

RESOLUTION 1999-31
Homecare Options for Michigan's Elders

WHEREAS, Assisting older adults to live with dignity and independence is the overriding purpose of the Older Americans Act and the Older Michiganians Act; and

WHEREAS, Older adults prefer to stay in their own homes as long as possible, and this can be achieved by providing and coordinating a variety of supportive services; and

WHEREAS, For individuals who are not Medicaid-eligible, the current level of funding available for such services is woefully inadequate; and

WHEREAS, Seniors who have adequate income can afford to purchase the services but need assistance with resource counseling and guidance to avoid depleting their resources more quickly than is necessary; and

WHEREAS, Frail seniors with moderate income should have access to essential services on a cost-sharing basis; and

WHEREAS, the average cost of nursing home care is in excess of \$40,000 per year while the cost of services provided in the home is estimated at less than \$2,000 per year; and

WHEREAS, In recognition of this savings to the Medicaid budget, other nearby states devote substantial levels of funding to support in-home services to assist older persons.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the Clinton County Board of Commissioners supports the expansion of services to assist the growing number of frail elderly to remain in their homes.

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, That our citizens request Governor John Engler and the Michigan Legislature to implement a phase-in appropriation plan to provide incremental funding increases of \$33 million per year for each of the next three years to support Homecare Options for Michigan's Elders (HOME).

STATE OF MICHIGAN
COUNTY OF CLINTON

I, Diane Zuker, Clerk of the County of Clinton do hereby certify that the foregoing resolution was duly adopted by the Clinton County Board of Commissioners at a regular meeting held December 17, 1999 as on file in the records of this office.

Diane Zuker, County Clerk