



1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The Older Adult Services Act, which was passed by  
3 the General Assembly and approved by the Governor in 2004,  
4 provides a planning mechanism for the overhaul of the State's  
5 long term care system; and

6 WHEREAS, The establishment of a statewide enhanced  
7 comprehensive care coordination system is a critical first step  
8 in the overhaul of the long term services and care systems as  
9 recommended in the Older Adult Services Report submitted in  
10 January 2006; and

11 WHEREAS, Older adults and their families need the ability  
12 to make informed choices about services to meet their needs in  
13 the areas of physical health, function, mental health, home  
14 environment, finance, and social and informal supports; and

15 WHEREAS, Key components are a standardized statewide  
16 comprehensive assessment, care coordination, client follow-up,  
17 flexible hours, and enhanced training; and

18 WHEREAS, Comprehensive assessment and ongoing care  
19 coordination assists older adults in identifying these  
20 holistic needs, provides them with information on and access to  
21 the services to meet those needs, and results in comprehensive  
22 care plans for their specific needs, thereby allowing older  
23 adults to remain as independent as possible for as long as  
24 possible; and

25 WHEREAS, The purpose of a comprehensive assessment is to  
26 gather a complete picture of the older adult's needs and  
27 strengths so that a care plan is developed that helps the older  
28 adult and his or her family to problem-solve, make informed  
29 choices, and remain as independent as possible; and

1           WHEREAS, The comprehensive assessment process will include  
2 a face to face interview in the client's home that identifies  
3 needs in new areas: physical health, mental health,  
4 environment, and social and informal supports, in addition to  
5 functional and financial information; and

6           WHEREAS, Once fully operational, the comprehensive care  
7 coordination system would be backed up by a full array of home  
8 and community based services; and

9           WHEREAS, The design of the enhanced care coordination  
10 system would build upon the strengths and experiences of the  
11 different case management structures currently operating in  
12 Illinois and promising practices identified in other states;  
13 and

14           WHEREAS, Unmet service needs would be collected to assist  
15 in the identification of priority service areas as defined in  
16 the Older Adult Services Act and the development of new  
17 services; therefore, be it

18           RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL  
19 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
20 CONCURRING HEREIN, that we do declare that it is in the best  
21 interest of the older adults of Illinois and their family  
22 caregivers that the existing case management system be  
23 transformed into an enhanced comprehensive care coordination  
24 system; and be it further

25           RESOLVED, That such an overhaul shall build on the  
26 strengths and experience of the current case management system,  
27 transforming the process from simply eligibility determination  
28 to one that is holistic, client-focused, and consumer-directed  
29 and that produces customized care plans; and be it further

30           RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be delivered to

1 Governor Rod Blagojevich.