Aging with Dignity
A California Initiative

- Unveiled by Governor Gray Davis in his January 2000 State of the State Address
- $516 million ($270.5 million general fund)
- Helping Seniors and Disabled Adults Live Independent Lives
- Investing in the Long Term Care Workforce
- Improving Care Facilities
- Strengthening Fiscal Standards of Facilities
“Our approach - consistent with our values - should be to keep families together by providing the services older Californians need to remain in their own homes, instead of nursing homes.”  - Governor Gray Davis
“Aging with Dignity”

Core Principles:

A

Available services for older Californians who want options and choices to help them live at home.

B

Better standards to assure safety and quality of care for those whose “home” is a nursing home.

C

Community partnerships to help make options, choices, and better standards of care a reality for our elderly population.
The Demographics

◆ California has the largest elder population in the country, with 19% (or over 600,000) more elders than the next highest state.
  
  ◆ 3.3 million 65+ in California
  ◆ 2.8 million 65+ in Florida

◆ The number of Californians age 60+ will grow 154% over the next 40 years.

◆ By 2010, 1 in 5 Californians will be 60+.
The Demographics, continued

- The fastest growing aging population group is 85 years and older. Today 1 in 77 Californians are 85+; in 2010, 1 in 62 will be 85+; and by 2040 this will decrease to 1 in 34.

- The rate of dementia in the 85+ age group is 47%.

- California’s older population will be increasingly non-white. Minorities who are 60 years of age and older will increase by 350% between 2000 and 2040.

- Families provide 80% of all care at home - unpaid, informal.
Seniors Want to Feel “at Home”…
No Matter Where They Live
Promotion of Independent Living

- **Long Term Care Tax Credit** - $500 annually to taxpayers offset direct costs of long term care

- **Long-Term Care Innovation Grants**
  $14.8 million for innovative community-based models that foster independence

- **Senior Housing Information and Support Center**
  $1 million annually to centralize housing and home modification information
Promotion of Independent Living

- **Senior Wellness Education Campaign**
  $1 million to promote health aging practices and access to community services

- **Reduce Out-of-Pocket Expenses for Medi-Cal Eligible Aged and Disabled**
  $47 million ($23.5 million general fund)

- **In-Home Supportive Services Wage Increases**
  - $354.4 million ( $167 million general fund) Also extends health benefits
Long Term Care Workforce

- **Train Employees to be Caregivers** - $25 million - federal Workforce Investment Act funds; also targets Welfare-to-Work funds for recruitment, retention, and training

- **Increase Nursing Home Employee Wages** - $67 million general funding for additional 5% wage increases (above the 1999 5%)

- **Review Staff-to-Patient Ratios in Nursing Homes** - recommendations due May, 2001
Improving Care Facilities

• **Increase Unannounced Inspections of Nursing Homes** - $7.5 million ($3 million general fund)

• **Quality Awards for Exemplary Nursing Homes** - Cash awards ($20,000 to $50,000 each year) for high quality - $10 million ($8 million general fund)

• **Expand Review of Poor Performing Nursing Homes** - $4 million ($2.5 million general fund)
Improving Care Facilities

- **Guarantee Rapid Response to Nursing Home Complaints** - $3.9 million ($2.2 general fund) for 24-hour response (non-emergency complaints)

- **Increase Posting of Ombudsman Posters in Licensed Facilities** - $100 per day fines for noncompliance

- **Authorize State License Revocation for State and Federal Violations**
Improving Care Facilities

- Provide for Provisional (Probationary) Licensure Status for Facilities with Most Serious Care Problems
- Increase Fines for Serious or Repeat Violations/Direct Referral to District Attorneys for Serious Violations - $100,000 fine for death (up from range of $5,000 to $25,000) and $2,000 to $20,000 for serious harm (up from range of $1,000 to $10,000)
Improving Care Facilities

• **Increase the Expenditure Cap on the State Health Facility Citation Fund** - increases the funding cap for handling court-appointed receiverships (or to replace patient trust accounts or personal possessions) from $1 million to $10 million (prior to the Initiative, an excess of $1 million was transferred to the general fund)
Strengthening Fiscal Standards

• Establishes a Fiscal Solvency Review Advisory Board - aimed at preventing bankruptcies and disruptions in care by establishing new fiscal standards and reporting requirements for nursing facility licensees

• Authorizes a Temporary State Manager for facilities
Strengthening Fiscal Standards

• Allows the State to Recover Costs of Court Appointed Receivers from Substandard Licensees (Parent Corporations or Individual Owners)
The Difference Between Independence Today and Dependence Tomorrow Can Be Just A “Fall” Away...

Approximately 29,435 Californians age 65+ suffer hip fractures each year, resulting in annual direct medical costs of over $367 million.
State Coordination
LTC Council
(AB 452)

Technology
(AB 27)

Available Services & Choices

Aging with Dignity

Nursing Home Regulation/Enforcement
“Aging with Dignity” Objective:
Older Californians *Can* Feel “at Home” and safe … 
No Matter Where They Live!
Aging with Dignity:

an ABC approach ...

Available Services, with Choices

Better Standards of Care

Community Partnerships
Establishment of a California Long-Term Care Council

• The Mazonni Long-Term Care Act of 2000 (AB 452)
Establishment of a California Long-Term Care Council

The Mazonni Long-Term Care Act of 2000 (AB 452)
Overarching Concept

The Long-Term Care Council will serve as the interdepartmental, interagency council to, among other things, coordinate long-term care policy development and program operations and develop a strategic plan for long-term care policy.
Long Term Care Council (LTC) Membership

- Chairman - Secretary, Health and Human Services Agency
- Council Members - Directors of eight core departments: Aging, Developmental Services, Health Services, Mental Health, Rehabilitation, Social Services, Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, and Veterans Services
LTC Council Mission and Vision

• **Mission** - To provide state-level leadership in developing a coordinated long-term care system that includes a full array of services, that promotes personal choice and independence while also assuring fiscal responsibility and equitable access to all long-term care consumers.

• **Vision** - A long-term care system that supports consumer dignity and independence, provides a full array of care options, and is cost effective.
LTC Council Values

• Focus on Prevention
• Respect for Diversity
• Honoring Choice, Dignity, Independence, and Quality of Life
• Seeking Input from Consumers, Family Caregivers, and the Community
• Improving Access to Timely, Complete, and User-Friendly Information and Services
LTC Council Values

- Developing a Full Array of Services
- Using Assistive and Other Forms of Technology
- Expanding the Availability of Palliative Care
- Developing Service Coordination Strategies to Assure That Consumers Receive the Right Service at the Right Time
- Supporting Caregivers
LTC Council Values

- Long-Term Care Workforce Availability
- Encouraging Flexibility and Innovation
- Need for Improved Program Information to Facilitate Strategic Planning
- Providing Education on the Risk of Needing Long-Term Care and Viable Options Available to Plan Ahead for that Potential Need
- Assuring Responsible Stewardship
LTC Council Priorities

- Seeking Input from Consumers
- Consumer Information Work Group
- Challenge Grant Implementation
- Coordinating Community LTC Services Work Group
- Assessment Tools and Process for Transitions Into/Out of Nursing Facilities Work Group
LTC Council Priorities

• Data Development Work Group
• Assisted Living Work Group
• Regulatory Licensing Process Work Group
• Continue the Long-Term Care Council’s Strategic Planning Process