

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 54th Legislature (2013)

3 SENATE
4 RESOLUTION 14

By: Anderson

5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Resolution supporting the dedicated work of family
8 caregivers; recognizing caregiving for older adults
9 is a vital and needed profession; encouraging the
10 creation of a special unit within the Aging Services
11 Division of the Department of Human Services to focus
12 on family and paid caregivers; encouraging additional
13 means to support family caregivers; encouraging the
14 review of state policies and state programs that
15 address the needs of older adults and caregivers;
16 directing the Aging Services Division of the
17 Department of Human Services to provide additional
18 information and education on supporting older adults
19 in their homes; and directing distribution.

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1 WHEREAS, almost all older adults who need assistance with
2 activities of daily living want to remain in their homes and
3 communities; and

4 WHEREAS, providing services and supports to older adults in
5 their homes and communities is generally much less expensive than
6 nursing home care; and

7 WHEREAS, older adults who receive cost-effective services in
8 their homes are much less likely to need public assistance; and

9 WHEREAS, an estimated 596,000 adults in the state provide care
10 to adult relatives or friends, which equates to an estimated 570
11 million hours a year and an estimated value of 6 billion dollars
12 each year; and

13 WHEREAS, to successfully address the surging population of older
14 adults who have significant needs for long-term services and
15 supports, the state must develop methods to both encourage and
16 support families to support their aging relatives and develop ways
17 to recruit and retain a qualified, responsive in-home care
18 workforce.

19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE 1ST SESSION
20 OF THE 54TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

21 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate supports the dedicated work of
22 family caregivers statewide and will continue to seek additional
23 ways to support these individuals through information, education,
24 training and relief care.

1 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate recognizes caregiving for older
2 adults as a vital and needed profession today and in the future.

3 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages the creation of a
4 special unit within the Aging Services Division of the Department of
5 Human Services that focuses on recruiting, retaining and supporting
6 family and paid caregivers.

7 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate strongly encourages additional
8 innovative and creative means to support family caregivers to
9 continue to provide needed in-home support for older adults.

10 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate encourages the review of state
11 policies and supports current state programs that address the needs
12 of older adults and their caregivers.

13 THAT the Oklahoma State Senate directs the Aging Services
14 Division of the Department of Human Services to continue to provide
15 additional information and education on supporting older adults in
16 their homes through both family caregivers and paid professional
17 caregivers.

18 THAT a copy of this resolution be distributed to Marjorie Lyons,
19 State President of AARP Oklahoma.

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