

Resolution

Older Americans Act

Adopted May 12, 2006
Amended June 26, 2013

Whereas the number of Americans over age 65 will rise from 39.6 million Americans today to 55 million by 2020 and nearly 72 million by 2030; and

Whereas many in the increasing older population will need supportive services at some point; and

Whereas Older Americans Act (OAA) programs provide a wide range of home and community-based services—including congregate and home-delivered meals, adult day care, transportation, and community service employment programs; and

Whereas for almost 50 years these services have successfully enhanced the ability of millions of older persons to live independently and stay healthy while living and engaging successfully in their communities with dignity; and

Whereas insufficient funding of many OAA programs has put many in a predicament, for instances, whereby only seven percent of seniors who are eligible for a home-delivered meal are able to receive one, and waiting lists for services are growing longer with the aging of the Baby Boom population; and

Whereas the Older Americans Act has been reauthorized numerous times to respond to the needs of older Americans, was last reauthorized in 2006 and is due for reauthorization; and

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans calls upon Congress, in consultation with representatives from the aging network and other stakeholders, to reauthorize the Older Americans Act and enact such legislation as soon as possible; and

Be it further resolved that the Alliance encourages its state and local affiliate organizations to meet as soon as possible with their members of Congress and urge them to reauthorize the Older Americans Act; and

Be it further resolved that OAA standards for current eligibility for programs, including the Title V Senior Community Service Employment Program, should remain in place; and

Be it finally resolved that Congress should authorize and appropriate funding levels that reflect inflation and population growth.