

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The State of Illinois' senior citizen population
3 makes outstanding contributions to society and civic life;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, The State recognizes that all citizens have
6 numerous issues and concerns that can be addressed by the
7 wisdom that comes from a lifetime of experience; and

8 WHEREAS, The State wishes to afford senior citizens the
9 opportunity to impart their wisdom and share their life
10 experiences for the benefit of all citizens in the area of
11 public policy; and

12 WHEREAS, The unified and collective voice of senior
13 citizens can provide important insight and information to
14 assist in the resolution of issues facing future generations,
15 and by presenting these issues through the Silver Haired
16 Legislature to public officials of the State; therefore, be
17 it

18 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
19 NINETY-SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, That
20 there is created a Silver-Haired Legislature to advise the
21 Governor and the General Assembly on issues of concern to all
22 citizens, including senior citizens; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Silver-Haired Legislature shall be
24 composed of 177 members. One member shall be appointed by
25 each member of the Senate and the House of Representatives to
26 represent that member's district. Members must be 60 years
27 of age or older to serve in the Silver-Haired Legislature;
28 and be it further

29 RESOLVED, That members in the Silver-Haired Legislature
30 shall serve without compensation or reimbursement of

1 expenses; and be it further

2 RESOLVED, That the President of the Senate, the Minority
3 Leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
4 Representatives, and the Minority Leader of the House of
5 Representatives shall each appoint one member of the General
6 Assembly to serve on the Silver-Haired Legislature
7 Commission. The Commission shall have the responsibility of
8 organizing the Silver-Haired Legislature including, but not
9 limited to, determining times and dates when the
10 Silver-Haired Legislature shall convene and distributing
11 those times and dates to the members of the Silver-Haired
12 Legislature, providing members of the Silver-Haired
13 Legislature with staff and research support, and receiving
14 appointment forms from members; and be it further

15 RESOLVED, That the members of the House of
16 Representatives and the Senate shall appoint their members to
17 the Silver-Haired Legislature by May 30 of each year
18 beginning in 2002. The appointed members shall serve a
19 one-year term. Members may be appointed for more than one
20 term. The General Assembly member shall certify to the
21 Commission the name, address, telephone number, and age of
22 his or her appointees; and be it further

23 RESOLVED, That the Silver-Haired Legislature shall meet
24 before September 30 of each year beginning in 2002; and be it
25 further

26 RESOLVED, That the Silver-Haired Legislature shall be a
27 bicameral Legislature with members appointed by the Senate to
28 serve in one house and members appointed by the House of
29 Representatives to serve in another. The Silver-Haired
30 Legislature shall be modeled after the Illinois General

1 Assembly in structure and format. The Silver-Haired
2 Legislature may establish committees by its own rules and
3 procedures; and be it further

4 RESOLVED, That the Silver-Haired Legislature shall elect
5 the presiding officers in each house on the first day that it
6 convenes. The presiding officers shall work with the
7 Commission to adopt by-laws and procedures to govern the
8 Silver-Haired Legislature's internal operations; and be it
9 further

10 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this Resolution be
11 presented to the Speaker and the Minority Leader of the House
12 of Representatives and to the President and Minority Leader
13 of the Senate.