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To: [Kester, Tonykester@aging.sc.gov](mailto:Kester,Tonykester@aging.sc.gov)
Date: 1/14/2016 1:17:42 PM
Subject: Shocking Rise in Senior Poverty by 2050

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Justice in Aging Responds to California Governor's Proposed Budget

Rates of senior poverty in California are high and rising, with more than one million seniors in one of country's wealthiest states struggling to pay rent, buy food, and cover health care costs. California Governor Jerry Brown released a proposed budget for fiscal year 2016-2017 that provided some relief, but more action and bolder policies are needed. [Read our statement on the budget.](#)

Looking Back on 2015

Just 10 months ago, we changed our name from National Senior Citizens Law Center to Justice in Aging. It was a busy and fruitful year of new partnerships, new challenges, and successes as we continue to define what Justice in Aging means. [Take a look back on our blog.](#)

Shocking Rise in Senior Poverty by 2050

In late December, Teresa Ghilarducci, renowned economist from the New School for Social Research, published a piece in [The Atlantic](#) in which she used current rates of senior poverty to project that 25 million seniors will live in poverty by 2050. **That's an increase of 180% from today.** Around the same time, the White House Conference on Aging (WHCOA) [released its final report](#), with no mention of this coming crisis. Read our thoughts about this disconnect in our blog post: [What You \(and the WHCOA\) Missed Last Week](#).

Partnerships Grow at Health Advocates Conference

Partnerships are a cornerstone of Justice in Aging, and we were pleased to help support one of our partners, the National Health Law Program, by presenting and moderating several panels at their 2015 Health Advocates Conference. We appreciated the great opportunity to share with and learn from partners across the country. Did you miss the sessions on [Affordable Care Act transitions](#) by Directing Attorney Jennifer Goldberg, [managed long-term services](#) and supports and [dual eligible demonstrations](#) by Senior Staff Attorney Amber Cutler, or [balance billing](#) of Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries by Staff Attorney Denny Chan? You can still learn about these topics and more through our [webinars](#).

Congress Acts to Stop Social Security Garnishment

In late 2015, two bills were introduced in Congress that will put a stop to a practice that is pushing thousands of elderly Americans and people with disabilities into poverty. Currently around 160,000 elderly Social Security beneficiaries and an additional 83,000 people with disabilities between the ages of 50-65 are having their benefits garnished to pay off student loans. This action in Congress is a result of a coalition of organizations working together to deliver 375,000 signatures from people like you to the U.S. Department of Education seeking to put a stop to this practice. Representative Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) introduced [HR 3967](#) and Senator Ron Wyden (D-OR) introduced [S 2387](#). Thanks to those of you who added your voice.

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