

Fifty-sixth Legislative Assembly, State of North Dakota, begun in the Capitol in the City of Bismarck, on Tuesday, the fifth day of January, one thousand nine hundred and ninety-nine

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 3003
(Legislative Council)
(Budget Committee on Long-Term Care)

A concurrent resolution directing the Legislative Council to study the mill levy match program for senior citizens to determine if the program could be expanded to enhance home and community-based service availability.

WHEREAS, the 1971 Legislative Assembly established the mill levy match program for senior citizens and the 1991 Legislative Assembly amended the program and restricted the types of expenses for which those mill levy funds can be used to a variety of services designed to assist senior citizens in maintaining independence, including home-delivered meals, transportation, outreach assistance, congregate dining, and health-related services; and

WHEREAS, the 1997 Legislative Assembly appropriated \$1,050,000 for the mill levy match program for senior citizens for the 1997-99 biennium, an increase of \$150,000 over the 1995-97 appropriation of \$900,000; and

WHEREAS, the majority of funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens is distributed by city or county commissioners to agencies that contract with the Department of Human Services to provide services under the Older Americans Act; and

WHEREAS, many elderly residents of rural communities throughout the state rely on these service providers as one of the few alternatives to institutional care; and

WHEREAS, funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens are also used to leverage a variety of federal funds that provide for an assortment of in-home services for the frail and elderly; and

WHEREAS, the use of funds from the mill levy match program for senior citizens to serve an at-risk population in the least restrictive environment makes the program an integral part of the continuum of long-term care services; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force on Long-Term Care Planning views the mill levy match program for senior citizens as an important component in the overall provision of long-term care services to the senior citizens of North Dakota;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH DAKOTA, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN:

That the Legislative Council study the mill levy match program for senior citizens to determine if the program could be expanded to enhance home and community-based service availability; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Legislative Council report its findings and recommendations, together with any legislation required to implement the recommendations, to the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 1999,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State