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# 2024

Missouri  
Silver Haired Legislature  
Priorities, Issues and Officers



### 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 SHL 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 10 Area Agencies on Aging. Each delegation consists of 12 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.

### SHL Top Five Priorities for 2024

- Increase funding for transportation services to provide additional options for seniors.
- Increase accessibility to public buildings for individuals with disabilities.
- Require special dementia training in long-term care facilities.
- Increase the Medicaid Personal Needs Allowance (PNA) to \$100 per month with an inflation rider.
- Money recovered by MO HealthNet to be returned to the MO HealthNet Program.

### SHL Will Also Support Legislative Action for the Following Issues:

- Income tax deduction for transportation of seniors for qualified organizations.
- Tax rebate for seniors to get energy efficient home updates.
- Establish a commission for grandparents raising grandchildren assistance.
- Raise the Aged and Disabled Waiver from 85% of the FPL to 100% of the FPL.
- Increase Medicaid asset level.
- Restore funding for the MO Rx Program for all eligible medicare beneficiaries.
- Funding for the Hearing Aid Distribution Program.

\*The SHL also supports updating the Missouri Property Tax Credit (PTC) also known as the Circuit Breaker.



### Proposals Passed into Law

Over the years, SHL has grown in visibility and esteem. It has advocated for many proposals that are now state law, such as:

- Senior Services Growth and Development Program.
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program.
- Asset Limit Increase for MO HealthNet eligibility.
- Exploitation of the elderly and elder abuse laws.
- Permanent funding for CLAIM.
- Creation of the MO Senior Rx Program.
- Seniors Savings Protection Act.



[Health.Mo.Gov/silverhaired](https://Health.Mo.Gov/silverhaired)

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.

Interested in issues impacting older Missourians?

Become a subscriber to the SHL newsletter and stay up to date on legislation that may directly affect you and your loved ones: [agingahead.org/missouri-shl](https://agingahead.org/missouri-shl).