



SR0974

LRB101 19726 LAW 69225 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Older Americans Act (OAA) provides essential
3 services that help older adults live independently, such as
4 meal programs, home assistance, support for family caregivers,
5 transportation, protection from abuse, and other services;
6 state programs funded by the OAA must target services to the
7 older Americans with the greatest economic and social needs;
8 and

9 WHEREAS, The bipartisan OAA has been reauthorized numerous
10 times since it was first enacted in 1965; most recently, the
11 OAA was reauthorized for a three-year period through the Older
12 Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016, but it expired on
13 September 30, 2019; reauthorization has been passed by the U.S.
14 House of Representatives through the Dignity in Aging Act of
15 2019 and is being considered by the U.S. Senate; and

16 WHEREAS, Growth in the population of older adults
17 significantly outpaces OAA appropriations, and funding has not
18 kept pace with inflation; the population of older adults
19 increased by 23.5 percent from 2010 to 2017, and meanwhile,
20 appropriations for OAA decreased by 16 percent or about \$400
21 million in the last 18 years when adjusted for inflation;
22 funding in 2010 was \$42.95 per senior in today's dollars but
23 has dropped to \$27.25 per senior; and

1 WHEREAS, There is significant unmet need among older adults
2 for the services supported through the OAA; according to a 2015
3 report from the U.S. Government Accountability Office, 24
4 percent of low-income older adults were food insecure, and 83
5 percent of them did not receive home-delivered or congregate
6 meal services; nutrition programs make up about 40 percent of
7 OAA funding; additionally, the report found that 2 out of 3
8 adults who have difficulty completing daily activities have
9 limited or no access to home-based care, which can be provided
10 through the OAA; therefore, be it

11 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
12 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we urge the President
13 and Congress of the United States to reauthorize the Older
14 Americans Act and restore funding to Fiscal Year 2010 levels
15 adjusted for inflation; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be delivered to
17 the President of the United States, the President of the United
18 States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of
19 Representatives, and the members of the Illinois congressional
20 delegation.