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MO Silver Haired Legislative Board

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2017 Missouri



Priorities, Issues, and Officers

The Silver Haired Legislature works in coordination with the Area Agencies on Aging and the Department of Health and Senior Services, Division of Senior and Disability Services.

Walt Bittle

Barb Ittner

Jack DeSelms

Shirley Ross

Peggy Wilson



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1st Vice President

2nd Vice President

Secretary

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Missouri Silver Haired Legislature (SHL) History/Facts:

Created in 1973, Missouri's SHL has the distinction of being the first such organization in the United States.

- The Silver Haired Legislature 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 ten Area Agencies on Aging. Each delegation consists of twelve Representatives and three Senators for a total of 150 legislators.
- All legislators meet annually for a model legislative session at the State Capitol. They debate and vote on 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.

2017 Missouri Silver Haired Legislature Priorities

- Senior Services Growth and Development Program
- Increase funding for home-delivered and congregate meals provided by Area Agencies on Aging
- Expand Medicaid (MO HealthNet)
- Provide financial assistance to seniors for medically necessary hearing aid devices, vision services and dental care through Medicaid (MO HealthNet)
- Reauthorize funding for the MoRx Program

SHL Will Also Support Legislative Action for the Following Issues:

- Ban talking or texting on any hand-held cell device for drivers of all ages when operating a vehicle
- Elder Abuse Awareness Training
- Electronic monitoring of prescription drugs
- Increase the criteria for an Alzheimer's Unit Designation
- Increase the Medicaid home-delivered meal rate by 10 percent, increasing the current rate of \$5.91 to \$6.50.
- Money recovered from Medicaid (MO HealthNet) or overcharges will be returned to MO HealthNet, not the state's General Revenue Fund
- Reasonable restrictions on Payday Loans
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program
- Silver Alert to be combined with Amber Alert
- Support funding the "Money Follows the Person" Program

