

**Sonoma County Area Agency on Aging**  
3725 WESTWIND BOULEVARD, SUITE 101, SANTA ROSA, CA 95403  
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**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday January 13, 2016 - 10:00 a.m.  
3725 Westwind Blvd, Suite 101, Santa Rosa - Topaz Room

**Attendees:** Colleen Campbell, Crista Chelemados from Senior Advocacy Services, Sumedha Mona Khanna, M.D., Bob Picker, Jen Arent, Joy Lovinger, Rabon Saip, Roseanne Ibarra (for Congressman Jared Huffman), Ruth Robeson, Stephen Gale (for Congressman Mike Thompson)

**Absent:** Bonnie Lasky, Don Streeper, Jim Redding

**Staff:** Rhiannon Coxon, Selena La Rue

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 October 14, 2015 (Campbell): Khanna/Lovinger MSC to accept minutes.
3. Chair Report (Campbell): Reviewed highlights from "Fact Sheet: The White House Conference on Aging".
4. Topic Report:
  - Campbell provided instructions to committee members to use Topic Report Outline for featured topic presentation given by one committee member each month.
  - Discussed where members can locate relevant information when preparing for a presentation.
    - Leg. Info: (State Government Website) [www.leginfo.ca.gov](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov) or [www.leginfo.legislature.gov](http://www.leginfo.legislature.gov) or [www.loc.gov/crsinfo](http://www.loc.gov/crsinfo)
    - Gale will send additional information to council members.
    - Ibarra suggested information may also be found at Library of Congress website as well as the law library that has access to LexisNexis which provides research-based articles.
  - Khanna would like a model presentation so that there would be some sort of example/guidelines for other presenters.
    - Campbell will present on the California Senior Legislator next month.
5. Topic Updates:
  - Saip provided update on his topic the Hidden Epidemic: Senior Abuse of Alcohol and Prescription Drugs. Relevant bills:
    - State Assembly Bill 463: Pharmaceutical Cost Transparency Bill 2015/2016.
    - HR3513 & SB 2023 Prescription Drug Affordability Act 2015/2016.
  - Discussed the need to have legislation requiring companies to follow-up with released medications to the public to see if additional side effects occur once medication is released to the general public. (Campbell volunteered to research this.)
6. Legislation Updates
  - Coxon presented legislation involving AAAs
    - SB 547: Creates a single agency to oversee the state's Long Term Care (LTC) services to increase efficiency and transparency. The Executive Director of c4a supports this proposed bill.
    - n4a Legislative Update from December discussed the FY 2016 Federal Spending Bill

- Although not everything that was proposed for the Older American's Act was accepted many programs saw increased funding, except HICAP which received a 5% decrease.
- Chelemedos provided legislative updates relating to Ombudsman:
  - AB 1467 (Bloom) to reduce the fine in a Residential Care Facility (RFC) if someone were to die under their care due to negligence to from \$15,000 to \$5000 failed.
  - AB 927: bill allowing a SNF to be relicensed after original license is revoked also failed.
  - Seeking interest from the committee in creating a local ordinance that would require assisted living facilities to provide a minimum number of low-income beds.
    - Campbell requested Chelemedos to provide more information for the committee to discuss their potential involvement.
- Picker discussed impact of Home Care Services Protections Services Act Passed
  - Requires certification and requires agencies to pay overtime.
  - Increased the cost of home care where it will be a significant problem for those who receive it. Previously, average shift was 12 hours and no overtime pay.

7. Legislative Field Representative Updates (Legislative Aides):

- Gale's Update from Congressman Thompson
  - Passage of FY 2016 Federal Spending Bill came out of better than expected.
  - HR3513 Prescription Drug Affordability bill has been referred to three different committees.
  - Constituents who are interested in reporting side effects call MedWatch, an FDA consumer report service. He will provide website and telephone number.
- Ibarra's Update from Congressman Huffman:
  - Highlights from the 2016 Federal Spending Bill include:
    - 20 million dollars to senior nutrition programs
    - Increase to community service programs
    - 2 billion more for National Institute of Health
    - 160 million more for substance abuse and mental health services.
  - Congressman Huffman decided to co-sponsor HR3513

7. Adjourn at 11:30 a.m.

*Next Meeting: February 10, 2016 at 10:00 a.m.*