

STATE OF ALASKA

THE LEGISLATURE

1990

Source

SCR 36

Legislative
Resolve No.

91



Relating to an Alaska Conference on Aging and a national White House Conference on Aging in 1991.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

WHEREAS President Bush has called for a national White House Conference on Aging in 1991 under the authority vested in him by the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987; and

WHEREAS the purpose of the national conference will be to develop recommendations for additional research and action in the field of aging to further the policy of the Congress set out in the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987:

It is the policy of the Congress that

(1) the Federal Government should work jointly with the States and their citizens to develop recommendations and plans of action to meet the challenges and needs of older individuals, . . . and

(2) in developing programs for the aging pursuant to this section, emphasis should be directed toward individual, private, and public initiatives and resources intended to enhance the economic security and self-sufficiency of elder Americans.

P.L. 100 - 175, sec. 201(b); and

WHEREAS the legislature strongly agrees with the stated policy of the Congress and adopts it as the policy for the state; and

WHEREAS the legislature also subscribes to the findings of the Congress set out in the Older Americans Act Amendments of 1987, which can be summarized as acknowledging the great value of

older Americans and their talents, the need to assure all older Americans access to affordable health care, comprehensive long-term care, suitable housing, opportunities for continued productivity and employment, and the need to foster the fulfillment and dignity of older Americans; and

WHEREAS the state will be called upon to send delegates from among its citizens to the national 1991 White House Conference on Aging who will represent the views and needs of all older Alaskans and of all Alaskans interested in aging;

BE IT RESOLVED by the Alaska State Legislature that a 1991 Alaska Conference on Aging be convened before the 1991 White House Conference on Aging to allow older Alaskans and other interested citizens and public officials to meet and discuss issues related to aging in the state and in the nation, and to choose delegates to represent the state at the White House conference; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the governor is respectfully requested to direct the Older Alaskans Commission, created by the legislature in 1981 and the state's designated State Unit on Aging for all purposes under the Older Americans Act, to plan and carry out the 1991 Alaska Conference on Aging and to coordinate and cooperate, as requested, with the federal Administration on Aging in planning for and assisting with the 1991 White House Conference on Aging; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should coordinate its planning for both the state and the White House conference with all local and state organizations whose members are older Alaskans or whose purpose is to serve older Alaskans, including organizations for retirees who may be younger than age 60, all local senior citizen commissions, regional conferences of Native Alaskan elders, and with all government agencies serving older Alaskans; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should develop a method of choosing voting delegates to both the state and the national conferences from among major senior or retiree organizations and from local or regional senior groups, so that, as far as possible, the interests of all Alaskans on the issues of aging may be fairly represented at the state and the White House conferences; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should offer planning assistance and information to local or regional areas that may choose to conduct local aging forums before the statewide Alaska Conference on Aging; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should appoint an ad hoc steering committee, consisting of commission members and others, to assist the commission in the planning, coordination, and conduct of the Alaska Conference on Aging, and the members of the steering committee should serve without compensation, but should be entitled to per diem and travel expenses authorized by law for commission members; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission should hire temporary or project staff and enter into those contracts necessary to carry out the intent of this resolution, including contracts for group accommodations, transportation, and meal

services for delegates to the Alaska Conference on Aging, or for stipends for delegates to be awarded on an equitable basis as needed to ensure reasonable affordability and access of all chosen delegates to the state conference; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Older Alaskans Commission submit a report of the activities and findings of the Alaska Conference on Aging, of the activities of the Alaska delegation to the White House conference, and of any resulting proposals for legislation to the governor and the legislature by March 1, 1992.