Silver-Haired Legislature Sets 2017 Priorities

The 43rd Annual Conference of the Silver-Haired Legislature took place at the State Capitol in Jefferson City on October 18, 19, and 20. The 118 delegates in attendance chose their Top Five Priorities and formulated plans to advocate for senior issues during the coming legislative session. After spirited debates in the Legislative chambers, the delegates chose these issues as their **Top Five Priorities** for the 2017 legislative session:

1. Senior Services Growth and Development Fund
2. Increase funding for the Home-Delivered and Congregate Meals provided by Area Agencies on Aging
3. Expand Mo HealthNet (Medicaid)
4. Provide financial assistance to seniors for medically necessary hearing aid devices, vision services, and dental care through MO HealthNet (Medicaid)
5. Reauthorize funding for MoRx Program

The Silver-Haired Legislature, or SHL as it is often called, is a formally elected volunteer body of citizens 60 years of age and older that promote conscientious legislative advocacy for Missouri’s older adults. All members are volunteers who serve without pay. Elections are held annually during the month of May at local area agencies on aging nutrition or senior centers. Senior citizens elect three senators and twelve representatives from each of the ten area agencies on aging for a total of 30 senators and 120 representatives.

For information on becoming a Silver-Haired Legislator in your area contact Becca Fields at becca.fields@senioragemo.org or Amy Qualls at amy.qualls@senioragemo.org.