

Resolution Older Americans Month

Whereas President John F. Kennedy first designated May as "Senior Citizens Month" in 1963; and

Whereas Older Americans Month acknowledges the past and present contributions of older Americans by recognizing the achievements of seniors and encouraging participation in community activities; and

Whereas the number of Americans over age 65 will rise from 41.4 million Americans today to 55 million by 2020 and nearly 72 million by 2030; and

Whereas older adults play an important role in communities across the country by contributing experience, knowledge, and wisdom; and

Whereas older adults are active, productive community members involved in volunteering, mentorship, and civic engagement; and

Whereas older adults continue to make valuable contributions to their communities, ensuring a better life for future generations; and

Whereas the Older Americans Act of 1965 provides federally funded community based services and nutritional support programs to nearly 2.6 million older Americans each year; 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.

Therefore, be it resolved that the Alliance for Retired Americans:

- 1. Recognizes May as "Older Americans Month" and honors the valuable contributions that older Americans make to communities across the country; and
- 2. Encourages people across the country to recognize the important role of older Americans by providing opportunities for older people to share their wisdom, experience, and skills; and
- 3. Urges Congress to support seniors and honor Older Americans Month by reauthorizing the Older Americans Act in order to ensure continued funding for community based services for the growing number of Americans over age 65.