



California Legislature  
Senate Subcommittee on Aging and Long-Term Care

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SENATOR ELAINE K. ALQUIST, CHAIR

CONSULTANT  
ROBERT MacLAUGHLIN  
COMMITTEE ASSISTANT  
LYNDA HANCOCK

**Senate Subcommittee on Aging and Long-Term Care  
Informational Hearing**

**“Myth of the Golden Years”**

*Introducing an Alternative to the Flawed Federal Poverty Line*

**State Capitol, Room 113  
Tuesday, February 26, 2008  
10:00 am – 12:00 Noon**

**I Welcome and Introductory Remarks**

*Opening Statement Senator Elaine K. Alquist, Chair, Senate Subcommittee on Aging and Long-Term Care*

**II GENERAL OVERVIEW; What is the Elder Economic Standard Initiative?**

**OVERVIEW**

**Ramsey Alwin**, *Director, National Elder Economic Security Initiative, Wider Opportunities for Women, Washington D.C.*

**METHODOLOGY**

**Susie Smith**, *Director, California Elder Economic Security Initiative*

**HISTORY OF THE FEDERAL POVERTY LINE**

**Steve Wallace, PhD.**, *Associate Director, UCLA School of Public Health*

- How the Federal Poverty Guideline is calculated
- How the Federal Poverty Line is used
- The Alternative: The Elder Economic Security Initiative



III **STAKEHOLDER PANEL: Economic Needs of California's Older Adults**

**THE URBAN AND SUBURBAN PERSPECTIVE**

**Steven Schmoll**, *Executive Director, Silicon Valley Council on Aging*

**THE RURAL PERSPECTIVE**

**Paul Downey**, *President/CEO, San Diego Community Services Center*

**ADVOCATES**

**Ruth Kletzing**, *Older Women's League*

**Gary Passmore**, *Legislative Coordinator, Congress of California Seniors*

**Nan Brazner**, *California Alliance of Retired Americans*

**Lola Young**, *California Senior Legislator*

IV **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

**RECOMMENDATIONS AND OBSERVATIONS**

**Susie Smith**, *Director, California Elder Economic Security Initiative*

V **PUBLIC COMMENT**

VI **CLOSING STATEMENT**