

By: Senator(s) Burton, Jackson (11th)

To: Rules

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 561
(As Adopted by the Senate and House)

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH AN AD HOC COMMITTEE TO
2 STUDY ISSUES RELATING TO FAMILY CAREGIVERS AND LONG-TERM CARE
3 SERVICES; TO PROVIDE FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE COMMITTEE; TO
4 AUTHORIZE THE COMMITTEE TO TAKE TESTIMONY AND DEVELOP A REPORT TO
5 THE LEGISLATURE; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 WHEREAS, the population of the state that is 85 years or
7 older and most likely to need caregiving assistance is projected
8 to reach 95,000 in 2032 (67% increase than 2012); and

9 WHEREAS, almost all older adults who need assistance with
10 activities of daily living want to remain in their homes and
11 communities; and

12 WHEREAS, providing services and supports to older adults in
13 their homes and communities is generally much less expensive than
14 nursing home care; and

15 WHEREAS, older adults who receive services from caregivers in
16 their homes are much less likely to need public assistance; and

17 WHEREAS, almost 3/4 of older people living in the community
18 who received personal assistance relied exclusively on unpaid
19 caregivers for help; and



20 WHEREAS, an estimated 826,000 adults in the state provide
21 care to adult relatives or friends, which equals to an estimated
22 540,000,000 hours a year and an estimated value of \$5.2 Billion
23 each year; and

24 WHEREAS, nationally 70% of the people with Alzheimer's
25 Disease or a related disorder live at home and need assistance
26 with activities of daily living; and

27 WHEREAS, older persons living with many chronic health
28 conditions and mental illness issues rely on caregivers for
29 support; and

30 WHEREAS, to successfully address the surging population of
31 older adults who have significant needs for long-term services and
32 supports, the state must develop methods to both encourage and
33 support families to assist their aging relatives and develop ways
34 to recruit and retain a qualified, responsive in-home care
35 workforce; NOW, THEREFORE,

36 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE
37 HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING THEREIN, That:

38 (1) There is hereby established an Ad Hoc Committee to Study
39 Issues Relating to Family Caregiving and Long-Term Care Support
40 and Services (committee):

41 (2) The committee shall consist of 14 members as follows:

42 (a) One (1) representative from the Alzheimer's
43 Association;



- 44 (b) One (1) representative from the Mississippi
45 Department of Mental Health;
- 46 (c) One (1) representative from AARP, Mississippi;
- 47 (d) One (1) representative from Mississippi
48 Rehabilitation Services, Aging and Adult Services;
- 49 (e) One (1) representative from The American Cancer
50 Society;
- 51 (f) One (1) representative from The Mississippi
52 Epilepsy Foundation;
- 53 (g) One (1) representative from The ARC of Mississippi;
- 54 (h) One (1) representative from the Mississippi Health
55 Care Association;
- 56 (i) One (1) representative from the Independent Nursing
57 Home Association;
- 58 (j) Senate Chairman of Public Health and Welfare
59 Committee;
- 60 (k) House Chairman of Public Health and Human Services
61 Committee;
- 62 (l) A member of the Senate appointed by the Lieutenant
63 Governor;
- 64 (m) A member of the House of Representatives appointed
65 by the Speaker of the House;
- 66 (n) A member appointed by the Governor.
- 67 (3) The chairman of the committee shall be the Governor's
68 appointee, who shall call the first meeting of the committee and



69 shall organize for business. The legislative members of the
70 committee shall be nonvoting members. The committee shall meet
71 once a month beginning May 2014.

72 (4) The committee is directed and authorized to identify
73 policies, resources and programs available for family caregivers
74 and encourage additional innovative and creative means to support
75 family caregivers to continue to provide needed in-home support
76 for older adults.

77 (5) The committee is authorized and directed to receive
78 testimony on the need for family caregivers, including designation
79 of caregivers, training, respite services, medical leave policies,
80 delegation of tasks to nonmedical aides, and other policies.

81 (6) The committee is authorized and directed to compile an
82 inventory of the resources available to family caregivers.

83 (7) The committee shall develop and issue its report to the
84 Legislature by December 1, 2014, with recommendations for
85 legislative action to support family caregivers.

86 (8) The committee is authorized to apply for and expend
87 grant funding to defray the expenses of meeting and developing its
88 report.

89 (9) Upon the submission of its report the committee shall be
90 dissolved.

