

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 24

2 BY CONNORS

3 (COMPANION TO LSB 2105SS BY DEARDEN)

4 A Concurrent Resolution relating to the funding of the
5 Older Iowans' Legislature.

6 WHEREAS, the Older Iowans' Legislature was
7 established by the General Assembly in 1978 and
8 received state funding for the first 12 years of its
9 existence; and

10 WHEREAS, over the years the Older Iowans'
11 Legislature has monitored the needs of the aging
12 population and has framed legislative proposals to
13 address the changing and varied needs and issues of
14 this population; and

15 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has recognized the
16 efforts of the Older Iowans' Legislature by enacting
17 legislation based upon many of the proposals of the
18 Older Iowans' Model Legislature including but not
19 limited to those relating to mandatory use of
20 seatbelts; handicapped parking provisions; the use of
21 flashing fire warning devices for the hearing-
22 impaired; the establishment of well elderly clinics,
23 homemaker chore services, adult day care centers, case
24 management as an alternative to inappropriate
25 placement in nursing homes; recognition of spousal
26 impoverishment; and provisions for adult and child
27 abuse prevention; and

28 WHEREAS, state funding for the Older Iowans'
29 Legislature was eliminated by the General Assembly in
30 1990 and since that time delegates to the Older

1 Iowans' Legislature have provided personal funding for
2 their participation in the Model Legislature; and

3 WHEREAS, the lack of state funding has resulted in
4 representation by only the financially secure or by
5 those Iowans for whom costs have been paid by an area
6 agency on aging, which payment has, additionally,
7 resulted in the placing of a financial burden on these
8 agencies; and

9 WHEREAS, a nonprofit organization, the Older Iowa
10 Foundation, was established to generate funding for
11 the Older Iowans' Legislature but has been unable to
12 generate sufficient funding; and

13 WHEREAS, the Older Iowans' Legislature estimates
14 that the Older Iowans' Model Legislature requires
15 funds in the amount of \$60,000 annually in order to
16 pay delegate costs and associated costs of the area
17 agencies on aging; and

18 WHEREAS, the state of Iowa has benefited greatly
19 from the work of the Older Iowans' Model Legislature
20 in the past and can continue to benefit from these
21 efforts in the future; NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
23 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly be
24 requested to provide adequate funding to the Older
25 Iowans' Legislature to continue its work including
26 maintenance of the current format for the Model
27 Legislature, providing older Iowans with instruction
28 in the legislative process, providing older Iowans
29 with a means of proposing legislation for review by
30 the General Assembly, and providing the General

1 Assembly with a source of information and experience
2 in addressing the issues and needs of older Iowans.

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