

Senators Pappageorge and Kahn offered the following resolution:

Senate Resolution No. 66.

A resolution recognizing the 35th Anniversary of Michigan's aging network, empowering older Michiganians with independence and dignity.

Whereas, Michigan's aging network consists of the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging, 16 Area Agencies on Aging, and over 1,200 service providers working hand in hand since 1974 to improve the quality of life of older Michiganians throughout the state; and

Whereas, The Michigan Office of Services to the Aging provides leadership and oversight for the aging network in Michigan, offering valuable assistance and technical support to the Area Agencies on Aging and aging service providers. The Office is guided and advised by the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging and the State Advisory Council on Aging, tapping into the wisdom and experience of older adults and gerontological professionals; and

Whereas, Area Agencies on Aging were created 35 years ago by Congress to be one-stop shops and experts on aging in local communities. Michigan's 16 Area Agencies on Aging created a statewide system of quality home and community-based services, offering real choices to seniors and caregivers requiring long-term care. Area Agencies on Aging provide information and access to services, recruiting and screening local agencies and businesses to provide home and community-based services; and

Whereas, Over 1,200 aging service providers are delivering a wide variety of services to older Michiganians and caregivers 365 days of the year, including home-delivered meals, congregate meals, personal care, homemaker, adult day care, respite care, health promotion, home repair, legal assistance, ombudsman, senior centers, and transportation. Providers include county commissions on aging, councils on aging, senior centers, home health care agencies, and a host of other distinguished businesses and organizations; and

Whereas, The Association of Area Agencies on Aging has provided leadership and support throughout the years to all levels of the aging network, fulfilling the mandate of the Older Americans Act to advocate with and on behalf of older Americans. The Association created the Michigan Senior Advocates Council in 1977, established as a leading voice on aging policy matters in advising the Michigan Legislature; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative body recognize the accomplishments and good works of Michigan's aging network on June 24, 2009, Older Michiganians Day; and be it further

Resolved, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging as evidence of our support.