

# The 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature 2008-2010

## TOP TEN RESOLUTIONS

The 12<sup>th</sup> TSHL passed a total of 74 resolutions during the Legislative Session of September 8-11, 2008 in the State House Chambers at the Texas State Capitol. The resolutions that follow ask the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature for specific actions to benefit older Texans. The TSHL membership has selected the top ten priorities as those most important to older Texans.

Resolution Number	Title and Resolve To:	Rank
R33	<p><b>Establish a Legislative Committee on Aging to address the aging population and the issues Texas will face in the next ten to thirty years.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature establish a Legislative Committee on Aging to focus on issues to include, but not limited to, healthcare, transportation, housing, education, and workforce among the aging population in Texas, review recommendations for legislation proposed by Texas state agencies that provide services for older Texans, and recommend legislative action to be considered by the Texas Legislature.</p>	<b>1</b>
R8	<p><b>Increase Medicaid Funding For Aging Texans.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature supports a Medicaid rate for aging Texans that is at least equal to the costs reported to the state by long term care providers.</p>	<b>2</b>
R1	<p><b>Increase funding for rural and small urban public transportation systems in Texas.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature provide \$50 million per year to rural and small urban transit systems to ensure adequate access, and improved quality of life for elderly Texans.</p>	<b>3</b>
R14	<p><b>Cap Annual Property Valuation Increases at 5%.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature pass legislation to lower the cap from 10% to no more than 5% per year for the legal increase in valuations.</p>	<b>4</b>
R12	<p><b>Support Programs Concerning Grandparents Caring For Grandchildren.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature request the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature to encourage the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services to allow a grandparent caregiver not having legal custody or guardianship to submit affidavits to enroll a child in school, to consent to medical treatment on the child's behalf, and that, with the proper documentation, the caregiving grandparents be provided access to State programs such as housing, medical care, and legal, educational, and counseling support for the grandchildren.</p>	<b>5</b>

Resolution Number	Title and Resolve To:	Rank
R58	<p><b>Reenact state regulation of electric utilities.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED: That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature pass legislation to reenact state regulation of electric utilities.</p>	6
R11	<p><b>To correct the misuse of Eminent Domain power and not allow private property to be taken to benefit another private owner.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature urge the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature to amend HB 2006 so that Texas senior citizens' private property cannot be taken from them by private enterprises such as private railroads, private land or real estate companies, or any private enterprise that would deny the state the ability to guarantee a public use, or which would only benefit the private company and not the general public.</p>	7
R26	<p><b>Increase the Personal Needs Allowance for Medicaid residents in nursing homes.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature pass legislation to establish by statute a level of no less than \$75.00 (seventy five dollars) a month for the personal needs allowance and make this issue a budget priority in the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislative Session.</p>	8
R24	<p><b>Require integration of Geriatric competencies into the full range of health education with emphasis on normal aging process during the first two years of Medical School before negative impressions have been experienced while caring for the more acutely ill or traumatically injured geriatric patient.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature join other voices across this country to urge the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature to join other State Legislatures in requiring, Geriatric Education as a condition of initial licensure of Health Care Professionals.</p>	9
R10	<p><b>Increase the tax deduction for volunteers using their personal vehicles for charitable activities including Meals on Wheels and other home delivered meals service providers.</b></p> <p>RESOLVED, That the 12<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature urge the 81<sup>st</sup> Texas Legislature to encourage the Federal Government to increase the reimbursement levels to adhere to the federal rate for volunteer charitable organizations such as Meals on Wheels.</p>	10