THE 2012 SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAIR BILL NO: 01

COMMITTEE: D – Senior Centers

BY: Eugene Davis, Lee Carlson, Richard Keller, Don Sappington

(REGION I – AAA OF NORTHWEST AR) and

Raymond Phillips and Wetzel LaGronie, Thelma Clark, James Cranford,

Vonda Cranford, Calvin Duncan, Anna Farris, Norma Jean Gentry, Bobbie Moore, Patsy Warren, and Christine Williams

(REGION VI – AAA OF WEST CENTRAL AR) and

Joyce Hancock, Sue Gammill, Glenita Martin, Pat Dunegan, Paula Sporn,

and Alma Smith

(REGION II – WHITE RIVER AAA) and

Freda Marks, Carolyn Gross, Nancy Franks, Betty Shrable, Kay Greenway

(REGION III – EAST ARKANSAS AAA)

A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE BILL TO

ADD ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR SENIOR ACTIVITY AND WELLNESS CENTERS IN

THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, according to the 2010 United States Census, there are 567,522 Arkansans who are 60 years of age or older;

Whereas, to maintain the current level of service at senior activity and wellness centers;

Whereas, because of the increase in the costs of gasoline, food and minimum wage, there must be more funding for senior activity and wellness centers. These vital services are essential to the well-being of seniors; such as home delivered meals, transportation, socialization and congregate meals;

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, for an increase in funding for senior activity and wellness centers. We are asking for 8.75% of the surplus generated by the tax base.
A Silver Haired Legislative Bill To

Increase State Funding to Support The Home Delivered Meal Programs in Arkansas

Be it enacted by the Silver Haired Legislature of the State of Arkansas:

Whereas, seniors are being denied home delivered meals throughout the state, raising the risk of additional health concerns which could lead to moving to a nursing home. The average cost of a home delivered meal is $6.00.
Whereas, Arkansas’ demographic makeup increases the demand for home and community based services. Funding from the Older American’s Act can no longer support these demands. Inflation is eroding the resources already committed to these services.

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, we propose to increase home delivered meal program budgets annually with $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1% of the gross revenues received from games of skill at current and any future established facilities operating with the State of Arkansas.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAIR BILL NO: 09

COMMITTEE: C – Long Term Care


A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE BILL TO

BALANCE THE MEDICAID LONG-TERM-CARE SYSTEM IN ARKANSAS BY INCREASING ACCESSIBILITY TO HOME AND COMMUNITY-BASED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

WHEREAS, elderly Arkansans requiring Medicaid long-term care services are currently denied equal access to home and community based services and supports; and
WHEREAS, the assessment and eligibility process for nursing home and home and community based services are not uniform and should be consistent to assure equal access and compliance with the Supreme Court Olmstead Decision; and

WHEREAS, in Arkansas it takes longer to get approved for Medicaid home care than Medicaid nursing home care; and

WHEREAS, it costs the government three to four times more to provide nursing home care than home and community based care; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas spends 69% of its Medicaid long-term care funds on nursing home care and only 31% on home and community based care; and,

WHEREAS, the delay in approval for home and community based care can force people into nursing homes to receive care; and

WHEREAS, people prefer to live and receive care in their own homes as long as possible.
THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, that the state provide a uniform assessment and eligibility process for all Medicaid long-term care services to expedite eligibility determination for home and community based services enabling older people equal access to less restrictive home and community based long-term care.
THE 2012 SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAired BILL NO: 10

COMMITTEE: C – Long Term Care

BY: Betty Alspaugh, Jack Ballard, James Bradford, Billie Dougherty, Joe Heird, Doug Ladner, Phillip Liggett, Cecil Malone, and Shelly Moran

(REGION V – CARELINK)

A SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE Bill TO

REDUCE EXPENDITURES IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM BY PROVIDING CARE TRANSITION AND MEDICATION MANAGEMENT SERVICES THAT REDUCE UNNECESSARY HOSPITALIZATIONS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

WHEREAS, medication related problems and errors endanger the lives and well-being of up to half of community dwelling elders and cost the nation more than $170 billion in drug-related illness and death; and
WHEREAS, at least 25% of all harmful drug events are preventable; and

WHEREAS, medication management systems help keep people at home and out of the hospital by addressing medication safety; and

WHEREAS, one in five older people is admitted back to the hospital within 30 days of discharge, creating national concern regarding quality of care and health care costs; and

WHEREAS, at least 75% of all hospitalizations are avoidable; that is, they are clinically related to inadequate discharge planning, inadequate post discharge follow-up and/or poor communication between hospital staff and community providers; and,

WHEREAS, evidence based Care Transition and Medication Management programs are proven to reduce hospitalizations, control the cost of services and improve the quality of care and the health of the patients who receive them.

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session by the State of Arkansas, that the state allocate Medicaid funding to make
Care Transitions and Medication Management programs available through Medicaid to reduce the overall cost of Medicaid in Arkansas.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAIR BILL NO: 11

COMMITTEE: C – Long Term Care

BY: Betty Alspaugh, Jack Ballard, James Bradford, Billie Dougherty, Joe Heird, Doug Ladner, Phillip Liggett, Cecil Malone, and Shelly Moran

(REGION V – CARELINK)

A Silver Haired Legislative Bill to

REDUCE LONG-TERM-CARE EXPENSES IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM BY PROVIDING $2,500,000 IN STATE FUNDING TO STABILIZE THE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM AND PREVENT UNNECESSARY HOSPITALIZATIONS AND PREMATURE NURSING HOME PLACEMENTS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, Arkansas has the third highest rate of senior hunger in the nation, with one of every five older people being at risk for hunger; and
Whereas, malnourished older people are at risk for unnecessary hospitalizations and/or premature nursing home placements; and

Whereas, Meals On Wheels can be provided for an entire year for approximately $1,000 per person, with the same $1,000 approximating the cost of one day in a hospital or a week in a nursing home; and

Whereas, Arkansas Senior Centers have experienced a series of reductions in funding over the last several years and as a result, are serving 332,000 fewer meals in 2011 than in 2008.

Whereas, according to the Consumer Price Index this past year the cost of food increased by 4.2% and the cost of gasoline increased by 9.7% jeopardizing the program’s ability to provide Meals on Wheels to the people who need the service; and

Whereas, it is cost effective for the state to help people live in their own homes since 69% of nursing home residents become Medicaid recipients after they exhaust their resources and spend down into Medicaid eligibility.
Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, that the state reduce Medicaid expenditures by increasing Meals-On-Wheels funding by $2,500,000 per year.
A Silver Haired Legislative Bill to
REDUCE LONG-TERM-CARE EXPENSES IN THE ARKANSAS MEDICAID PROGRAM BY PROVIDING $2,500,000 IN STATE FUNDING TO STABILIZE THE MEALS ON WHEELS PROGRAM AND PREVENT UNNECESSARY HOSPITALIZATIONS AND PREMATURE NURSING HOME PLACEMENTS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAİRED LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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Whereas, malnourished older people are at risk for unnecessary hospitalizations and/or premature nursing home placements; and

Whereas, Meals On Wheels can be provided for an entire year for approximately $1,000 per person, with the same $1,000 approximating the cost of one day in a hospital or a week in a nursing home; and

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Whereas, according to the Consumer Price Index this past year the cost of food increased by 4.2% and the cost of gasoline increased by 9.7% jeopardizing the program’s ability to provide Meals on Wheels to the people who need the service; and

Whereas, it is cost effective for the state to help people live in their own homes since 69% of nursing home residents become Medicaid recipients after they exhaust their resources and spend down into Medicaid eligibility.
Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, that the state reduce Medicaid expenditures by increasing Meals-On-Wheels funding by $2,500,000 per year.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIED LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HALED BILL NO: 12

COMMITTEE: A – Legal/Revenue and Tax

BY: Raymond Phillips, Wetzel LaGrone, Thelma Clark, James Cranford, Vonda Cranford, Calvin Duncan, Anna Farris, Norma Jean Gentry, Bobbie Moore, Patsy Warren and Christine Williams

(REGION VI – AAA OF WEST CENTRAL AR),

A SILVER HALED LEGISLATIVE BILL TO

REQUIRE ANNUAL REPORTING BY DHS TO THE

LEGISLATURE REGARDING EXPENDITURES AND

SERVICES PROVIDED TO SENIORS

The Omnibus Services to Seniors Reporting Bill (OSSRB)

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HALED LEGISLATURE OF THE

STATE OF ARKANSAS:
WHEREAS, accurate, timely and complete data is needed by the legislature and the executive branch in order to make intelligent, informed, and responsible decisions regarding services to seniors in the state;

WHEREAS, currently there is no comprehensive, accurate, condensed report on services provided to seniors in the state, including those provided by all agencies public and private that receive federal and/or state funding, which is readily available to legislators and the executive branch on a regular basis;

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, that the Director of the Department of Human Services (DHS) be required to submit an Omnibus Services to Seniors Report (OSSR) to the legislature and executive branch by November 1st of each year, covering expenditures and number of clients served for the previous state fiscal year. Subsequent reports shall contain data for the fiscal year just completed, plus the previous fiscal year’s data. Previous fiscal year’s data shall continue to be included until the report contains data for five fiscal years. Thereafter, as each new fiscal year is reported, the oldest data will be dropped from the report. The five year accumulated data should allow the legislature and executive branch to recognize trends and changes
in senior services over time. A copy of the report shall be provided to each legislator and the governor and his/her staff by November 1\textsuperscript{st} of each year.

The report shall contain the following information in summary form:

- A brief executive summary of the report from the Director of the Department of Human Services.

The following data being reported should be in table format:

- Total population of seniors (aged 60 and over) in the state
- Total number of seniors who are Medicaid eligible in the year being reported
- Total Medicaid dollars expended by the state on all persons aged 60 and over during the fiscal year being reported
- Average amount of Medicaid dollars expended per eligible senior in the fiscal year
- Number of Clients in Nursing Homes
- Number of Seniors Receiving In-Home Services
- Number of Seniors Receiving Transportation Assistance
- Number of Seniors Receiving Home Delivered Meals
1. Number of Seniors on Home Delivered Meals Waiting List
2. Number of Seniors Receiving Congregate Meals
THE 2012 SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAIR BILL NO: 13

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Raymond Phillips, Wetzel LaGrone, Betty Cain, Thelma Clark, Norma Jean Gentry, Norma McLain, Billy Stone, Sylvia Stone, and Patsy Warren (REGION VI – WEST CENTRAL AAA)

A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE BILL

REGARDING DENTAL, VISION AND HEARING FOR SENIORS AGES 65 AND OLDER

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, the State provides cost of the program to seniors who receive up to 175% of poverty level, and program caps of $2,000.00 for dental care per year, $400.00 for eye care, including glasses per year, and $2,000.00 for ear care including hearing aids per year.
Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, that funding will come from a $.50 increase in tax on each 6 pack of beer sold in the State of Arkansas.
A Bill

SILVER HAIED BILL NO: 17

COMMITTEE: A – Legal/Revenue and Tax

BY: Betty Bowlin, Donald Fast, and Fred Ladda

(REGION VIII - AAA OF WESTERN, AR)

A Silver Haired Legislative Bill To

PROTECT THE VULNERABLE AGING FROM SCAMS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIED LEGISLATURE OF THE
STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, there is an increasing number of telemarketing phone calls via
land-line and cellular phones often targeting vulnerable elder individuals that
are lonely, have poor hearing, and general confusion causing for identity
theft and loss of life savings;

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of
the State of Arkansas, we propose a fine of $10,000.00 and incarceration for
a minimum of one year and a maximum of five years for anyone convicted of a scam in person, by telephone, or electronically and enforced by the Attorney General’s Office of Arkansas.
A Bill

SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE BILL NO: 18

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Silva Timmons, Betty Bowlin, and Fred Ladda

(REGION VIII - AAA OF WESTERN, AR)

A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE BILL TO

INCREASE THE FINANCIAL ELIBILITY REQUIREMENT FOR
AN INDIVIDUAL TO BE EMPLOYED UNDER THE STATE OLDER WORKER PROGRAM

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, the State Older Workers Program does not have the ability to hire sufficient numbers of qualified senior citizens to perform some jobs due to the limitations of income;
Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, we propose to increase the income eligibility limit from 200% of the supplemental security income level to 300% of the supplemental security income level bringing this program in line with other programs such as Elder Choices income eligibility and nursing home placement income eligibility levels.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIRER LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Bill

SILVER HAIRER BILL NO: 19

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Fred Hander, Fred Ladda, and Bill Roddy

(REGION VIII - AAA OF WESTERN AR)

A SILVER HAIRER LEGISLATIVE BILL TO

MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR CAREGIVERS TO PICK UP MEALS

FROM SENIOR CENTERS

BE IT ENACTED BY THE SILVER HAIRER LEGISLATURE OF THE

STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, there is an increasing number of Older Arkansans who are

impacted by the limited availability to see doctors, run errands, and other

necessary daily functions of everyday life; and

Whereas, in as much as, too often Senior Citizens are forced to chose

between accepting the available time offer of doing necessary errands or
missing out on their noon meal and for most their one and only hot nutritious meal of the day;

Whereas, older Arkansans are also having to work past or come out of retirement and maintain jobs to meet necessary financial obligations in their lives and are unable to participate in a Senior Center noon meal due to time constraints of work breaks by their employers;

Whereas, at this time older Arkansans are not allowed to take their meal back to their worksite. This creates a failed service to otherwise eligible older Arkansans;

Whereas, the most poverty stricken older Arkansans who could benefit the most from the meal is being penalized due to uncontrollable circumstances of doctor appointments or working are not allowed that daily meal due to restrictions.

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, we request the State amend the procedure number 206 of the Division of Aging and Adult Services Guidelines to allow the pick up of meals from the local Senior Centers to benefit the community of the older
Arkansans, and that the person picking up the meals sign a waiver absolving the center of any liability.
THE 2012 SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Resolution

SILVER HAired RESOLUTION NO: 01

COMMITTEE: A – Legal/Revenue and Tax

BY: Glenn Priebe, Lamar Cole, Charles Hamilton, Billie Yates

(REGION I – AAA OF NORTHWEST AR)

A Silver Haired Legislative Resolution

REGARDING REGARDING REALLOCATING OF $70,342.88

FROM THE CIGARETTE TAX BACK TO THE SENIOR CENTER FUNDS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, $70,342.88 had been assigned to Senior Centers from the cigarette tax and has been taken by the DF & A for administrative costs;

Whereas, this money has eliminated 15,000 home delivered meals for hungry seniors.
Be it resolved by the Silver Haired Legislature of the State of Arkansas to
reinstate the $70,342.88 to the Senior Activity Center Funds.
A Resolution

SILVER HAIRE Resolution NO: 02

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Harriet Raley, Jack Harris and Sammie Johnston

(REGION II – White River AAA)

A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

FOR PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, the diagnosis of diabetes is approaching 50% of the American population;

Whereas, as it is the responsibility of every senior to educate themselves in areas of deficit of knowledge;

Whereas, obesity is also approaching 50% of the American population;
Whereas, each senior/disabled citizen has the obligation to demonstrate participation in needed education programs.

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas to provide focus and broad based marketing in basic health programs to benefit seniors/disabled, specifically good nutrition, appropriate exercise, good dental hygiene, avoiding tobacco, and limited use of alcohol.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Resolution

SILVER HAIR LEGISLATION RESOLUTION NO: 03

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Loretta Echols, Robert Scott, Leon Wigginton, A.J. Henry, Jr, and Ricarda Snellback

(REGION III – EAST ARKANSAS AAA)

A SILVER HAIR LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION OF SENATE BILL #42 OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF 2011 BY SENATORS D. JOHNSON, P. MALONE, J. CRUMBLY, AND REPRESENTATIVE B. GASKILL.

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE DENTAL HYGIENISTS TO PERFORM DENTAL HYGIEN WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION OF A DENTIST ON PREMISES

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SILVER HAIR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
Whereas, more than a year has passed since the legislation became law, but the Rules and Regulations as mandated by the ACT have not been completed; and

Whereas, a) the Arkansas State Board of Dental Examiners SHALL adopt Rules and Regulations to implement § 17-82-701 – 17-82-704, and b) the State Board of Health SHALL adopt rules to implement §-17-82-705 of the law.

WHEREAS, meanwhile many disadvantaged persons covered by this act are deprived of receiving adequate Dental Care because of the many barriers faced in getting to a dental office for preventive, and corrective care;

THEREFORE, be it resolved by the 2012 Arkansas Silver Haired Legislature of the State of Arkansas, that it is imperative that the Arkansas State Board of Examiners and the State Board of Health hasten to adopt rules and regulations for Senate Bill 42, as mandated by the General Assembly of 2011.
THE 2012 SILVER HAIRLED LEGISLATIVE SESSION

A Resolution

SILVER HAIRLED RESOLUTION NO: 04

COMMITTEE: B – Aging Services

BY: Gerald Andrews (Lead Sponsor); Verdell Baker, Bobby Barringer, Phil McBe, Mary McBe, Gary McClure, Eva Marie Pearson, Doyle Ray, Norman D. Clark, Richard Jenkins, Don Ashcraft, Mandy Alford, and Joann Kongenske

(REGION IV – SOUTHEAST ARKANSAS AAA)

A SILVER HAIRLED LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

COMMEND TIM MASSANELLI FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE ARKANSAS LEGISLATURE AND THE SILVER HAIRLED LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SILVER HAIRLED LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Whereas, Tim Massanelli has served the State of Arkansas as House of Representative Parliamentarian since 1973, and
Whereas, he has provided vast knowledge and support to elected officials
during his tenure.

Therefore, be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of
the State of Arkansas, as members of the Silver Haired Legislatures, we
want to commend him for his diligence in service and patience in providing
guidance to all.
A Resolution

SILVER HAired RESOLUTION NO: 05

COMMITTEE: C – Long Term Care

By: Doris Freer, Vivien Wright, Sandra Plumley

(REGION VII – AAA OF SOUTHWEST AR)

A SILVER HAired LEGISLATIVE Resolution

ALL MEDICAID RECIPIENTS IN NURSING HOMES WHO RECEIVES A DENTAL CHECK-UP ANNUALLY AS PART OF THEIR MEDICAID PROGRAM

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SILVER HAired LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

Therefore be it resolved by the 2012 Silver Haired Legislative Session of the State of Arkansas, to encourage all Nursing Homes to provide this dental check-up annually.