



CARA Alert – April 25, 2022

A publication of the California Alliance for Retired Americans

APRIL CANDIDATE FORUMS are a HUGE SUCCESS!
(CARA Alerts are now translated into Spanish at end of each Alert)

CARA has sponsored 7 local Candidate Forums so far, with 4 more still to go. So far, these Forums have been well attended, very informative and engaging, and extremely helpful in learning about the candidates running for selected offices. We hope these forums will be useful as we begin the voting process (mail in ballots are expected to be sent the first week of May. If you were unable to attend, or would like to share the Forum with others in your family, neighbors, colleagues, etc., we have recorded all of them. at <https://californiaalliance.org/candidate-forums-2022/> . Below is a list of forums that are still scheduled. You can register by going to the link on this chart. **Please remember to Vote on or before June 7th. CARA does not endorse candidates.**

DATE/TIME OF EVENT	CARA CAT SPONSORING	CANDIDATE RACES	REGISTRATION LINK
THURSDAY, APRIL 28 1PM	SANTA CLARA COUNTY	SAN JOSE MAYOR, SANTA CLARA DA, SHERIFF, BOS 1	https://bit.ly/SantaClaraForum Santa Clara Forum Flyer
FRIDAY, APRIL 29 10AM	INLAND EMPIRE	BOS DISTRICTS 2 AND 4	https://bit.ly/IECatForum2022 Inland Empire Forum Flyer
SATURDAY, APRIL 30 10AM	FRESNO/KERN COUNTIES	CD 21,CD 23, KERN BOS, MORE TBD	https://bit.ly/FresnoBakersfieldForum Fresno and Bakersfield Forum Flyer
TUESDAY, MAY 3 4PM	MARIN AND SONOMA COUNTIES (WITH AAI, MCIL, MCOA)	AD 12	https://bit.ly/MarinSonomaForum Marin and Sonoma Forum Flyer

**MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH!! and
CARA'S STATEWIDE LOBBY DAY on MAY 20TH!**

May is Older Americans month. What better way to celebrate than bringing CARA members together to learn about our priority legislation for 2022 and advocate for these bills with our state elected officials? CARA's statewide lobby day, being held virtually, is scheduled for FRIDAY, MAY 20th. All of the CARA Action Teams (CATs) will be hosting virtual meetings with their state Assemblymembers and Senators, via zoom and teleconference. If you would like to join the legislative visits with your state elected representatives, and are not in a CAT, you can participate by contacting us at caralobby@gmail.com and we will register you. In order to be prepared for these visits on May 20th, we have a special training scheduled for May 6th.

**FRIDAY, MAY 6TH at 12 NOON PST
PREPARING FOR CARA'S MAY 20TH LOBBY DAY
[REGISTER HERE](#)**

This briefing is for everyone who wants to participate in one of the 120 legislative visits that CARA is coordinating on May 20th as part of our statewide virtual lobby day. We will review CARA's priority bills, explain the best format for your meetings, and answer any last minute questions you have before May 20th.

HEALTHY CA COMMISSION RELEASES THEIR REPORT!!!

On April 25th, the Healthy CA Commission released their findings after almost 2 years of study, focus groups, discussion, and analysis. CARA, and the Healthy CA Now coalition has reviewed these findings, and although there are things we disagree with, the report clearly states that the only way to fix our broken system, save money, improve outcomes, and provide a standard set of comprehensive benefits to everyone in California at less cost to California residents, employers, unions, and the public sector is through a unified financing system. It also lays out the next steps that need to be taken to make this transformation of our health care system a reality. CARA will be developing an educational forum and outreach plans to discuss how we engage in efforts to inform folks about this proposal, ways we can fight to improve upon it, and be ready for the next efforts to engage legislatively and electorally. For a summary and analysis of the report by Healthy CA Now, go to www.californiaalliance.org/////////. You can also read the full Commission report at <https://www.chhs.ca.gov/healthycaforall/>

**PROTECT, IMPROVE AND EXPAND SOCIAL SECURITY
CALL SPEAKER PELOSI – URGE HER TO CALL A VOTE ON HR 5723**

HR 5723 (Larson/CT), the Social Security 2100 Act, is an historic opportunity to improve SS benefits, adjust the COLA formula, repeal the WEP/GPO, make it easier to

apply for benefits, better staff the Social Security Administration, and most importantly, begin to Scrap the Cap on taxable earned income to secure the Social Security Trust Fund for current and future beneficiaries so that we can all get the benefits we are entitled to. We believe that NOW is the time for a Vote on HR 5723. With a small majority in both the House and the Senate, and a President who has said he supports this bill, we need to pass this legislation before the mid-term elections. Social Security has bi-partisan support among the voting public. This could be a pivotal issue in close Congressional and Senate races around the country in November... LET'S PASS THIS BILL NOW!!!! (GO TO THE CARA WEBSITE TO SEE THE RECORDING OF OUR SOCIAL SECURITY FORUM ON FRIDAY, APRIL 22ND – www.californiaalliance.org

CALL SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI TODAY:

San Francisco (415) 415-556-4862/ Washington D.C. (202) 225-4965

HERE'S WHAT TO SAY WHEN YOU CALL:

Hello. My name is _____ . I am calling to urge Speaker Pelosi to schedule a Floor Vote in the House on HR 5723 – the Social Security 2100 Act immediately. We have an historic opportunity to pass this essential legislation that will Protect, Improve and Expand Social Security for generations to come. Social Security is the most popular program in America. We need you, Speaker Pelosi to be a champion for Social Security – and move this bill today. Thank you.

CARA's FABULOUS FRIDAY FORUM ARE ON OUR WEBSITE

CARA has been hosting 1 or 2 fabulous Friday Forums in 2022. All of them have been truly fabulous for sure. If you missed one, or want to send it to friends and colleagues, they are all recorded on the CARA website at www.californiaalliance.org/ . Our next two forums are on Friday, May 6th (CARA Lobby Day Training) and Friday, June 17th (Senior Vote Kick-Off and PRIDE Celebration). You can register on our website!!!

Contact CARA: NEW MAILING ADDRESS

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Get Social with CARA!

*Did you know that CARA is on Facebook? Learn about our local activities and meetings, town halls and about other news affecting retirees. **Be sure to like our CARA Facebook page here.** Make sure your friends and family like this page too. Help retirees build power by liking CARA's Facebook page. Every like and share help spread our message.*

And now we're on Twitter too! Follow us at @CARASeniors