

By: Nell Clark, Arlie Ray Horn, Barbara Effenberger
Narris Braly, Al Campbell, and Maurine Gross
Committee Assigned: General

R 49

RESOLUTION

Increase funding for Senior Corps Programs

A RESOLUTION TO: Increase funding for new and existing Senior Corps volunteer Programs by an additional \$607,414 per year. These programs include the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), Foster Grandparent Program (FGP); and the Senior Companion Program(SCP).

WHEREAS, There are 31 RSVP programs in the State where people age 55 plus perform worthwhile services for governmental and non-profit service organizations, such as schools, law-enforcement agencies, juvenile corrections and health care facilities. Currently, there are 33,500 volunteers participating in 31 projects; and,

WHEREAS, There are 18 existing FGP Programs, which involve seniors who help children who have been abused or neglected, mentor troubled teens and young mothers, and care for premature infants and children with physical disabilities. Currently, there are 1,256 volunteers participating in 18 projects; and,

WHEREAS, There are 9 SCP programs that utilize senior volunteers who assist adults who need extra help to live independently in their homes and communities. These volunteers serve the frail elderly adults with disabilities, terminal illnesses and offer respite for caregivers. Currently there are 764 volunteers participating in 9 projects, and although the cost associated with these programs has increased exponentially, the funding received has not changed for a number of years, now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED, That the 11th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 80th Texas Legislature fund an additional \$607,414 per year for new and existing Texas Senior Corps programs for a total allocation of \$1,422,414.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 13th day of September, 2006, by the General Committee.

Maurice Osborn, Chair

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

Charlotte Parks, Speaker

ATTEST:

Carlos Higgins, Secretary