

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

SR 10

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5 By: Senators J. Bookout, Altes, Broadway, Faris, Glover, Higginbothom, Horn, G. Jeffress, J. Jeffress, B.
6 Johnson, Luker, Madison, Miller, J. Taylor, Wilkinson, Womack, Wooldridge

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9 **SENATE RESOLUTION**

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

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16 **Subtitle**

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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21 NOW THEREFORE,

22 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE EIGHTY FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
23 STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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

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

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