

MARIN COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
Legislative Task Force Meeting
Friday, September 2, 2016

MEETING SUMMARY

Present: Ellie Bloch, Sybil Boutilier, Teri Dowling, Judi Kirshbaum, Judy Dick, Carole Mills, Joan Lubamersky, and staff Michele McCabe

Joan Lubamersky distributed a summary of the California State Budget 2016-17 and a legislative status report.

The task force reviewed the 2016 Marin County Legislative Plan and made suggestions for 2017. Staff will draft this document and ask for comment before it goes to management for review. A copy of the suggestions are attached to these notes.

Staff included a bill status report which is also included.

The proposed meeting schedule for fiscal year 2016-17 was distributed. Members are asked to review their calendars and get back to staff with any schedule issues. This will be discussed at the next meeting.

There was discussion around the October meeting and consensus that the Task Force could have their next meeting on October 21, 2016 at 9:30 am.

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**Suggested Changes to be by the Legislative Task force of the
Marin Commission on Aging**

**COUNTY OF MARIN
2017 FEDERAL & STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAMS
AND LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES**

2016 FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

A. POLICY

Please add # 5 and #6 to page 1.

5. **ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center).** Support efforts to provide funding for an ADRC Aging & Disability Resource Center.
6. **Elder Justice Act.** Support efforts to fund the Elder Justice Act.

2016 STATE LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

The Legislative Task Force strongly supports keep Affordable Housing Presentation as the number 1. Priority Issue in 2017. The following changes are also suggested:

A. Priority Issues (page 4)

1. Affordable Housing Preservation/Rehabilitation/Development. Support efforts to permit counties to collaborate with their cities to create more affordable housing opportunities, including a broader range of options that would be eligible to receive state housing element credits, such as senior housing, assisted living units, housing cooperatives and second units/junior second units. Support state funding for the conversion of existing commercial and housing stock - and increasing funds, providing additional tax incentives, and exploring other mechanisms for affordable housing preservation, rehabilitation, development and/or conversion, including costs associated with ADA compliance and costs due to other accessibility issues. Explore efforts to establish a greater voice for local governments with respect to the

share of regional housing needs allocated to them by the state. Support efforts to re-establish affordable housing as a priority within the Coastal Zone. **Support efforts to expand the property tax postponement program to include additional housing options such as floating and mobile homes.**

3. **Homelessness.** Work with regional stakeholders to develop regional solutions to homelessness across the age spectrum in the Bay Area. Advocate for a more fair allocation of federal 'bonus' funding that does not disadvantage suburban or rural communities. Explore efforts to allocate mental health services funds towards new housing opportunities. Advocate for McKinney-Vento/HEARTH distribution formulas, which are more equitable to affluent suburban areas with increasing homeless rates.

8. **Internet Broadband Infrastructure.** Support efforts to provide high-speed internet to seniors, rural communities, the San Rafael Canal areas and other underserved communities of Marin, including broadband infrastructure development for underserved areas, **training for adaption**, and for competition and redundancy, as well as for local franchise authority and public right-of-way management.

2016 LEGISLATIVE POLICY GUIDELINES

C. TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC WORKS (Page 8 of 17)

3. **Public Transit Services.** Support development of a robust public transit system that provides access to recreation areas and within local communities throughout the County. Explore efforts to identify ongoing state and/or federal operating and capital funding for public transit services to National and California State Parks, as well as rural transit services in West Marin. Support funding for programs that support and expand **fixed route bus services and alternatives** to students and seniors throughout the County.

D. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (Page 9 of 17)

1. **Health Care Reform.** Support revisions to the Affordable Care Act only as may be necessary to preserve the Act. Where feasible, support increased inclusion and maintenance of prevention, early intervention, treatment, and recovery support services in health care legislation including evidence-based prevention strategies such as those outlined in the National Prevention Strategy. Support efforts to increase the number of licensed health care providers and their scope of practice to ensure effective implementation of the Act in California, and support efforts to provide meaningful addiction and mental health benefits in the full continuum of health care services, improving coordination and integration of available mental health, **cognitive impairment** and addiction services, as well as interventions with demonstrated effectiveness that take a community health approach to prevention and wellness. Support efforts to maintain and enhance funding for additional psychiatric emergency beds within the region.

10. **Social Services Funding.** Work to protect funding and to simplify eligibility and enrollment processes for social services programs including, but not limited to, Child Support, Child Welfare, Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF), Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Cal Fresh programs. Oppose cuts to Social Security, including chaining the Consumer Price Index (CPI), and support the **continued** restoration of a COLA

to the SSI program. Support efforts to provide jobs training and other forms of workforce investment in order to develop economic opportunities for the unemployed and underemployed. Support programs that increase the availability of qualified caregiver workforce. Support the Senior Community Service Employment Program and other programs for older worker.

13. ***Strengthen and Continued Support and Adequate Funding of the Federal Older Americans Act (OAA) and Older Californian's Act (OCA).*** Support efforts to strengthen the federal OAA and OCA by advocating for increased federal and state funding; by assuring that future funding is tied to growth of the population of older adults; by restoring funding for OCA community based services programs (Linkages, Alzheimer's Day Care Resource Center, Brown Bag and Senior Companion); and by allowing flexibility and capability for local autonomy in providing services. Support vulnerable elder and dependent adults in order to keep them safely in their own homes. Support efforts that modify funding mechanisms so that any restored funds are managed by local Area Agencies on Aging for local priorities. Continue to restore funding to the California Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program, which provides advocacy services to protect the health, safety, welfare and rights of residents in skilled nursing facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly. Support the California Elder Economic Security Initiative (Cal-EESI) including the **increased** use of the Elder Economic Index.
14. ***Elder Justice.*** Support efforts to better prevent elder and dependent adult abuse for people living in the community and in facilities and work to protect funding for the Adult Protective Services program, to fund the federal Elder Justice Act, and **support efforts toward a quicker resolution for victims of elder abuse like the Elder Court system.**
17. ***Reinstatement of Benefits to Jail Inmates.*** Support efforts to amend federal regulations to require the federal government to reinstate benefits for jail inmates **across the age spectrum.** Inmates charged with a crime and incarcerated while awaiting trial currently lose eligibility for Medicare and Medicaid benefits, Social Security and other federal benefits, often leaving counties to bear the full cost of providing medical services to these inmates. Support legislation that would allow local jails to bill third-party insurers for healthcare costs of insured inmates during periods of adjudication.
21. ***Preventive Healthcare.*** Support efforts to maintain prevention as a part of the continuum of services across all County programs and services **across the age spectrum.** Support the implementation of evidence-based strategies in all County prevention services contracts. Support the integration of prevention across all of the priorities of the National Prevention Strategy, including:
 - h. ***Mental Health and Emotional Well-being.*** Support efforts addressing the care needed to support the mental health, **cognitive functioning** and emotional well-being of individuals as they age.
27. ***Nutrition Programs.*** Support efforts to protect and strengthen the SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) education program and WIC (Women Infants and Children supplemental nutrition assistance program), particularly efforts to increase Title V funding for health care services to women and children. Oppose any proposals to cap or reduce funding,

restrict eligibility, reduce benefits, or make harmful structural changes. **Support efforts to protect and strengthen Older American's Act Nutrition Programs including congregate meals and home-delivered meals.**

F. LAW ENFORCEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY (Page 14 of 17)

2. ***Disaster Prevention and Recovery.*** Seek additional funding, and expand the definition of programs eligible for grant funding, for disaster recovery/prevention – including efforts to better prevent and respond to oil spills on and around Marin's coastline, bay front and waterways, as well as ensuring the needs of the elderly and disabled are included in disaster prevention, **response** and recovery planning. Support reform of California's public health and safety net system to allow state and local governments to better plan and prepare for potential public health disasters; and to facilitate their availability to County and community-based organizations.

STILL ACTIVE BILLS

15-16 Bills -2nd year

<http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/>

8/31/2016

Bill #	Author	Subject	Status	Position	Rank	Final	Follow
AB 72							
AB 488	Gonzalez	Medi-Cal Community Living	To Governor	Watch			MK
AB 1584	Brown	SSI/SSP	8/30 to Governor	Support			SB
AB1655	Lackey	IHSS	To Governor	Watch			MK
AB1899	Calderon	Long Term Care Insurance	8/30 to Governor	Watch			TD
AB1930	Lackey	Family Caregivers	8/30 to Governor	Watch			SB
AB 2207	Wood	Denti-Cal	8/15 to Governor	Watch			
AB 2231	Calderon	Care Facilities	8/29 to Governor	Watch +			TD
AB 2366	Dababneh	Long Term Care Insurance	8/30 to Governor	Watch +			TD
AB2721	Rodriguez	Elder Abuse	New Law Chaptered	Watch			EB
AB2747	Hadley	RCFE's	To Governor	Watch			
AB2810	Eggman	Aid in Dying Drugs	New Law Chaptered 8/29	Watch			JD
SB 547	Liu	State Dept of Community Lv	8/30 to Governor	Watch			SB
SB815	Hernandez	MediCal Demo	Chaptered New Law	Watch			SB
SB924	Roth	Annuity Transactions	Chaptered New Law	Support +			AB
SB939	Monning	Continuing Care Community	Chaptered New Law	Support			JK
SB1091	Liu	Long Term Care Insurance	8/26 to Governor	Watch			
SB1408	Allen	Alzheimer Guidelines	Chaptered New Law	Support +			AB
BILLS THAT ARE DEAD							
Bill #	Author	Subject	Status	Position	Rank	Final	Follow
AB 927	McCarthy	Nursing Homes	2/2 Filed Rule 56				TD
AB 1102	Santiago	Spot Bill	3/30 Senate Inactive File	Watch			
AB1655	Dodd	MediCal Personal Needs	3/16 Passed Health to App				SB
AB 1667	Dodd	Homecare Services	3/29 Human Services	Watch			MK
AB 1718	Kim	Elder Abuse	3/15 Failed up for Recon				EB
AB1754	Waldron	Elder Abuse	4/5 Set for Hrg A<C				EB
AB1805	Melendez	Elder Abuse	Not assigned to Committee				EB

BILLS THAT ARE DEAD

Bill #	Author	Subject	Status	Position	Rank	Final	Follow
AB2134	Waldron	IHSS	4/5 Aging & LTC	Watch			TK
AB2158	Wagner	IHSS	Human Serv. No hrg set	Oppose			TK
AB2301	Chu	RCFE's	4/12 Aging and LTC				
AB 2497	Wagner	CSL	Submission	Support			
AB2606	Grove	Elder Abuse	3/10 referred to Pub. Saf				EB
SB 33	Hernandez	Medi-Cal Estate Requirement	Inactive File	Watch			JD
SB 199	Hall	IHSS Reading Services Blin	In Senate for Reconsideration	Level 3	6	Veto'd	TK
SB 492	Liu	Coordinated Care Initiative	3/30 Held	Watch			TK
SB938	Jackson	Conservatorship Placement	3/29 Senate Judic	Support +			JK
SB1002	Monning	End of Life Option Act	Hrg. 3/30 in Health	Support			JD
SB1104	Stone	Senior Property Tax	2/25 to Gov & Fin.				AB
SB1126	Stone	Property Tax - Seniors	2/25 to Gov & Fin.				AB
SB1310	Leno	Elderly Parole Program	4/19 Public Safety				
SB1452	Wickowski	Conservators	4/16 Senate Judiciary	Support +			JK