



UCAPA Legislative Priorities Week of January 26, 2009

Position Key:
1 = support
2 = neutral
3 = opposed

Title	Sponsor	Description	Pos	Status
Asset Building				
Funding for Individual Development Accounts	appropriation	\$50,000 - base budget	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Resolution Supporting a State Council on Financial Education	Sen. Pat Jones	Bill to create a state council on financial education	1	No bill file yet
SB 100 Financial and Economic Literacy Education Amendments	Sen. Pat Jones	Bill requires public schools to provide financial and economic literacy passport and information about the UT Educ Savings Plan Account to parents or guardians of kindergarten students.	1	Senate sent to standing committee on 1/26/09
Funding for EITC/Volunteer Income Tax Assistance	appropriation	FY09 funding was \$157,000; we are looking at cuts to below \$50K for FY10	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
HB 91 IDA Amendments	Rep. Seegmiller	Provides that an IDA can be established for client's with disability to purchase assistive items and that the IDA funds cannot be used in determining eligibility for assistance.	1	House Committee to consider on 1/29/09
Children				
Childcare Assistance	appropriation	Maintain pre-budget cut level; this year's level will be the same because of maneuvering to keep from losing the 4X federal match	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Funding for Head Start Education	appropriation	Maintain at last year's level.	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Food				
Emergency Food Network		\$50,000	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Health				
Protect and restore eligibility, provider rate, and health promotion within Medicaid	appropriation	Restore Medicaid eligibility levels, programs, and provider rates that are likely to be cut (Age, Blind, Disabled eligibility; Closing Utah Primary Care Network to New Enrollees; Foster Care Independent Living Program; Primary Care Grants; Eliminate Workforce Financial Assistance; Provider rates).	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Restore Optional Medicaid Services	appropriation	Restore Medicaid services that were cut during special session (Eyeglasses, Dental Services, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Audiology)	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Children's Health Coverage Initiatives	Rep. Holdaway	Provide new CHIP premium payment mechanism to Utah Families	1	No bill file yet
Language Interpretation for Government Funded Services	Rep. Chavez-Houck	An omnibus (broad) bill calling for statewide adaptation & implementation of the national standards for Cultural and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) across all sectors and thru public-private sector partnership over 3 years.	1	No bill file yet
Medicaid Provider Rates Increase	appropriation	Restore and Increase provider reimbursement for primary care	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
SB 114 Tobacco Tax	Sen. Christensen	Increase of tobacco tax with revenues to fund increased access to health care and cancer research	1	1st reading on Senate floor 1/26/09
Health Reform Taskforce Bills		It is too early to predict all the bills the taskforce will produce and whether to support them. We will be watching them throughout the session.	1	Several different bills are in the works.



UCAPA Legislative Priorities Week of January 26, 2009

Position Key:
1 = support
2 = neutral
3 = opposed

Title	Sponsor	Description	Pos	Status
Housing				
Olene Walker Housing Loan Fund	appropriation	Anticipating cuts of \$350K for FY10 as well as a loss of \$500 for one-time over FY09	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Pamela Atkinson Homeless Trust Fund	appropriation	Anticipating cuts of \$100K for FY10 as well as a loss of \$500 for one-time funding over FY09; possibly renew one-time funding	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Foreclosure notice for tenants	Working with a sponsor	Provide an earlier foreclosure notice to tenants renting from an owner who is going through the foreclosure process	1	No bill file yet
HB 82 Teacher Mortgage Loan Program	Representative Hemmingway	The State Board of Education would provide for teachers a program loan of \$15,000 to be used for purchasing a home which loan can convert into a grant	1	Sent to printing with fiscal note on 1/26/09
HB 10 Condominium & Community Association	Rep. Webb	Eliminate trust deed foreclosure as an alternative for homeowners associations	1	Reviewing this bill
General Housing Plans	Rep. Herrod	Will include additional legal incentive to producing adequate plans and may require additional specifications for cities and towns for their plan (details to create housing targeted at families 30, 50 and 80% of area median income)	1	No bill file yet
Welfare/Work Supports				
General Assistance	appropriation	Maintain base budget; a cut to all staff for the program has been recommended	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
FEP	appropriation	Maintain base budget and funding of all programs.	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
Possible Unemployment Changes		Support any increases in timelimits or easing of eligibility for UI, possibly passing "trigger" bill to have changes to into effect if UI Modernization Act is passed by Congress.	1	No sponsor or bill file yet
HB 218 FEP Amendments	Rep. Fisher	Provides that DWS shall make a rule for the amount of cash assistance a participant is eligible to receive under FEP. (Is currently set by legislature).	1	Passed favorably to House floor, 2nd reading on House floor 1/27/09
Other				
Weatherization	appropriation	Maintain base budget	1	Still awaiting budget decisions
HB216 Telecommunication Pricing Flexibility Amendments	Rep. Hunsaker	Removes the cap on basic residential telecommunication pricing	3	House committee favorably recommended on 1/27/09
HB38 Refugee Services Fund Amendments	Herrod	Provides that all interest or earnings from the Refugee Services Fund are deposited into the fund rather than the General Fund.	1	Passed favourably to House floor, 2nd reading on House floor on 1/27/09
State Budget	program cuts	Anticipated cuts to balance the budget; we are watching that programs that support the poor do not get cut.	2	Still awaiting budget decisions