to the committee members to sign up for a topic. Members will track/research their chosen topics, and each month one member will report out.
5. Legislation Updates
 - Rogers reported that the Governor signed the marijuana bill which applies only to medical marijuana.
6. North Coast Counties Marijuana Policy Statement
 - The statement supports local control of regulations, revenue, taxation and environmental protection pertaining to the recreational use of marijuana. The policy statement was approved by the Board of Supervisors in May 2015. Discussed advocating at the state level for taxation to be dedicated to senior services. Redding will contact Julie Conger, Commission on Aging, to discuss our interest in the legislation. Coxon will contact the California Department of Aging for statewide policy and advocacy.
7. Legislative Field Representative Updates (Legislative Aides)
 - Individual legislation and initiatives:
 - Legislative Info: www.leginfo.ca.gov; <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>; <http://www.loc.gov/crsinfo/about/> or www.aroundthecapital.com
 - Ibarra reported on Representative Huffman's support of legislation relating to the Older Americans Act, the Social Security Fairness Act., the Social Security 2100 Act, Medicare, and HOPE for the Alzheimer's Act of 2015.
 - Gale reported that Congressman Thompson hopes for future action regarding bills modifying Medicare.
 - Rogers reported that Senator McGuire was a co-sponsor of the End of Life Options Act that was approved by the Governor in special session. Transportation and social services will be priorities

for next year. Proposals for future legislation should be submitted now to Senator McGuire's office.

- Pitts added that Assembly Member Dodd also supported the End of Life Options Act. Dodd had ten bills signed by the governor including provision for a universal assessment pool for medical services and provision for low income assistance for water costs. Dodd is also soliciting legislative proposals at this time.
- Chelemados discussed working on restructuring of the Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax to increase the share of funds available for the Ombudsman Programs.
- Campbell reported on AB643 Silver Alert which permits an Amber Alert for missing seniors. California Senior Legislature (CSL) supports the designation of June as Adult Abuse Awareness Month. Senate bill 675 addresses patient discharge notification and transitional support requirements for hospitals.
- Rabon will research legislation pertaining to the "Hidden Epidemic" of prescription and alcohol misuse and treatment for older adults.

8. Adjourn at 11:15am.

9. Next Meeting: November 10, 2015 – 10:00 a.m.