SEARCH







🚰 🕒 🔀 EMAIL US 🏻 🛜 888 4 GAY NEWS (888) 442-9639

DISCOVER INSIDER HOOK UP



HEALTH. WELLNESS & SPORTS NEWS COMMENTARY CAUSES ENTERTAINMENT SOCIAL **EVENTS PARTNERS EQUALITY DIRECTORY**

ENLARGE

Paul Downey

POLITICS OPINIONS

COMMENTARY: Elder Economic Planning Act is a major win for all Californians

PAUL DOWNEY - CEO & PRESIDENT, SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTERS November 1st, 2011

We all aspire to age and with age we all hope to be able to provide ourselves with the basic needs to simply survive - home, food, health care, transportation, etc. However, this is not the case for all seniors. Many struggle to get by daily and though they may have saved in their youth, unforeseen circumstances can turn almost anyone's lives upside down.

In October, all Californians received a major win as Gov. Jerry Brown signed the Elder Economic Planning Act of 2011 (AB 138) requiring the use of the Elder Economic Security Standard Index (Elder Index), rather than the antiquated Federal Poverty Level (FPL) guidelines, so local Area Agencies on Aging can more appropriately plan services and programs for local seniors. AB 138 provides a better measure of senior poverty through the Elder Index, a new tool that accurately quantifies the annual cost of meeting basic needs for retired, older adults in each county throughout the state of California.

California leads the nation with more than 300,000 seniors living below the FPL. Additionally, more than 864,000 California seniors do not have enough income to cover their most basic needs. Previously, local Area Agencies on Aging were forced to rely on the antiquated FPL which was created in the mid-1960's and was solely based on the cost of a bare-bones food diet, and covered less than half of the basic costs experienced by adults age 65 and older in the state. FPL did not provide an accurate, local picture of economic needs for seniors and as a result agencies ended up with inconsistent alternatives to assess poverty in

their communities. This lack of uniformity was not only inefficient, but also more costly and less effective since many agencies were having to conduct their own expensive research.

AB 138 does not require California to spend additional money updating the Elder Index and already supplies information on senior living costs on a county-by-county basis. As the senior population continues to grow, it is crucial that we plan and take the necessary steps to provide accurate levels of poverty for our seniors.

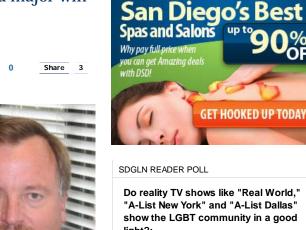
The passing of the Elder Economic Planning Act of 2011 was a long time coming and a team effort by aging agencies throughout our state, as well as the voices of many California seniors and advocates. With the new Elder Index baseline, low-income seniors will be able to have their needs more realistically assessed and most importantly their basic needs will be

About Paul Downey and Senior Community Centers

Founded in 1970, Senior Community Centers is a nonprofit agency transforming the aging experience for San Diego seniors through nutrition, health and wellness services, advocacy and transitional and supportive housing that increase the quality of life for seniors living in poverty and allowing them to live independently for as long as possible. The organization has been skillfully led for more than 16 years by Chief Executive Officer and President Paul Downey, who is also the president of the National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs and the California Nutrition Coalition. For a complete list of volunteer opportunities or more information, please visit HERE, Facebook or Twitter, or call (619) 487-0743.

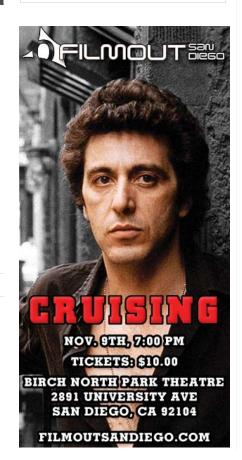
Tags: aging Elder Economic Planning Act of 2011

0	SHARE	3	1	DIGG THIS	PRINT THIS ARTICLE
Add a	comment				
					Comment using



Yes

No



VOTE

11/1/2011 2:46 PM 1 of 2































ADVERTISE WITH SDGLN MORE INFORMATION

SAN DIEGO GAY & LESBIAN NEWS

About Us Contributors Contact Us Client Central Advertise Disclaimer Feed

Username: *						
Password: *						

NEWS

Chick-Fil-A tastes mighty good to anti-gay... 11.01.2011 VIDEOS: State Department's Daniel... 11.01.2011 Man, 20, arrested in strangulation in... 11.01.2011 Hong Kong government funding discredited... 11.01.2011 Man brutally attacked in apparent hate... 10.31.2011 SDGLN Poll: Majority of readers don't... 10.31.2011

COMMENTARY

COMMENTARY: Elder Economic Planning Act is... 11.01.2011 COMMENTARY: Kim Kardashian divorce, not... 10.31.2011 COMMENTARY: Halloween is America's... 10.28.2011 COMMENTARY: Sexual minorities persecuted... 10.27.2011 VIDEO: HRC letter to NOM - Fess up about... 10.26.2011 LETTER TO THE EDITOR: Why I support the... 10.26.2011

CAUSES

VIDEO: Equality Forum seeking nominations... 11.01.2011 SLDN to host annual fundraiser soiree... 11.01.2011 LIVE: MTV Dance Party promoting... 10.31.2011 ACTION ALERT: Ask Arizona superintendent... 10.31.2011 VIDEO: Online charity auction benefitting... 10.31.2011 Meet LGBT History Month icons Virginia... 10.31.2011

FLAWLES

Theophilus London Featuring Sara Quin Out... 07.22.2011 Lesbian Lookout: San Diego Pride 2011 07.14.2011 Queer Youth Coalition Hosts Drug-Free... 07.13.2011 Kickball Tournament Supports United... 07.07.2011 Les Stuff You Should Know More About:... 07.03.2011 NYC Artist Captures Self Evident Truths in... 06.30.2011

ENTERTAINMENT

GLAAD's What to Watch on Tuesday 11.01.2011 VIDEO: Tina Lifford's "The... 11.01.2011 Arriba! An Aruban adventure 10.31.2011 GLAAD's What To Watch on Monday 10.31.2011 THEATER REVIEW: "Heroes"... 10.29.2011 Candye Kane to play late night show at... 10.28.2011

HEALTH, WELLNESS & SPORTS

Scott Herman's Getting Fit VIDEO:... 10.27.2011 Dirty Cleats: Predictions for NFL's... 10.27.2011 Boot~ique: Halloween can be full of scary... 10.24.2011 Did the path to AIDS actually start in... 10.24.2011 Dirty Cleats: Predictions for NFL's... 10.21.2011 Myths & misconceptions of LGBT... 10.20.2011

SOCIAL

Hedy's Hints: A closer look at home... 11.01.2011 Verizon bestows San Diego LGBT Center with... 10.31.2011 Aunt Johnny: Campaign strategies make poor... 10.31.2011 Gaytravel.com and Grindr want to send you... 10.31.2011 Green Tip of the Week: Minimize the... 10.31.2011 Eco-friendly Hillcrest sign gets an "... 10.28.2011

BOTTOMLINE

Can you consolidate or negotiate your way... 10.28.2011 Same-sex relationships: Pre and post-... 10.20.2011 When it comes to wills, do mothers know... 09.16.2011 Q-Legal: How to avoid palimony 08.30.2011 Medical malpractice: A national epidemic 08.26.2011 Celebrity Q&A: Meet Tony Moran 08.12.2011

© Copyright 2009-2011 Hale Media, Inc. ABOUT CONTRIBUTORS CONTACT ADVERTISE DISCLAIMER RSS FEED

Sign up for our newsletter



11/1/2011 2:46 PM 2 of 2