

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

HR 1018

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By: Representatives Borhauer, Abernathy, Blount, Bolin, Bradford, Davis, Dickinson, Flowers, Hardy, Harrelson, Harris, Key, W. Lewellen, Mahony, Matayo, Maxwell, McDaniel, Medley, S. Prater, Rainey, Rankin, Reep, Roebuck, Sumpter, Willis

HOUSE RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE FOR ITS DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPREHENSIVE GERIATRIC HEALTH CARE AND EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR SENIOR CITIZENS LIVING IN RURAL ARKANSAS.

Subtitle

RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE ARKANSAS AGING INITIATIVE FOR ITS SPECIALIZED GERIATRIC SERVICES TO OLDER ARKANSANS AND THEIR FAMILIES.

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WHEREAS, the Eighty-third General Assembly of the State of Arkansas provided money from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement to plan the funding of a statewide program of specialized geriatric health care services for seniors living in rural Arkansas; and

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WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative, a program of the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences and the Donald W. Reynolds Institute on Aging, was started to plan and implement specialized geriatric health care and education programs; and

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WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative intends to have specialized geriatric health care services within fifty (50) miles of each senior citizen; and



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WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative designed, funded, and strategically located Centers on Aging in Springdale, Bella Vista, Harrison, Mountain Home, Jonesboro, Fort Smith, West Memphis, Helena, Pine Bluff, El Dorado, and Texarkana; and

WHEREAS, these centers are known as the Schmieding Center for Senior Health and Education, Springdale; Center on Aging Northeast, Jonesboro; West Central Arkansas Center on Aging, Fort Smith; Delta Center on Aging, West Memphis, and Helena; South Arkansas Center on Aging, El Dorado; and Texarkana Regional Center on Aging, Texarkana; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative showed ingenuity and creativity by leveraging the original appropriation of \$2,100,000 into several million dollars from private sources, foundations, and grants; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Aging Initiative formed partnerships with local and regional hospitals to create senior health centers and clinics staffed by professional geriatricians to meet the unique health care needs of the elderly,

NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

That the Eighty-fifth General Assembly of the State of Arkansas recognizes and commends Dr. Claudia Beverly and the Arkansas Aging Initiative Leadership Team for their efforts in designing, implementing, and operating the comprehensive program of specialized geriatric health services for our senior citizens and their families.

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