

## Alliance Clips and Retiree News: January 26, 2012

### **Alliance Mentions**

GrokTV Event-NH Senate hearing: Voter ID / SB289 – Testimony by NH Deputy Sec. of State David Scanlan and President Patricia of the City and Town Clerks Association, and others!  
Skip Murphy  
January 26, 2012  
Granite Grok

Various groups in New Hampshire testified at the state Senate hearing Wednesday in favor or opposition of Voter ID/SB289, which will require a valid photo ID to vote in NH elections. Charles Balban, president of the NH Alliance for Retired Americans, was among the many who spoke out in opposition of the bill.

<http://granitegrok.com/groktv/2012/01/groktv-event-nh-senate-hearing-voter-id-sb289-testimony-by-nh-deputy-sec-of-state-david-scanlan-and-president-patricia-of-the>

Groundbreaking Political Advertising Disclosure Bill Moves to Assembly Floor  
January 23, 2012  
Highland News

Last Thursday, January 19, the California Assembly Appropriations Committee voted AB1148 to the floor for assembly vote. The bill seeks to require radio, television and print ads to properly fully disclose the funders for the ads, complete with names and logos. AB1148 is sponsored by Assemblywoman Julia Brownley (D – Santa Monica) and comes on the heels of the Citizens United Supreme Court decision permitting unlimited spending from anonymous donors on campaigns across the country. It is one of few bills that has achieved nearly universal political backing among the public. Supporters include various local and national organizations including the California Alliance for Retired Americans.

<http://www.highlandnews.net/articles/2012/01/25/news/doc4f1df4db16d9b660251170.txt>

### **Healthcare**

Most Americans Expect SCOTUS To Overturn Health Care Reform Bill  
Sarah Kliff  
January 26, 2012  
Washington Post

A third of Americans think that the Supreme Court is going to uphold the Affordable Care Act (ACA) portion of President Obama's health care reform law. When asked for personal opinion, 17% felt that the mandate was constitutional. The Kaiser Family Foundation poll arrived in the

midst of several repeals forthcoming from the Republicans, including not only a repeal of the ACA but also a repeal of the Community Living Assistance Services and Support (CLASS) Act.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/ezra-klein>

Experiments Aim To Cut Health-Care Costs

N.C. Aizenman

January 26, 2012

Washington Post

The Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation will release a progress report summarizing its experiments with finding payment incentives and methods of delivering care within Medicare and Medicaid. Although the Center is technically supposed to work within the framework of the two government-funded programs, Center director Richard Gilfillan will collaborate with providers who also work with private patients to make sure that the health care models are effective across the board.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/experiments-aim-to-cut-health-care-costs/2012/01/25/gIQAtQQtRQ\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/health-science/experiments-aim-to-cut-health-care-costs/2012/01/25/gIQAtQQtRQ_story.html)

O Health Care, Where Art Thou?

Sarah Kliff

January 25, 2012

Washington Post

For people watching President Obama's State of the Union address, many may have wondered why he did not elaborate on health care more extensively. Kliff believes that one of the main reasons for his omission – save for a few sentences – is because despite the constant talk about health care, public views on the reform have not changed much since its passage in 2010. According to various experts and polls, the health care reform does not move voters as commonly assumed. However, heavier talk about health care is expected in the coming months leading up to the Supreme Court decision on the constitutionality of the ACA expected in late spring 2012.

[http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/ezra-klein/post/o-health-care-where-art-thou/2012/01/25/gIQADN6JQQ\\_blog.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/ezra-klein/post/o-health-care-where-art-thou/2012/01/25/gIQADN6JQQ_blog.html)

## **Social Security**

Mitt Offers Medicine, Newt Sugar for Social Security

Jed Graham

January 25, 2012

Investor's Business Daily

Although the GOP presidential candidate race has focused on more personal attacks than position concerns, the Social Security stances of Mitt Romney and Newt Gingrich vary enough to impact the general election. Romney proposes increasing the retirement age and other income-based cuts while Gingrich favors putting the 6.2% payroll tax contribution in private accounts. It is yet to be seen how voters will respond to either proposal, especially Gingrich's. However, it has been said that this fundamental divide is reminiscent of the GOP divide during the Bush administration in 2006.

<http://news.investors.com/Article/598884/201201251511/romney-gingrich-diverge-on-social-security.htm>

## **Economy**

Retirees' Insecurity Complex

Kelly Greene

January 23, 2012

Wall Street Journal

Overall, Americans feel less financially secure from a year ago, and that number is particularly high among retirees. According to a poll from Bankrate.com, 23% of Americans feel like their situation improved from last year, and that number is lower when analyzed for retirees; only 12% believe their financial situation improved from a year ago.

<http://blogs.wsj.com/totalreturn/2012/01/24/retirees-insecurity-complex/>

## **Labor**

Right-to-Work Measure Clears Indiana House

Associated Press

January 26, 2012

USA Today

Indiana is set to become the first right-to-work state in a decade after legislation passed in the House to ban unions from collecting mandatory fees from workers. The vote comes after House Democrats protested the inevitable vote for days before allowing it to take place Wednesday. As the bill moves to the Senate, it could be on Governor Mitch Daniels desk in mere days, right before the Super Bowl take place Indianapolis. Other anti-union bills have been pursued by Republicans in "Rust Belt" states such as Ohio and Wisconsin with major retaliation from Democrats and union supporters. Several labor union leaders vow that there will be strong backlash should the bill become law.

<http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/story/2012-01-25/indiana-right-to-work-vote/52792100/1>

## Disgraced Labor Lawyer Charged in Union Ripoff Scheme

Jose Martinez

January 25, 2012

New York Post

New York Attorney Kevin Clor has been charged with stealing more than \$200,000 from union employees represented by Thruway Employees Local 72. He has been accused of doctoring receipts from January 2006 to May 2011 and claiming expenses that were inaccurate or nonexistent. The stolen money is said to have come from the union's general account and welfare fund. The union formerly represented by Clor is a Teamsters-chartered union with over 2,000 New York Thruway Authority employees. Currently, Clor has been offered a three-to-nine year prison sentence. His bail has been set at \$75,000.

[http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/disgraced\\_labor\\_lawyer\\_charged\\_in\\_bN009CxtBrvQeis7E1NxeI](http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/disgraced_labor_lawyer_charged_in_bN009CxtBrvQeis7E1NxeI)