

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 151

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 143

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 151—Relative to in-home supportive services.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 9, 2010.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 151, Ma. In-home supportive services.

This measure would declare the intent of the Legislature to ensure the preservation of home care and personal care services to seniors and people with disabilities through the In-Home Supportive Services program.

WHEREAS, For over a quarter century California has provided home care and personal assistance services to seniors and people with disabilities through a unique, consumer-directed, fiscally sound program called the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program; and

WHEREAS, The IHSS program was signed into law by Governor Ronald Reagan in 1973 to avoid unnecessary institutionalization and help IHSS program consumers to live independently in the community; and

WHEREAS, The IHSS program has become nationally recognized as the preferred way to provide assistance to people who need long-term care, and is now being replicated in other states; and

WHEREAS, The IHSS program is a prime example of the home-based, long-term care solutions that were the focus of President George W. Bush's "New Freedom Initiative" in 2001; and

WHEREAS, According to the State of California IHSS Management Statistics Summary, dated February 2010, the IHSS program serves nearly 450,000 California residents who qualify for services because of functional limitations and financial need; and

WHEREAS, The average per capita cost of services under the IHSS program is one-fifth of the average per capita cost to taxpayers of nursing homes; and

WHEREAS, The IHSS program is acknowledged as the reason California has a relatively low number of people in nursing homes and other institutions; and

WHEREAS, The IHSS program is key to fulfilling the civil rights of Californians with disabilities to live in the most integrated settings, as affirmed by the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act and the 1999 United States Supreme Court Olmstead decision; and

WHEREAS, Nearly 370,000 IHSS providers deliver the home care services and support to make it possible for California seniors and people with disabilities to remain living independently in their homes; and

WHEREAS, Numerous national organizations join together annually to declare the month of November as National Home Care Month, to recognize, honor, and support the valuable contributions of home care and personal assistance workers; and

WHEREAS, The work of California's IHSS providers is essential to the independence of seniors and persons with disabilities in California and thus deserves the respect and appreciation of all Californians; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California hereby declares its intent to ensure the preservation of home care and personal assistance services to seniors and people with disabilities through the In-Home Supportive Services program; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.