

**RESOLUTION**

**Study State Laws Governing End-of-Life Decisions**

A RESOLUTION TO: Urge that any changes in laws governing End-of-Life Decisions be designed foremost for the individual most affected by those decisions.

WHEREAS: End of Life Decisions are too often mired in conflicts between family members, caregivers, medical stakeholders, religious groups and others, while the person whose life is ending is either no longer capable of making those important decisions, or has previously expressed end-of-life preferences that are unclear or being overruled by the preferences or priorities of others; and,

WHEREAS: The importance of each person reaching the end of his or her life with the greatest degree of tranquility and dignity attainable cannot be overstated; and reasonable, unambiguous end-of-life decisions made by that individual should take precedence over the conflicting interests of other interested parties; and,

WHEREAS: The Texas Legislature is currently, through committee investigations, formulating recommendations for changes to laws governing end-of-life decisions, and the major determinant in shaping those laws should be the consensus of relevant views held by the clear majority of those most directly impacted-- senior citizens; now therefore, be it

RESOLVED: That the 11<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature sponsor a series of discussions across Texas to elicit the relevant views of senior citizens on this issue, and encourage and strongly recommend that the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature give great weight to these views in any legislation which governs End-of-Life Decisions.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 11<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006, by the General Committee.

---

Maurice Osborn, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2006. by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

---

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

---

Carlos Higgins, Secretary