



Area Agency on Aging 1-B

# THE ADVOCATE

December 2018

## MI Minimum Wage and Sick Time Laws Altered in Lamé Duck Session

Michigan's legislature has had an active lame duck session; this term refers to the period following an election before newly elected legislators take office in January.

Before November's election the Michigan Legislature enacted the citizen initiated proposal to increase the state minimum wage from the current \$9.25 per hour to \$12 in 2022. A paid sick time law that was also brought to the Legislature by petition and enacted allowed for workers to receive one hour of sick time for every 30 hours worked up to a maximum of 72 hours a year.

During the lame duck session the legislature amended these laws, setting the minimum wage to reach \$12 in 2030 with much smaller increases for workers each year. Additionally, the new law removes a provision that increased the minimum wage annually according to inflation. The paid sick time law was also amended, reducing that benefit to one hour for every 35 hours worked and a maximum of 40 hours per year.

## Partial Government Shutdown Would Not Impact Aging Services

In September Congress approved a full year of funding (October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019) for the federal Department of Health and Human Services, which includes funding for Older Americans Act programs provided by Area Agencies on Aging.

Other portions of the federal budget, including the Agriculture, Commerce, Justice and Homeland Security Departments, have been funded by short term continuing resolutions. If new spending bills are not passed by Congress for these portions of the budget, a partial federal government shutdown of these departments would occur. At the time of this writing Congress appears to be close to a deal to extend funding for these departments until February after the Senate passed a continuing resolution on December 19th, but the measure must still be considered by the House and President before taking effect.

In the event that a budget deal is not reached and a partial federal government shutdown occurs key programs for seniors including Social Security, Medicare and Older Americans Act Programs would continue to function as usual.



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 Wendel (248) 798-0599 or by e-mail at [kwendel@aaa1b.com](mailto:kwendel@aaa1b.com) to join the Senior Advocacy Network or receive copies of AAA 1-B reports referenced in The Advocate.