

**Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging
Legislative Workgroup Minutes
Tuesday, March 9, 2021**

Call to Order: Shirley Krohn called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Present: Shirley Krohn, Nancy Leasure, Candace Evans, Steve Lipson

Absent: Jagjit Bhambra, Frances Smith, Lorna VanAckeren, Sara Shafiabady

Staff: Anthony Macias

Approval of Today's Agenda: make addition that support letter, SB281, be added agenda; Jim motioned to approve, Steve motioned second, agenda approved by all present.

Approval of February minutes: Nancy motioned to approve, Jim motioned second, agenda approved by all present.

Note: *Members report on research they have done since last months meeting. Discussion on their decisions to "support" "oppose" or "watch"*

Update from last meeting discussions:

- Nancy stated that Health WG is looking at bills that were presented to them by Nancy, (Needs Allowance AB848, SB48, AB 98). WG is reviewing and following these and have not taken a position yet.
- AB383 letter of support approved by E-C and will be on consent calendar for March17 meeting and then Jim will sign after approval; letter will be sent to clerk of CAO for sending.

Review latest legislative report from the CSL

- **AB 14-Internet For All Act of 2021:** Prioritizes the deployment of broadband infrastructure in the most vulnerable and unserved rural and urban communities by utilizing the CA Advanced Services Fund (CASF) to provide community grants to bridge the digital divide.
- Steve will work with Shirley on the process for supporting this bill; discussion of Internet for All program and the large percentage of older adults without internet and technology as divide revealed during pandemic.
- SB 107- Shirley will volley this to Caitlyn if MOWDR will take on support of this bill as well as Senior Malnutrition Awareness Day bill not yet
- SB 221- Timely Mental Health Care: Establishes timely access standards for mental health care follow-up appointments needed by patients in ongoing, medically necessary treatment for mental health and substance use disorders. This addresses current widespread, lengthy delays in follow-up care. WG will watch and see how this Bill proceeds.
- SB 258HIV & Aging Act: Updates definition of "greatest social need" to include cultural and social isolation caused by HIV status. This ensures older people with HIV have access to programs and services administered through CDA. To be watched by WG

Identify bills to support and assign for follow-up activities

- SB 256 Bill from Lenore
- Letter of support for SB 281- Shirley and Gerald will look at this as Shirley did research and Gerald has drafted a letter.

Public Comment –

Nancy AB339 about public meetings available remotely after pandemic is over. Techonology workgroup will be following this Bill.

10:30 Adjourn