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**March/April, 2012**

**Senior Day at the Capitol 2012**  
Bob Epstein

The 2012 Senior Day at the Capitol held March 14, was a very successful event. Over three hundred individuals were in attendance to include many first timers. The majority attending were senior citizens, however, individuals interested in senior issues or volunteering for the event although haven't attained senior status were also in attendance.

A continental breakfast was served prior to the event. At 9:00 AM, Mike Drake, The Senior Day Chair, officially opened the event and introduced President Bob Epstein, Colorado Senior Lobby for introductions and opening remarks. Bob introduced the Senior Lobby Board Members, gave a briefing of the program, read the Governor's Proclamation declaring March 14, 2012, Senior Day at the Capitol and awarded a Letter of Appreciation to Ann & Mike Drake for their years of service to the Senior Lobby.

Bob then introduced Board Member, Mary Catherine Rabbitt, The Legal Center. She announced a special membership program for the day. Many new membership applications have been received in response.

Elizabeth Garner, Colorado State Demographer, was the major program presenter. The analysis she produced projecting the increase in Colorado's senior population for the next 10-20 years were astounding. The increases equate to services and funding requirements. The information was very informative and a good discussion period followed.

Throughout the event thirteen legislators addressed the attendees, some mentioning bills presenting their interest in senior issues. Senator Hudak spoke about SB 12-078 and her hopes to have Mandatory Reporting for abuse to at risk adults, if not this legislative session, then 2013. Representatives Kafalas and Acree spoke to bills offering assistance to low income and elderly adults.

Speaker McNulty was not able to attend, however, President of the Senate Shaffer did. The morning event culminated with the arrival and a presentation by Governor Hickenlooper, which was well received with proper recognition.

A luncheon and afternoon program followed the Capitol event. The Central Presbyterian Church, 1660 Sherman Street was the location. A record number of participants, close to 200, attended. The program included:

1. Presentation by Mark Smiley, Senior Resource Center . %One Away+
2. Presentation by Marguerite Salazar, DHHS . Federal Programs for Seniors
3. Presentation by Dan Daly, Dir. CO State Office on Aging . CO Programs for Seniors
4. Presentation by Guy Dutra-Silveira, Dir. Pikes Peak AAA . Local Programs for Seniors
5. Presentations by Senator Rollie Heath & Representative Jonathan Singer

The afternoon luncheon culminated a day of providing seniors information of state government procedures, knowledge of their respective legislators, issues seniors should be concerned with and resources available for assistance.

Credit must be given to Mike Drake and members of the Senior Day Planning Committee and the facilitators for both the morning and luncheon events, Rich Mauro and Jayla Sanchez-Warren, both employed at DRCOG.

**HB 12-1326**  
**Betty Proctor**

I have attended %Senior Day at the Capitol+for several years, but this is the first year that I was able to work on the planning of the day.

It was wonderful to see over 400 seniors show up to make their voice heard. It was also good to have the Governor and other legislators attend to say %Hello+and answer questions.

This year approximately 200 people attended the luncheon following the event at the Capitol. An important bill affecting services for seniors was to be heard in committee that very afternoon. The Bill, HB 12-1326 is very important for seniors\$ age 60 to 65 years of age that have no resources. It concerns the OAP-B (Old Age Pension Part B). To qualify a person, %mostly women,+must not own a home, have a car and canq even have an insurance policy.

Those on OAP-B have not received a cost of living increase in 4 years. HB 12-1326 would provide an increase of \$25 in benefits and assist with dental expenses.

It was learned the HB 12-1326 passed in the House Finance Committee that afternoon 11-1 with the majority of both parties voting yes. The State Board of Human Services, The Joint Budget Committee and the Governor need to approve this expenditure for seniors most in need.

Please speak to your legislatures about the needs of these seniors. If additional information is desired, please contact any of the Colorado Senior Lobby Board Members.

Thanks to all for attending Senior Day at the Capitol 2012, you do make a difference.

**Salute to Seniors**  
**Eileen Doherty, MS**  
**Executive Director**  
**Colorado Gerontological Society**

Salute to Seniors 2012 celebrates the Maiden Voyage of the Titanic with Molly Brown's Great Granddaughter. The First Class passenger with ticket number 17613 belonged to Margaret Molly Brown, age 44 when she boarded the maiden voyage of the RMS Titanic as it sailed from Cherbourg, France on April 10, 1912 on its way to New York. With more than 2200 people on board . 1,316 passengers and about 900 crew members, the RMS Titanic collided with an iceberg during her maiden voyage on April 15 just three hours after striking an iceberg at 11:40 pm.

Molly Brown's great granddaughter, Helen Benziger McKinney will appear in person to share first hand impressions and stories with Tea and Memories of the Titanic at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Salute to Seniors on May 11, 2012 at the Colorado Convention Center in Denver, sponsored by the Colorado Gerontological Society. She will also do a meet and greet in the café Parisian later in the day.

The Titanic was the largest ship afloat with some of the most luxurious amenities such as an on-board gymnasium, swimming pool, libraries, high-class restaurants and opulent cabins. The ship featured a powerful wireless telegraph for use by the passengers. Another feature was the watertight compartments and remotely activated doors, but the ship only carried enough lifeboats for 1,178 people.

Margaret Molly Brown, Colorado's own American socialite, philanthropist, and activist became famous as she helped others board the lifeboats, but was finally convinced to leave the ship in lifeboat No. 6. She became a heroine for efforts to take an oar herself and trying to go back to search for more survivors, which earned her the title The Unsinkable Molly Brown.

The Titanic Day will feature the theatre group, Laughter as Wellness, sponsored by Kaiser Permanente, free food samples by Albertsons, scores of theme music, swing dancing and Ballroom Dancing with the Stars in the Upper Deck Dining Room.

A museum exhibition of artifacts from Molly Brown House Museum will be featured in the State Room. Small memoirs from the gift store will be on sale.

Living history performers from the Molly Brown Summer House invite you to hear more about the historic second home of Molly Brown, the Avoca Lodge enjoyed by Molly Brown and her husband JJ. The story is preserved by five generations of the Robert Fehlmann family who have labored to preserve this historic home in Lakewood, Colorado.

Despite all the class and luxury of the Titanic, those of Irish and Italian decent did not enjoy the same luxuries. The Lower Deck Dining Room will feature music of the own . Irish singers, rebel songs, bagpipers and dances.

Enjoy Colorado's largest senior resource fair and experience the feeling of the Titanic as you enter the Upper Deck. Dress in Edwardian attire and win prizes, join the fun and gaze at the grand staircase in the lobby. Before you leave, check the passenger lists to see if you are a survivor at the CGS Booth. Call 303-333-3482 for ticket, parking and hours of attendance.

| POSITION & WHO RESPONSIBLE | BILL NO.<br>*=Amend | SPONSORS | TITLE/SUMMARY | COMM. | DATE | ACTION |
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------|-------|------|--------|
|----------------------------|---------------------|----------|---------------|-------|------|--------|

**HOUSE BILLS**

|                             |         |                     |   |  |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---------|---------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Betty       | HB 1075 | Beezley/<br>Brophy  | Establishing a 6% General Fund limit                                    | H. Fin<br>H. App   | 2/15                                      | Referred   |
| Oppose<br>John              | HB 1111 | Szabo               | Voter ID  | H. SA<br>H. App<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. SVMA           | 2/22<br>3/8<br>3/9<br>3/20<br>4/4<br>1:30 | Referred<br>Referred<br>Pass amend<br>Pass amend                     |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen      | HB 1150 | Priola/<br>Lambert  | Calculation of PERA highest average Salary                              | H. Fin<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. Fin                     | 2/23<br>3/9<br>3/15<br>4/10<br>2:00       | Refer amend<br>Passed amend<br>Passed                                |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen      | HB 1179 | J. Kerr             | Modification of composition of the PERA board                           | H. Fin   | 2/23                                      | Discussion   |
| Support<br>Charles/Jeanette | HB1226  | Barker/<br>Aguilar  | Surcharge on crimes against persons convicted of crimes against at risk | H. Jud<br>H. App<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. Jud<br>S. Fin | 2/16<br>3/2<br>3/9<br>3/12<br>3/26        | Refer amend<br>Refer amend<br>Passed amend<br>Passed<br>Referred     |
| Oppose<br>John              | HB 1267 | Coram/<br>Grantham  | Simplifying pre-election procedures                                     | H. SVMA<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. SVMA                   | 3/7<br>3/21<br>3/22                       | Refer amend<br>Pass amend<br>Passed                                  |
| Support<br>Jessie           | HB 1281 | Young               | Pilot program establishing new payment methodologies in Medicaid        | H. H&E<br>H. App<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 2/21<br>3/27<br>4/4                       | Referred<br>Refer amend<br>L.O. daily                                |
| Oppose<br>Rich/Jessie       | HB 1294 | Liston/<br>Tochtrop | Modification to regulation of health care facilities                    | H. EBD<br>H. H&E<br>H. H&E<br>H. H&E<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>                    | 3/1<br>3/13<br>3/20<br>3/22<br>4/4        | Refer amend<br>Discussion<br>Discussion<br>Refer amend<br>L.O. daily |
| Oppose<br>Ed/Wayne          | HB 1320 | Acree               | Energy-related Assistance Low-income Households                         | H. Agr   |   |  |
| Support<br>Betty/Rich       | HB 1326 | Acree, Kefalas      | Concerning Assistance to the Elderly                                    | H. Fin<br>H. App   | 3/14                                      | Referred   |

**SENATE BILLS**

|                         |       |         |   |  |                             |  |
|-------------------------|-------|---------|---|--|-----------------------------|--|
| Support<br>Bob          | SB 60 | Roberts | Improve Medicaid fraud prosecution              | S. HHS<br>S. App<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. H&E | 2/6<br>2/24<br>2/28<br>2/29 | Referred<br>Referred<br>Passed amend<br>Passed |
| Watch<br>George/Georgia | SB 65 | Morse   | Prior authorization form for prescription drugs | S. HHS   |                             |  |

|  |           |                          |  |   |  |   |
|--|-----------|--------------------------|--|---|--|---|
| Support Ed                                 | SB 70     | Aguilar/<br>Wilson       | Enacting the "Uniform Residential Landlord Tenant Act"   | S. Jud<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>   | 3/7<br>4/4   | Refer amend<br>L.O. daily   |
| Watch Ed/John                              | SB 71     | Giron/<br>Duran          | Loan modification remedies prior to foreclosure  | S. Jud  |  |   |
| Support w/Amend Charles/Betty/<br>Rich/Pat | SB 78     | Hudak/<br>Schafer, S     | Protection of at-risk adults   | S. HHS<br>S. HHS<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. H&E                       | 2/2<br>3/15<br>3/23<br>3/26<br>3/27                  | Discussion-LO<br>Refer amend<br>Amend L.O.<br>Passed amend<br>Passed                    |
| Support Jesse                              | SB127     | Newell/<br>Summers       | Participation of long-term care providers in Medicaid care coordination programs                             | S. HHS<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. H&E<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. Concur | 2/29<br>3/15<br>3/16<br>3/22<br>3/27<br>3/28<br>3/30 | Refer amend<br>Passed amend<br>Passed<br>Refer amend<br>Pass amend<br>Passed<br>Readopt |
| Support Charles/Rich                       | SB128     | Robert/<br>Summers       | Achieving efficiencies in Medicaid long-term care program through greater use of alternative care facilities | S. HHS<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. H&E<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>                                 | 3/1<br>3/9<br>3/12<br>3/22<br>4/4                    | Refer amend<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Refer amend<br>L.O. daily                            |
| Support Jesse/GwynEllen                    | SB134     | Aguilar                  | Financial assistance in Colorado Hospitals   | S. HHS<br><br>S. App<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. H&E<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>                   | 2-16<br>2-23<br>3/2<br>3/19<br>3/20<br>3/29<br>4/4   | Discussed L.O.<br>Refer amend<br>Refer<br>Pass amend<br>Passed<br>Referred              |
| Watch Charles/Bob                          | SB149     | Steadman/ Priola         | Allow Local Government Retirement Plan Modifications   | S. Fin<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. Fin  | 3-13<br>3/20<br>3/29                                 | Referred<br>L.O. daily<br>Passed  |
| Watch                                      | SB 157    | Scheffel/ A.<br>Williams | Telecommunications Modernization Act of 2012   | S. BLT<br>S. App  | 3/20   | Refer amend   |
| Watch Georgia                              | SB 158    | Boyd/ Bradford           | Consolidating two public housing programs in DOLA  | S. LG<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup>   | 3/27<br>3/30<br>4/2                                  | Refer amend<br>Pass amend   |
|  | S. Mem. 3 | Neville, et all          | Memorializing Congress re "Respect for Rights of Consumer Conscience Act of 2011"                            | S. SVMA<br>2 <sup>nd</sup>  | 3/26<br>4/2  | Referred  |

**BILLS POSTPONED INDEFINITELY**

|                      |         |                     |   |                            |                     |                             |
|----------------------|---------|---------------------|---|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Oppose Wayne/ Eileen | HB 1142 | Del Grosso          | PERA defined contribution plan  | H. Fin<br>H. App<br>H. App | 3/1<br>3/16<br>3/23 | Refer amend<br>L.O.<br>PI'd |
| Support Ed/John      | HB 1156 | McCann/<br>Johnston | Improved reliability of foreclosure information                                 | H. Bus                     | 3-13                | PI'd                        |
| Support GwynEllen    | HB 1242 | Massey/Boyd         | Creation of an electronic biometric prescribing system to monitor prescriptions | H. H&E<br>and<br>H. EBD    | 3/15                | PI'd                        |

|                                  |         |                         |   |   |                             |                                      |
|----------------------------------|---------|-------------------------|---|---|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen           | HB1250  | Holbert/<br>Harvey      | Premium subsidy provided by public employers to health benefits programs administered by PERA   | Fin<br>App  | 2/23                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Support<br>Herb/Rich             | HB 1253 | Kefalas/<br>Johnston    | Real property assistance grants for low income seniors and disabled individual, modifying grant amounts and increasing maximum income limits for grant qualification                                  | H. Fin  | 3-14                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Support<br>GwynEllen/Jessie      | HB 1257 | Kefalas/Boyd            | Transparency in the Delivery of health care services  | H. SVMA   | 3/7                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Watch<br>Charles/Bob             | HB 1279 | Lee                     | Public Financing of Legislative Campaigns   | H. SVMA   | 2/29                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Watch<br>Herb/Rich               | HB 1287 | Pabon                   | Amount of actual value of residential real estate that qualifies for Senior property tax exemption to be exempted from property taxation for any property tax year commencing on or after Jan 1, 2012 | H. Fin<br>H. App  | 2/22                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Eileen                 | SB 16   | Lambert/ Del<br>Grosso  | Optional modification of PERA contribution rates  | S. SVMA   | 1-30                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Pat                    | SB 18   | Lundberg                | Development of an alternative medical assistance program for the elderly  | S. HHS  | 2/2                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Georgia                | SB 32   | Brophy                  | Seeking federal authorization to allow greater state flexibility in management of state administered health care assistance programs  | S. HHS  | 2-1                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>GwynEllen              | SB 53   | Neville/ Looper         | Repeal Health Benefit Exchange Act if any part of PPACA is ruled unconstitutional   | S. HHS  | 2/2                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Support<br>Pat/GwynEllen         | SB 54   | Boyd                    | Protection against retaliation for employees of licensed health care facilities who exercise their own judgment   | S. HHS  | 2/16                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen           | SB 82   | Harvey                  | PERA retirement age same as Social Security   | S. Fin  | 2/9                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen           | SB 84   | Lambert/<br>Swalm       | PERA transparency   | S. Fin  | 2/14                        | Pl'd                                 |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Rich             | SB 85   | Mitchell                | Reductions in General Fund expenditures   | S.<br>HHS   | 2/9                         | Pl'd                                 |
| Support<br>Betty/Georgia/ Muriel | SB 93   | Carroll, Boyd/<br>Duran | Requirement that a licensed hospital provide notice to patients of any service not provided by the hospital because of moral convictions or religious beliefs   | S. HHS<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>H. SVMA | 2/16<br>2/24<br>3/1<br>3/21 | Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Pl'd |
| Oppose<br>Wayne/Eileen           | SB119   | Neville/<br>Hobart      | Increase fiscal sustainability PERA   | S. Fin  | 2-9                         | Pl'd                                 |

**BILLS PASSED AND SENT TO GOVERNOR**

|                                       |                             |                    |   |  |   |  |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|---|--|---|--|
| Support<br>Ed/Wayne                   | HB 1028                     | Gerou/<br>Steadman | Continue low-income energy related assistance | H. Fin<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. HHS<br>2 <sup>nd</sup><br>3 <sup>rd</sup> | 1/18<br>1/26<br>1/30<br>3/8<br>3/13<br>3/14 | Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Signed |
|                                       |                             |                    |   |  |   |  |
| <b>POSITION &amp; WHO RESPONSIBLE</b> | <b>BILL NO.<br/>*=Amend</b> | <b>SPONSORS</b>    | <b>TITLE/SUMMARY</b>                          | <b>COMM.</b>   | <b>DATE</b>                                 | <b>ACTION</b>  |

|                         |         |                     |  |   |   |   |
|-------------------------|---------|---------------------|--|---|---|---|
| Oppose<br>Jeanette/Rich | HB 1177 | Gerou/<br>Summers   | Home Care benefits to certain eligible individuals (JBC Bill)                    | H. Fin<br>H. App<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>S. HHS<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>Concur      | 2/2<br>2/6<br>2/8<br>2/9<br>2/23<br>2/28<br>2/29<br>3/9 | Referred<br>Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Refer amend<br>Pass amend<br>Passed<br>Re-adopt<br>Signed |
| Support<br>Bob/Rich     | SB 23   | Boyd                | All-inclusive care for the elderly - PACE  | S. HHS<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>H. H&E<br>2nd<br>3rd                          | 3/1<br>3/5<br>3/6<br>3/15<br>3/20<br>3/21               | Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed  |
| Support<br>Betty/Dwight | SB 55   | White/<br>McCann    | 9Health Fair Tax Checkoff Senate Finance   | S. Fin<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>H. Fin<br>2nd<br>3 <sup>rd</sup><br>S. Concur | 2/6<br>2/10<br>2/13<br>3/15<br>3/20<br>3/21<br>3/27     | Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Refer amend<br>Passed amend<br>Passed<br>Readopt                      |
| Support<br>Ed/Rich      | SB 74   | Aguilar/<br>Gardner | Designation of a provider by person eligible for consumer-directed care services | S. Jud<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>H. Jud<br>2nd<br>3rd<br>S. Concur             | 2/6<br>2/10<br>2/13<br>3/15<br>3/23/<br>3/26<br>3/29    | Referred<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Refer amend<br>Passed<br>Passed<br>Readopt                            |

Colorado Senior Lobby  
655 North Broadway, Suite 580  
Denver, Co 80203

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