

Senate Resolution 133 - Introduced

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S.R. _____ H.R. _____

1 1 SENATE RESOLUTION NO. _____
1 2 BY HARTSUCH, SENG, and WOOD
1 3 A Resolution to recognize April 2008 as Fall Prevention
1 4 Awareness Month for Older Iowans.
1 5 WHEREAS, falls are a leading cause of injuries and
1 6 their associated disabilities among the state's older
1 7 population; and
1 8 WHEREAS, the impact of a fall causes a significant
1 9 reduction in a senior's quality of life and major
1 10 costs to the health care system; and
1 11 WHEREAS, the incidence of falls increases with age
1 12 and one-third of older adults age 65 years and older
1 13 fall each year; and
1 14 WHEREAS, among other adults, falls are the leading
1 15 cause of injury and death and the most common cause of
1 16 nonfatal injuries and hospital admissions of trauma,
1 17 with nine out of 10 hip fractures caused by falls; and
1 18 WHEREAS, accidental injuries are the fifth leading
1 19 cause of death, and falls account for two-thirds of
1 20 accidental deaths; and
1 21 WHEREAS, 75 percent of United States deaths related
1 22 to falls occur with individuals who are 65 years or
1 23 older and more than 60 percent of persons who die from
1 24 falls are age 75 years or older; and
1 25 WHEREAS, persons with hip fractures are 5 to 20
1 26 percent more likely to die in the first year after a
1 27 fall, and following a fall, 15 to 25 percent of
1 28 persons who were living at home will still be in
1 29 long-term care facilities; and
1 30 WHEREAS, hospitalization rates and associated
2 1 complications increase steadily with age until they
2 2 double at about age 75; and
2 3 WHEREAS, the older American population is projected
2 4 to increase from 34.8 million to 77.2 million between
2 5 2000 and 2040, causing the number of fall-related
2 6 injuries to significantly increase, but research
2 7 supports that 40 percent or more of falls that occur
2 8 are preventable; NOW THEREFORE,
2 9 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate
2 10 hereby proclaims the month of April 2008 to be "Fall
2 11 Prevention Awareness Month for Older Iowans" in the
2 12 state of Iowa; and
2 13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate joins the
2 14 policy board members of the Generations Area Agency on
2 15 Aging, who have initiated a major local project with
2 16 the Scott County Health Department, Genesis Visiting
2 17 Nursing and Hospice, Trinity Visiting Nurse and Home
2 18 Care, and Braaten Health, in promoting awareness and
2 19 disseminating information regarding the high incidence
2 20 and adverse impact of falls among older Iowans, and
2 21 encourages Iowa's thirteen area agencies on aging to
2 22 disseminate information regarding, and encourage the
2 23 use of, the best possible practices intended to reduce
2 24 the incidence of falls and their devastating
2 25 consequences.
2 26 LSB 6607SS 82
2 27 jr/nh/14