



HR0274

LRB100 12079 MST 24404 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The federal Older Americans Act has been the  
3 primary piece of federal legislation supporting social and  
4 nutrition services to Americans age 60 and older since 1965;  
5 and

6           WHEREAS, Title III of the Older Americans Act establishes a  
7 grant system to fund programs that address the unique needs of  
8 vulnerable seniors, including both the Meals on Wheels Program  
9 and the Congregate Meals Program; and

10           WHEREAS, The nationwide Meals on Wheels network, comprised  
11 of 5,000 local and community-based programs, receives 35% of  
12 its total funding for the provision of congregate and home  
13 delivered meals from the federal government by the U.S.  
14 Department of Health and Human Services, Administration for  
15 Community Living; and

16           WHEREAS, The number of seniors in our country will grow  
17 exponentially over the coming years and the Meals on Wheels and  
18 Congregate Meals programs are a proven public-private  
19 partnership that effectively addresses the challenges of aging  
20 by promoting health and improving the quality of life for our  
21 nation's most vulnerable seniors; and

1           WHEREAS, These programs have the opportunity to not only  
2 keep seniors in their homes, but also save millions in tax  
3 dollars by keeping them out of more costly healthcare settings;  
4 and

5           WHEREAS, In Illinois, the Meals on Wheels Program and  
6 Congregate Meals Program both serve over 7.8 million meals to  
7 118,000 seniors in a given year; and

8           WHEREAS, On March 16, 2017, the Trump Administration  
9 presented a budget blueprint that focuses on discretionary  
10 spending levels for federal Fiscal Year 2018, and makes deep  
11 cuts to discretionary programs, such as Meals on Wheels; and

12           WHEREAS, The budget blueprint also calls for the  
13 elimination of the Community Services Block Grant and Community  
14 Development Block Grant, upon which providers of Meals on  
15 Wheels programs rely to administer their programs; and

16           WHEREAS, The budget blueprint also contains a 17.9% cut to  
17 the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services budget,  
18 placing the programs at even greater risk of being cut;  
19 therefore, be it

20           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE  
21 HUNDREDTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we

1 strongly oppose any and all efforts by the Trump Administration  
2 to cut the Meals on Wheels Program and Congregate Meals  
3 Program, eliminate the Community Development Block Grant,  
4 eliminate the Community Services Block Grant, and slash funding  
5 for the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services; and be it  
6 further

7       RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be  
8 delivered to the Illinois Congressional Delegation.