



AARP Washington 9750 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. NE, Suite 450, Seattle, WA 98115

## **AARP Legislative Priorities: 2012 Legislative Session**

The recession driven state budget deficit is a threat to Washingtonians of all ages. Lawmakers must avoid an all cuts budget. More than \$10 billion in cuts over the past three years has already compromised our schools and weakened the safety net. Preserving long term care services must be a top priority. The lives of vulnerable people are at risk. AARP urges lawmakers to come together across partisan lines to identify sufficient revenue to fund critical services for all generations.

### **Preserve Long Term Care Services for Vulnerable Seniors**

- Reject the proposal to reduce eligibility for Medicaid funded home and community based long term care services.
- Preserve Adult Day Health.
- Say no to further reimbursement reductions for home care agencies.
- Protect funding for Meals on Wheels and other services provided by Area Agencies on Aging.
- Maintain current funding levels for the Long Term Care Ombudsman.

### **Protect and Expand Access to Affordable Health Care**

- Save the Basic Health Plan.
- Maintain routine dental services for long term care clients.
- Set stage for implementation of a consumer friendly Health Insurance Exchange.
- Integrate care and improve care coordination, especially for dual eligibles.

### **Reach Consensus on Revenue**

- Explore all options on the table including AARP's proposals to save money within long term care.
- Pursue long term structural reform to stabilize revenue and improve equity and fairness.
- Raise enough revenue in time to prevent unacceptable cuts.

### **Support AARP Endorsed Policy Bills**

- ✓ HB 2246 / SB 5978: curbing Medicaid fraud
- ✓ HB 2319 / SB 6178: establishing the health benefit exchange
- ✓ HB 6048: recycling unused medications
- ✓ HB 2462 / SB: strengthening POLST for end of life decision making
- ✓ HB 2508 / SB 6229: requiring paid sick leave
- ✓ HB 2226/ SB 6126: expanding dental care access
- ✓ HB 2529 / SB- 6088: reforming tax expenditures (not companion bills)
- ✓ SHB 1217: protecting pedestrians with neighborhood safe speeds

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State Legislative District	AARP Members
1	17,853
2	19,339
3	13,279
4	21,402
5	19,607
6	22,587
7	23,375
8	21,277
9	16,472
10	25,867
11	12,937
12	19,694
13	19,321
14	15,956
15	13,741
16	17,416
17	17,545
18	21,719
19	24,268
20	22,431
21	18,647
22	22,529
23	22,032
24	33,744
25	19,686
26	21,180
27	14,574
28	16,526
29	13,008
30	15,265
31	19,322
32	20,034
33	15,889
34	18,930
35	23,883
36	17,467
37	14,275
38	15,054
39	18,481
40	23,029
41	21,304
42	20,300
43	12,698
44	17,547
45	17,646
46	17,984
47	16,716
48	16,336
49	17,411
<b>Total</b>	<b>927,583</b>