

**RESOLUTION**

**Establish the Texas State Family Caregiver Support Program**

A RESOLUTION TO: Implement the Texas State Family Caregiver Support Program to provide financial incentives for caregivers and appropriate respite for caregiver.

WHEREAS, Eighty percent of homecare services in the US are provided by family members and/or friends, better known as Informal Caregivers; and

WHEREAS, Despite vast research on family caregivers, widespread awareness of the volume of this care and general agreement that family care is a MUST in order to balance the costs of Long-Term-Care, a comprehensive policy on informal caregiving has not been developed; and

WHEREAS, The National Family Caregiver Support Program (NFCSP) created by the Older Americans Act amendments of 2000, has made some progress in developing the foundation of a national network of supports, but the Program currently only reaches a small percentage of caregivers; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the 11<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature, in conjunction with and with assistance from the Federal Government and the Texas DADS, HHS and other concerned agencies shall develop and implement the TEXAS STATE FAMILY CAREGIVER SUPPORT PROGRAM (TSFCSP), under the jurisdiction of a State of Texas Entity, and include a provision that a range of financial incentives such as tax credits and cash vouchers for items purchased on behalf of the individuals whom they are caring for and appropriate respite for caregiver.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006, by the Human Services Committee.

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Adalaide Cash Balaban, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 14<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

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Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

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Carlos Higgins, Secretary