

1 State of Arkansas
2 88th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2011

SR 15

4
5 By: Senator Bledsoe

6
7 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

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

12
13
14 **Subtitle**

15 COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE
16 FOR ITS CONTINUING COMMITMENT TO
17 ARKANSAS'S SENIOR CITIZENS.

18
19 Whereas, the Eighty-third General Assembly of the State of Arkansas
20 provided money from the tobacco Master Settlement Agreement to fund a
21 statewide program of specialized health care serviced for seniors living in
22 rural Arkansas; and

23
24 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, a program of the Donald W.
25 Reynolds Institute on Aging, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences,
26 formed partnerships with local and regional hospitals, area health education
27 centers, the area agencies on aging, the Division of Adult and Aging Services
28 of the Department of Health, local communities, and colleges and
29 universities; and

30
31 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, using these partnerships,
32 established the comprehensive regional centers on aging: Delta Center on
33 Aging (West Memphis), South Arkansas Center on Aging (El Dorado), West
34 Central Center on Aging (Fort Smith), Schmieding Center for Senior Health and
35 Education (Springdale), Texarkana Regional Center on Aging (Texarkana), and
36 Oaklawn Senior Health Care Center (Hot Springs); and



1
2 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative is working with community
3 leaders in Mountain Home to establish and support their efforts for a
4 Comprehensive Center on Aging; and
5

6 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative model program has received a
7 planning grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to develop a proposal
8 to fund replication of the Arkansas Aging Initiative in Oklahoma; and
9

10 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative continues to address the needs
11 of seniors by using a grant from the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation to
12 replicate the Schmieding Home Caregiver Training Program at other regional
13 centers on aging for family members and persons needing specialized training
14 to care for seniors; and
15

16 Whereas, the Arkansas Aging Initiative continues to implement its
17 master plan to provide specialized interdisciplinary geriatric healthcare and
18 education programs through a network of comprehensive regional centers on
19 aging with an eventual goal of having a regional center within sixty (60)
20 miles of every Arkansas senior,
21

22 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY-EIGHTH GENERAL
23 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
24

25 That the Senate recognizes and commends Dr. Claudia Beverly and the
26 Arkansas Aging Initiative leadership team for specialized health services for
27 our senior citizens and their families.
28

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate commends the participating hospital
30 administrators, geriatricians, nurses, educators, and other members of the
31 health profession teams working in these rural areas for their commitment and
32 devotion to improving the quality of life for older Arkansans and their
33 families. Upon adoption of this resolution, an appropriate copy shall be
34 provided to the Arkansas Aging Initiative by the Secretary of the Senate.
35
36