



Area Agency on Aging 1-B

THE ADVOCATE

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The Ballots are in: Election Results 2016

New Representatives in Lansing, Republicans Maintain Majority

Twelve new Representatives serving portions of Region 1-B will take office in the Michigan House of Representatives in January. Eleven of the incoming Representatives will serve regions where the incumbent was term-limited or not seeking reelection. Only one seat in Region 1-B changed party affiliation; in the 29th District (Monroe County) incumbent Bill LaVoy (D) was defeated by Joe Bellino (R).

Republicans will maintain their overall majority in the House of Representatives during the next legislative session; 63 seats will be occupied by Republican Representatives, and 47 seats will be occupied by Democrats.

Donald Trump wins Presidency; Federal Senate and House Maintain Republican Majority

In Region 1-B, all incumbents seeking reelection retained their seats in the U.S. House of Representatives. Paul Mitchell (R) won in the 10th District, serving St. Clair County and portions of Macomb County; this seat was previously held by Representative Candice Miller.

Regional Transit Authority Millage

Voters in Macomb, Oakland, Washtenaw and Wayne counties rejected a proposal to fund the Regional Transit Authority (RTA) with a 1.2 property tax millage. The RTA will not be able to propose another millage for at least two years.

Federal Budget: Another Continuing Resolution Expected

Federally-funded programs, like the Older Americans Act, are currently funded by a short term budget, called a Continuing Resolution (CR), that expires on December 9. The U.S. House and Senate must pass a new budget or CR by that date to avoid a government shutdown. It is expected that Congress will pass another short-term Continuing Resolution, authorizing funding through March 31, before December 9th. This four-month delay would enable President-Elect Donald Trump to include some of his top priorities into the Fiscal Year 2017 Budget.

Aging advocates are urging Congress to maintain funding for the State Health Insurance Program (SHIP) and continue to reject cuts proposed by the Senate Labor and HHS Appropriations Subcommittee earlier this year. Federal SHIP funds support Michigan's Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP), which provides health insurance counseling and assistance to Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries, their families and caregivers. Last year, MMAP helped 48,900 Medicare beneficiaries living in Region 1-B save over \$44 million by choosing better coverage, an average savings of \$908 per person.



The Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) is a nonprofit agency serving the needs of older adults in Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, and Washtenaw counties.

Contact Katie Cahill, (248) 798-0599 or by e-mail at kcahill@aaa1b.com to join the Senior Advocacy Network or receive copies of AAA 1-B reports referenced in The Advocate.