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The Silver Haired Legislature is supported in part by the Area Agencies on Aging

2011 MISSOURI SILVER HAIRLED LEGISLATURE

PRIORITIES, ISSUES, AND OFFICERS
THE MISSOURI SILVER HAIED LEGISLATURE HISTORY/FACTS

The Missouri Silver Haired Legislature was the FIRST to be organized in the United States after Congress amended the Older Americans Act to include advocacy groups.

- The Silver Haired Legislature (SHL) is composed of citizens, age 60 or older, who volunteer their time to advocate on behalf of Missouri’s older adults.
- The delegates are elected from each of Missouri’s 10 Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs). Each delegation consists of three senators and 12 representatives, for a statewide total of 150 legislators.
- All legislators meet annually for a two-day model legislative session at the state capitol. They debate and vote upon their top five priority proposals.
- Once the five priorities are chosen, the legislators return to their districts to encourage support of those issues. They testify before the Missouri Senate and House and speak with senior groups regarding those issues.

SHL WILL ALSO SUPPORT LEGISLATIVE ACTION FOR THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

- Restore Transportation Funding for Seniors
- Senior Dental Health
- Establish a Single Point of Entry for MO Long-Term Care Services
- Prohibit Sexual Predators in Long-Term Care Facilities
- Contributions to Silver Haired Legislature through Tax Deduction

2011 MISSOURI SILVER HAIED LEGISLATURE PRIORITIES

- REINSTATE CORE FUNDING FOR THE MEALS PROGRAM
- STRONGER REGULATIONS ON PAY-DAY LOAN COMPANIES
- ESTABLISHMENT OF A SILVER ALERT PROGRAM IN MISSOURI
- PROPERTY TAX RELIEF FOR SENIORS
- RAISE ASSET LEVEL FOR PERSONS ON MO HEALTHNET - $2,000 FOR A SINGLE PERSON; $3,000 FOR A MARRIED COUPLE

PROPOSALS PASSED INTO LAW

Over the years, SHL has grown in visibility and esteem. It has advocated for many proposals that are now state law, such as:

- Durable Power of Attorney
- Financial Exploitation of the Elderly
- Deletion of Sales Tax on Pharmaceuticals
- Elder Abuse Laws
- Reduced Sales Tax on Groceries
- CLAIM Funding
- Circuit Breaker Law
- Creation of the Homestead Preservation Act
- Pharmaceutical Tax Credits
- Creation of the Missouri Senior Rx Program
- Strengthening Pre-need Funeral Regulations
- Increasing Personal Needs Allowance for Medicaid Residents in Long-Term Care Facilities