

Committee Assigned \_\_\_\_\_:

RESOLUTION

Ensure Prompt Reporting Nursing Home Injuries and Deaths

A RESOLUTION TO better ensure prompt reporting of wrongful or negligent acts causing injuries or death to nursing home residents, followed by appropriate investigation and resolution.

WHEREAS, any injury or death of an elderly nursing home resident arousing suspicion in a competent observer should be promptly reported and investigated, including those injuries and deaths occurring shortly after the resident is moved from a nursing home to a hospital; and

WHEREAS, some observers may be reluctant to report wrongful or negligent acts for fear of retaliation, hesitancy to contact law enforcement officials, or they may simply not know who to contact; however, the safety of other nursing home residents is jeopardized when wrongful or negligent acts leading to injury or death are not properly reported and investigated; and

WHEREAS, adequate protection for senior citizens justifies the creation of a well-publicized and easy way to report these abuses, including the option for a caller to remain anonymous; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the 10<sup>th</sup> Texas Silver-Haired Legislature urge the 79<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature to require an additional way for observers to report wrongful or negligent acts causing injuries or death to nursing home residents, and that this means of reporting be well-publicized and convenient with an option for a caller to remain anonymous, such as a toll-free number for reports to be routed through an Area Agency on Aging Office.

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2004, by  
the \_\_\_\_\_ Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September, 2004, by the  
Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

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Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

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Al Campbell, Secretary