

Committee Assigned: Human Services

**RESOLUTION**

**Expand the Money Management Program as an Alternative to Guardianship**

A RESOLUTION TO: Expand the Texas Money Management Program as a less-restrictive alternative to guardianships across the State;

WHEREAS, Many older Texans need personal assistance paying their bills and managing their finances in order to continue living in their own homes and apartments, and many are needlessly subjected to restrictive, costly and embarrassing guardianship proceedings because a less-restrictive alternative is not available in their county; and

WHEREAS, Trained and supervised volunteers currently provide money management services for 388 people in only 23 of the 254 counties in Texas; and

WHEREAS, There is a need for a statewide program to provide a consistent model that includes features and safeguards for recruitment of volunteers, insurance for persons served to hold them harmless in the unlikely event of financial injury attributable to the money management program, criminal background checks, oversight, monitoring, training, technical support, compatible matches of volunteer and client and an advisory council of persons knowledgeable about guardianship and alternatives; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED; that the 11<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature recommends that the 80<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature expand the existing money management program as an alternative to guardianships, provide additional State funding for existing money management programs, encourage the growth of statewide money management programs with those features and safeguards relating to volunteers, clients, training, oversight, supervision; and require an advisory council be incorporated as a Texas nonprofit corporation with recognition by the Internal Revenue Service under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

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

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Adalaide C. Balaban, Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this 12<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