

September 26, 2007

Members and friends of the Older Iowans Legislature,

The 2007 Older Iowans Legislature was a success! Thanks to all of the delegates who conscientiously studied, debated and voted on the bills. Thanks to Janet Boley for her faithful work as the Treasurer of OIL and thanks to Eve Casserly for attention to all the details of communication and promotion of OIL.

Special thanks to committee chairs (Maurice Phillips, Nancy Nichols, John Connors, and Bill Hart) and to caucus coordinators (Carl Boley, Anita Terpstra, and Francis Thom). Extra special thanks to Blaine Donaldson for a superb job as Speaker!!

The actions of the 2007 Older Iowans Legislature are summarized below.

Ron Jome
Chair, Older Iowans Legislature

ACTIONS OF THE 2007 OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE **September 24-25, 2007**

SENIOR ISSUES BILLS

Priority #1 with 131 points is **Senior Living Trust Fund** Bill 07-04: An act to restore and maintain the integrity of the Senior Living Trust Fund by ensuring that funding restored to the Fund is used for its original purpose to expand and fund a home and community-based services system in Iowa. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 52-0.

Priority #2 with 104 points is **Elder Abuse Initiative** Bill 07-17: An act relating to the establishment of Iowa's Elder Abuse Initiative Program to serve all Iowans instead of only 19 counties. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 54-0.

Priority #3 with 77 points is **Parity Reimbursement for Home Services** Bill 07-05: An act establishing parity of reimbursement for home and community based services. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 53-1.

Priority #4 with 61 points is **Long Term Care Insurance** Bill 07-02: An act establishing standardized requirements for long term care insurance policies. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 52-1. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 52-1.

Priority #5 with 54 points is **Personal Needs Allowance** Bill 07-16: An act establishing an annual increase for a Title XIX recipient's personal needs allowance equal to the percentage increase of Social Security payments as determined by the Social Security Administration. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 53-0.

Priority #6 with 45 points is **Elderly Waiver Case Management** Bill 07-09: An act to allow providers of the Medicaid Elderly Waiver case management service to be reimbursed for their actual cost of providing the service. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 52-1.

Priority #7 with 36 points is **Consumer Fraud** Bill 07-15: An act creating a private cause of action for certain consumer fraud violations. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 52-2.

Priority #8 with 11 points is **Property Tax Relief** Bill 07-21: An act to provide property tax relief for lower income seniors. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 38-15.

COMMITTEE ACTION CHANGING A BILL TO A RESOLUTION: **Medicare Part D** Bill 07-03: An act establishing standardized requirements for Medicare Part D prescription drug insurance policies. Bill (resolution) was adopted in the House by a vote of 34-17.

THE FOLLOWING SENIOR ISSUES BILLS WERE NOT APPROVED IN COMMITTEE:

- Bill 07-06: An act to provide additional funding for older adult services provided to communities by the Iowa Area Agencies on Aging.
- Bill 07-07: An act to establish property tax relief for older Iowa homeowners.
- Bill 07-08: An act to enhance training, wages and capabilities of caregivers, both in home health care and institutional care.
- Bill 07-08A: An act pertaining to and making appropriations for programs to enhance recruitment, retention, pay, status, and capabilities of professional caregivers in Iowa.
- Bill 07-11: An act to authorize contracts between the State of Iowa and substitute decision makers for Medicaid clients who need assistance in making decisions.
- Bill 07-14: An act permitting the Department of Human Services to designate another entity to establish and facilitate a dependent adult abuse multidisciplinary team.
- Bill 07-18: An act relating to strengthening of the Resident Advocate committees in nursing homes.

INTERGENERATIONAL ISSUES

INTERGENERATIONAL BILL ADOPTED BY THE HOUSE: **Internet Sales Tax** Bill 07-10: An act to provide for Iowa vendors and businesses engaged in sales of products and services on the Internet to collect sales taxes that are appropriate. Bill was adopted in the House by a vote of 41-13.

INTERGENERATIONAL BILL DEFEATED IN THE HOUSE: Bill 07-13: An act relating to the establishment of a Board of Control to govern the operation of the Children's Division of the Department of Human Services. Bill was defeated in the House by a vote of 5-44.

THE FOLLOWING INTERGENERATIONAL ISSUES BILLS WERE NOT APPROVED IN COMMITTEE:

- Bill 07-01: An act prohibiting smoking in a public use building where food is served.
- Bill 07-12: An act for the inclusion of the international handicap symbol on all forms of identification, including driver's licenses issued by the State of Iowa to qualified handicap individuals.
- Bill 07-19: An act relating to the increase of pickup license fees, drivers and chauffeurs license and state gas tax for the purpose of funding the completion of US Highway 20.
- Bill 07-20: An act establishing motor vehicle registration fees for certain motor trucks and farm pickup trucks.