

1 State of Arkansas
2 87th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2009

SR 13

4
5 By: Senator J. Jeffress
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8 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

9 COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE FOR ITS
10 STATEWIDE PROGRAM OF COMPREHENSIVE GERIATRIC
11 HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION FOR SENIOR CITIZENS
12 LIVING IN RURAL ARKANSAS.
13

14 **Subtitle**

15 COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE
16 FOR ITS CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO THE
17 STATE'S RURAL SENIOR CITIZENS.
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19 WHEREAS, the Eighty-Third General Assembly of the State of Arkansas
20 provided money from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement to create the
21 Arkansas Aging Initiative; and
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23 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, a program of the Donald W.
24 Reynolds Institute on Aging, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences,
25 formed partnerships with local and regional hospitals, area health education
26 centers, the Area Agency on Aging, the Division of Aging and Adult Services
27 of the Department of Human Services, local communities, and colleges and
28 universities; and
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30 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, using these partnerships,
31 established the following comprehensive regional centers on aging to deliver
32 specialized interdisciplinary geriatric health care and education programs to
33 senior citizens residing in rural Arkansas: Delta Center on Aging (West
34 Memphis), South Arkansas Center on Aging (El Dorado), West Central Arkansas
35 Center on Aging (Fort Smith), Center on Aging – North East (Jonesboro), South
36 Central Center on Aging (Pine Bluff), Schmieding Center for Senior Health and



1 Education (Springdale), and Texarkana Regional Center on Aging (Texarkana);
2 and

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4 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, working with community leaders
5 in Hot Springs and the Oaklawn Foundation for the Future of Hot Springs
6 established the Oaklawn Senior Health Care Center in Hot Springs; and

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8 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative is working with community
9 leaders in Mountain Home to plan and develop a comprehensive center for
10 seniors; and

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12 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative continues to implement its
13 master plans to provide specialized interdisciplinary geriatric health care
14 and education programs through a network of comprehensive regional centers on
15 aging with an eventual goal of being within sixty (60) miles of every
16 Arkansas senior citizen,

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18 NOW THEREFORE,

19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
20 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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22 That the Eighty-Seventh General Assembly of the State of Arkansas
23 recognizes and commends Dr. Claudia Beverly and the Arkansas Aging Initiative
24 leadership team for their efforts in designing, implementing, and operating
25 the comprehensive program of specialized geriatric health services for our
26 senior citizens and their families.

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eighty-Seventh General Assembly of the
29 State of Arkansas commends the participating hospital administrators,
30 geriatricians, nurses, and other members of the health professional teams
31 working in these rural areas for their commitment and devotion to improving
32 the quality of life for older Arkansans and their families.