

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SATELLITE FEED TO SENIOR POWER DAY
MAY 18, 1994**

Thank you, Sen. Riegle, for inviting me to be a part of this wonderful event, and for the concern, commitment, and leadership you have shown on health care issues for many years. And thanks to all of you who help organize Senior Power Day in Michigan. Because of your efforts, Senior Power Day is now celebrating its 20th anniversary, and you should be extremely proud of the work you have done to make that possible.

I'm really sorry I can't be with you in person, not only because you're gathered in the Midwest -- which is my neck of the woods -- but also because older Americans have so much wisdom and experience to impart on younger generations in our country.

From my travels during the past year and a half, I've seen the spirit and energy of older Americans like yourselves, who understand the complexities of the problems we face and the urgent need for solutions.

Very early on, you recognized the importance of health care reform. And I'm pleased that your platform echoes so many of the President's concerns, as well as his goals for providing health security for every American.

You understand the importance of guaranteeing coverage for every citizen -- and the importance of ensuring that every American has comprehensive benefits that can never be taken away for any reason, including a pre-existing condition.

You understand why we need to outlaw unfair insurance practices, which too often discriminate on the basis of age.

You understand that we need to preserve choice of doctors and health plans -- so that patients can maintain trusted relationships with health care providers that often last a lifetime.

You understand the value of preserving and strengthening Medicare -- so that older Americans who have worked all their lives aren't forced to decide between buying food or medicine.

You also understand that the viability of our nation economically depends on getting health care costs under control.

But most of all, you know that the integrity of one of society's most important institutions -- the family -- depends on quality health care for Americans of all ages, from zero on up.

That means providing prenatal care for pregnant women to increase the likelihood that they have healthy babies. And it means expanding options for families in which an aging parent or disabled relative needs long-term care.

Let me just say a few words about long-term care, because I know it's an issue that many of you care about.

Today, too many people are forced into nursing homes, when a little bit of help would enable them to stay with their families or in a community-based setting.

Similarly, family members who are caregivers often need a respite -- help for a few hours a week so that they can rest or get some time to themselves.

That kind of assistance is essential to all families, but particularly those bearing the emotional weight of an acute illness and the financial weight of long-term care.

The President's approach is an important start in helping to provide home and community-based care for older Americans and those with disabilities.

You shouldn't have to spend your way into poverty to take care of a family member in need. And you shouldn't only have the choice of putting your loved one in an institution, which is often the most expensive thing to do -- and the last thing you want to do.

So on this issue, sound family policy is also sound fiscal policy.

Today, we are at one of those rare defining moments in history when we have a chance to make real, substantive progress on health care reform.

But to succeed, we will need your help. In the next few months, Congress will work out details of legislation that has the potential to provide health security for all Americans and help shape the future of our nation.

For too many decades, we have thought about reform. We have talked about reform. We have read books about reform. We've read policy papers about reform. But we have failed to act. Now it's time to put away the books and policy papers and to meet the test of history, once and for all.

Health care reform is not simply an economic imperative. It's not simply a social imperative. It's a moral imperative. It requires the commitment and energy of each and every one of us who cares about the future of our own families, and our nation.

So I hope you will make your voices heard. I hope you will speak out about reform, write your members of Congress, and let them know that our nation can't afford to waste the historic opportunity before us.

Thank you very much.

###

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
SATELLITE FEED TO SENIOR POWER DAY
MAY 18, 1994**

Thank you, Sen. Riegle, for inviting me to be a part of this wonderful event, and for the concern, commitment, and leadership you have shown on health care issues for many years. And thanks to all of you who help organize Senior Power Day in Michigan. Because of your efforts, Senior Power Day is now celebrating its 20th anniversary, and you should be extremely proud of the work you have done to make that possible.

I'm really sorry I can't be with you in person, not only because you're gathered in the Midwest -- which is my neck of the woods -- but also because older Americans have so much wisdom and experience to impart on younger generations in our country.

From my travels during the past year and a half, I've seen the spirit and energy of older Americans like yourselves, who understand the complexities of the problems we face and the urgent need for solutions.

Very early on, you recognized the importance of health care reform. And I'm pleased that your platform echoes so many of the President's concerns, as well as his goals for providing health security for every American.

You understand the importance of guaranteeing coverage for every citizen -- and the importance of ensuring that every American has comprehensive benefits that can never be taken away for any reason, including a pre-existing condition.

You understand why we need to outlaw unfair insurance practices, which too often discriminate on the basis of age.

You understand that we need to preserve choice of doctors and health plans -- so that patients can maintain trusted relationships with health care providers that often last a lifetime.

You understand the value of preserving and strengthening Medicare -- so that older Americans who have worked all their lives aren't forced to decide between buying food or medicine.

You also understand that the viability of our nation economically depends on getting health care costs under control.

But most of all, you know that the integrity of one of society's most important institutions -- the family -- depends on quality health care for Americans of all ages, from zero on up.

That means providing prenatal care for pregnant women to increase the likelihood that they have healthy babies. And it means expanding options for families in which an aging parent or disabled relative needs long-term care.

Let me just say a few words about long-term care, because I know it's an issue that many of you care about.

Today, too many people are forced into nursing homes, when a little bit of help would enable them to stay with their families or in a community-based setting.

Similarly, family members who are caregivers often need a respite -- help for a few hours a week so that they can rest or get some time to themselves.

That kind of assistance is essential to all families, but particularly those bearing the emotional weight of an acute illness and the financial weight of long-term care.

The President's approach is an important start in helping to provide home and community-based care for older Americans and those with disabilities.

You shouldn't have to spend your way into poverty to take care of a family member in need. And you shouldn't only have the choice of putting your loved one in an institution, which is often the most expensive thing to do -- and the last thing you want to do.

So on this issue, sound family policy is also sound fiscal policy.

Today, we are at one of those rare defining moments in history when we have a chance to make real, substantive progress on health care reform.

But to succeed, we will need your help. In the next few months, Congress will work out details of legislation that has the potential to provide health security for all Americans and help shape the future of our nation.

For too many decades, we have thought about reform. We have talked about reform. We have read books about reform. We've read policy papers about reform. But we have failed to act. Now it's time to put away the books and policy papers and to meet the test of history, once and for all.

Health care reform is not simply an economic imperative. It's not simply a social imperative. It's a moral imperative. It requires the commitment and energy of each and every one of us who cares about the future of our own families, and our nation.

So I hope you will make your voices heard. I hope you will speak out about reform, write your members of Congress, and let them know that our nation can't afford to waste the historic opportunity before us.

Thank you very much.

###

SENIOR POWER DAY

4,000 pple attend

Bd meets every month - (That is inc.)

Always in Michigan -

T. Roosevelt / Nine learns of being wise is being wise in time.

Teddy Kaut / Disease-care instead / health care system (1979)

G. Marx / A hosp. bed is a parked taxi with the meter running (1973)

S. Santagana / The family is one of nature's masterpieces.

B. Hope / You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than
the cake

**FIRST LADY HILLARY RODHAM CLINTON
REMARKS TO THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 11, 1994**

Thank you, Stuart Roth, for your introduction and for all your work for the Association.

Thank you, Shelley Fabares (pronounced Fab-RAY), for presenting me with the Association's Humanitarian Award and for "coaching" your mother through her struggle with Alzheimer's. You are one of the many true heroes among all the caregivers in this room today.

I want to thank the Alzheimer's Association for your invaluable, courageous work. For your support for research into effective treatments, prevention, and, yes, someday a cure for this devastating disease. For the support and respite you provide for caregivers. For your leadership in helping to develop innovative approaches to long-term care. And for the strong and loud voices of the "purple people" leading the fight for comprehensive health care reform.

Over the last 15 months, I've had the privilege of talking to and hearing from thousands of people around the country who helped educate me about the need for reform. People with pre-existing conditions, people who have lost their insurance because of a job change, people who have been dropped because of lifetime limits on their coverage. And people who have literally used their families' savings trying to get long-term care for their parents.

These are hard-working, upright citizens who have always played by the rules. And it just isn't fair -- it isn't decent -- that so many families bear such heavy burdens because we as a nation haven't yet come to grips with the crisis of long-term care. A crisis that, at any moment, can strike someone in our family, someone on our block, or someone we know at work.

I now know that Alzheimer's is the most expensive and least insured illness most American families are likely to face. A disease that has already hit 4 million Americans today, leaving over 19 million relatives and 67 million friends to carry the burden of providing the care that people with Alzheimer's so desperately need.

If we do not succeed in stopping this disease, as many as 14 million Americans will have it by the middle of the century. And the cost of their care -- already exceeding \$30,000, \$40,000, even \$50,000 a year -- threatens to bankrupt any but the wealthiest families.

I also now know that Alzheimer's is not an aging issue; it is a family issue. Because when it strikes one person in a family, it strikes the whole family. And in that sense, it affects people of all ages. It is an issue that parents and children, grandparents and

grandchildren must face together.

So you know more than anyone that as much as this fight is about research dollars and the cost of institutional care versus long-term care at home or in the community, it is first and foremost about preserving families. It's about helping their struggle with a very sad and emotionally exhausting disease -- and helping their struggle to support each other and stay together in the most difficult of times. And if we focus on how to help these families, your families, and the heroic caregivers in America, many of whom are in the audience here today, I am convinced that we will be doing the right thing.

I believe it's time we stopped drawing lines between medical care and long-term care. What sense does it make to say that we'll help your father who has a heart attack but not your mother who has Alzheimer's? Now, for the first time, there is a proposal before Congress that says that Americans with chronic illness have a right to the care they need. Helping those Americans is not only morally the right thing to do, but it is also the economically smart decision to make.

Today, as you know, too many people are forced into nursing homes, when a little bit of help would enable them to stay at home or in a community-based setting, where they would prefer to live. I say: let's start giving alternatives that will enable our parents and grandparents to live with dignity, and not make the nursing home the only place that they can get the care they need.

But even people who have family members who act as caregivers, like many of you, need help. And these caregivers often just need "respite," someone to provide care for a few hours a week to give them a little break. You need to know that some backup is there if you get exhausted or if you get sick or if you just need some time for yourself.

I think that kind of help is so important to families. And that's why the President's health reform proposal is an important start in helping provide home-and community-based care for people with disabilities, including Alzheimer's.

Today, too many Americans can only get help by spend their way into poverty; and then only if you put your loved one into an institution, which is usually the most expensive thing to do and the last thing you want to do. It just doesn't make sense that it ends up being your only option.

On this issue, sound family policy is also sound fiscal policy. And to those who say we can't afford long-term care, I say: how can we not afford to keep families together.

I believe long-term care, particularly in home and community-based settings, preserves families and preserves dignity. It's the right thing to do, and now is the time to get a start in helping people like you provide it.

Under the President's proposal, there would be more support for programs like the one Lyn Noyes (pronounced "noise"), who I think is here today, runs in northern Virginia. I met Lyn at a meeting at the White House a few weeks ago when she asked me a question about long-term care, and since then I've learned that she runs an adult day care center that is a model for what we're trying to do.

For those of you who don't know it, it's called the Family Respite Center, it was started with the help of the local Alzheimer's Association chapter, and it gives Alzheimer's caregivers some respite or the chance to go to work during the day. And I hear they do a lot of great intergenerational activities with the child day care center there as well.

But even with wonderful programs like this, we know that Alzheimer's and the fear of Alzheimer's devastates families. So I believe that we must make preventing Alzheimer's a high priority. After all, though there are important questions about health care financing, health care delivery and other issues, the real question in health reform is what we can do to help save lives.

That's why I believe research -- particularly into diseases like Alzheimer's -- must be a top priority of any health reform effort. Only a few years ago, we thought that solutions to preventing or delaying Alzheimer's were far, far away. But now, recent discoveries indicate that the possibility of conquering the disease is within our reach.

We can see that our investment into Alzheimer's research is beginning to show results. Recent discoveries show that we may be able to delay the onset of the disease -- a breakthrough that could reduce the number of people with Alzheimer's disease by half. But you know better than anybody that we must do more.

Now is the time to invest more money into Alzheimer's research, as the President's health reform proposal does, so we can continue the enormous progress we have made and beat this disease once and for all.

As you fight in the coming weeks and months for long-term care and more money for research, I hope that you will continue to fight the broader fight for health care reform. And because there has been so much confusion and distortion around the President's proposal, I want to quickly go through right now exactly how our reform works. So that you can go out and explain it to your friends and neighbors, and so that you can continue to be our strongest voices in this battle.

[Here's how our reform works:

- guaranteed private insurance (comprehensive benefits include diagnostic services, mental health benefits, and prescription drugs -- benefits critical to people with Alzheimer's)
- choice of doctor and health plan

- outlawing insurer abuses
- preserve and improve Medicare
- health benefits guaranteed at work]

I know that the Association has looked at the President's proposal and the substitutes some members of Congress have put forward. You've asked the right questions. Let me try to answer them.

Does it provide significant long-term care? Yes, the President's reform does. Is the emphasis on home and community-based care? It certainly is. Is it available to persons of all ages, incomes, and levels of disability? You bet. And does it provide consumer choice? Absolutely, yes.

You know that not every substitute before the Congress does these things. You know that some of these substitutes actually cut back on federal money now used to help people who need long-term care. But the President's approach has passed your tests, and now we need your help in winning the battles before us.

It is wonderful to know that there are so many caregivers in the audience today -- people who stand out as real heroes as we talk about the need for health reform. You are the ones who have sacrificed your lives, sometimes your careers, in many cases, any spare time you might once have had, in order to be with and care for your loved ones. We have people like doctors and nurses who give care because it is their job, and we have you who give care out of love.

And now you are here in Washington, leading the way in another struggle -- the struggle for health reform. The struggle to guarantee health coverage to every American. To help provide long-term care. To guarantee comprehensive benefits that can never be taken away. You who work so hard day after day deserve the peace of mind of knowing that your family is protected and will never lose that protection -- no matter what.

So I thank you for coming to Washington. And I ask you to talk to your members of Congress, as I know you will do. Write letters to your local paper, call into your local radio station, talk to your friends and neighbors as I know you have been doing for many years, and tell them that we need -- not just long-term care -- but the President's comprehensive health care reform that guarantees private insurance to every American.

That's what the President's proposal calls for, and that's what we must fight for in the coming weeks and months so we can get...this...done.

Ultimately, I believe this is a debate about more than who pays what and to whom. It's a debate about what kind of country we are and what kind of country we want to be. Will we

guarantee everyone the kind of protection that every other advanced country in the world provides its citizens or will we continue to let families like yours suffer in insecurity? Will we guarantee our people security or will we continue to let American families live in fear?

And when I think about these questions, I think about all the people I have met since we started -- it's like they've formed a movie in my head. A movie that keeps playing over and over, reminding me of what we need to do and why we must succeed.

And when our work is done, I want to go back to every person I have met, everyone who wrote me a letter telling me their story, and say: "Finally, we have guaranteed health coverage to every American. And our country that created Social Security in the 1930's and Medicare in the 1960's has taken one more giant step toward becoming the nation we ought to be."



FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION COVER SHEET
ADMINISTRATION FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
370 L'ENFANT PROMENADE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20447

FAX: (202) 401-5770 CONFIRM: (202) 401-9200

DATE: 5-16

TO
NAME: Lissa Muscatine
OFFICE: First Lady's Office
PHONE: _____
FAX NO: 456-2239

FROM
NAME: Emily Bromberg
PHONE: 401-6953
COVER + 9 PAGES

MESSAGE: Attached please find background information for
the Head Start Bill Signing Ceremony

Please call if you need anything else!

OFFICE
USE
ONLY

TIME SENT: _____
OPERATOR: _____

DATE: _____

WH Conference
on Aging



203
575
9829

FACSIMILE COVER SHEET

**OFFICE OF UNITED STATES
SENATOR DONALD W. RIEGLE, JR.
(202) 224-4822**

DATE: 5/13/94

TO: Liz Boyer

FROM: Delsie Chang

RE: Senior Power Day

NUMBER OF PAGES (including cover sheet): 7

COMMENTS/INSTRUCTIONS:

00713794 042421N FROM SEN. RIEGLE DC 10 94002239 P002/000

Recommended Key Points
Senior Power Day, May 18th, with Chairman Riegle

Acknowledgements

- o Thank Organizers of Senior Power Day. This is the 20th Anniversary of Senior Power Day.
- o Commend members for their strong support of reform and Clinton's 6 principles **in their Senior Power Day Platform**. (Members would be extremely pleased to know First Lady had read their platform since one purpose of the Platform is for "officials" to read.)
- o Thank Riegle for inviting First Lady.
- o Riegle chairs Subcommittee on Health for Families and the Uninsured on the Finance Committee and is a key player. Has supported reform for over a decade and deserves credit for early recognition of the problems in our health care system.

Policy Focus for Speech

Senior Power Day Platform (attached) supports the six principles in the Clinton plan but ultimately they think that single payer is the way to structure.

Key concerns include universal coverage, comprehensive benefits including prescription drugs and long-term care, system-wide cost controls, red tape and waste, and fraud and abuse.

Questions that Senator Riegle may ask Hillary Clinton

Many people are concerned that health care reform would create new, unmanageable federal government bureaucracy. How would you respond to this?

Many seniors are concerned about cuts in Medicare and the impact of these cuts on Medicare beneficiaries, particularly if private health care costs continue to grow unrestrained?

Everyone agrees that Long-term Care is important. How would you respond to people who say that Long-term care is a benefit that we can not afford to provide when the country is facing a budget deficit?

WH Council on Aging
619-2951

SENIOR POWER DAY--BACKGROUND

SENIOR POWER DAY, INC.

- o Senior Power Day is meeting for the 20th consecutive year. The organization is incorporated under the name Senior Power Day. They have an annual budget of approximately \$35,000 all directed toward this gathering.
- o Senior Power Day started in Lansing with a group of seniors. The Board includes at least one representative from each Area Agency on Aging (14) several senior groups such as AARP, union retiree groups, representatives from each state legislative caucus and the full-time Executive Director (Jane Schoneman).
- o Senior Power Day gathers in mid-May every year. The audience is approximately 80 to 90% senior citizens. There are usually a large contingent of unions members present. The crowds have averaged around 7-8000 people although this year's crowd will likely be closer to 4000 as a result of format/location changes.
- o CHANGES IN 1994 SENIOR POWER DAY include a different and smaller hall (Lansing Center instead of the Civic Center). After the address of the First Lady, several events will take place at the same time including the Aging Committee hearing.

POLICY THEME OF SENIOR POWER DAY

- o The theme for 1994 is "Senior Power Celebrating 20 Years of Effective Advocacy".
- o The Senior Power Day Platform is central to Senior Power Day. The board meets every month to debate a platform. The main goal of SPD is to have elected officials address the issues raised by their platform.
- o Over the last several years, the SPD platform has emphasized the need for a national/universal health care plan. The platform endorses the six principles of the Clinton plan.
- o Over the last several years, the SPD platform has also placed an emphasis on the intergenerational approach to issues. They want to emphasize that senior are not "out for themselves" or "greedy geezers" or any other anti-elderly sentiments.

o **FORMAT:**

An on-going "consumer fair" from 8:00-1:00 in a separate wing of the center. These are tables rented by companies, office-holders, interest groups that provide free brochures, give aways, etc.

8:30 and 9:30 am a "public hearing" by the Commission on Aging. This is an open-mike format where seniors have a few minutes to talk about anything.

8:45-9:45 entertainment in the main hall--the hall the First Lady will be addressing.

9:45 the main hall ceremonies begin. After intro and comments by the Chair, the Mayor and the anthem, at 10:05 the Senator introduces the First Lady.

10:30-12:30 the Senate Aging Committee Hearing (Events continue in the main hall including a key note speaker and possibly John Engler--the Governor)

10:15-11:00 Workshops start (the time could be slightly changed due to First Lady's address). The workshops are: 1) reducing phone bills by Ameritech, 2) reducing utilities by Michigan Consolidated Gas, 3) AARP and Mayor Hollister on senior advocacy, 4) FBI on scams targeted toward seniors.

11:15-12:00 Workshops repeat.

11:15-12:15 The Gubernatorial Candidate Forum.

12:15-1:00 Lunch

1:00-2:00 Workshops start, The workshops are: 1) Peer Prevention Players with a skit on mental health and aging, 2) MI Pharmaceutical Association on the use of drugs and medication.

1:00-1:15 March to the steps of the State Capitol.

1:15-1:30 Address by Republican Chair of House Senior Committee, Democratic Senate Minority Leader

2:00 Departure if you arrived by bus.

05/11/94 17:28 517 377 1544

RIEGLE LANSING

WASHINGTON

002

Senior Power Day Platform

RESOLUTION NATIONAL HEALTH CARE REFORM

WHEREAS, Over the next two years, one out of four Americans will be without health coverage at some point, and there are currently over 34 million without coverage in the U.S., of which 3 million are children; there are 1 million without coverage in Michigan, of which 300,000 are children; and

WHEREAS, Today's system discriminates against families and small businesses. Insurance companies pick and choose whom they cover. Those with pre-existing conditions can't get any insurance at all; and

WHEREAS, Only 20% of Americans over 55 can afford long term care insurance; and only 16% of those age 65-79 can afford long term care insurance; and

WHEREAS, The cost of lifesaving prescription drugs has been rising faster than any other component of the medical price index, and over half of those 65+, and one-quarter of those under 65, must pay for prescription drugs on their own; and

WHEREAS, Insurance companies charge small businesses as much as 35% more than large corporations. Only 3 of every 10 employers with fewer than 500 employees offer any choice of health plan. Millions of Americans have no choice today; and

WHEREAS, 25 cents out of every dollar of a hospital bill goes to bureaucracy and paperwork -- not patient care; and

WHEREAS, Fraud and abuse are exploding, costing at least \$80 billion a year. That's a dime of every dollar spent on health care; and

WHEREAS, Our nation's health costs have nearly quadrupled since 1980. Without reform, by the year 2000, one of every 3 dollars spent in America will go to health care; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the federal government must guarantee that all individuals have access to affordable, high-quality health and long term care; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a plan be developed which includes:

- System-wide cost containment that eliminates cost-shifting and slows the explosive growth in health spending; and
- Comprehensive benefits that include preventive and mental health care, prescription drugs, home and community-based long term care, nursing home care; and

Senior Power Day 1994 Platform

1

517
377
1544

Program
Platform

517 377 1544

05-11-94 04:12PM P002 #45

05/11/94 17:28 517 377 1544

RIEGLE LANSING WASHINGTON

003

• Health delivery reforms that increase access to care in underserved areas and reward efficient, high-quality care; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Senior Power Day supports the six principles of President Clinton's HEALTH SECURITY proposal:

Security,
Simplicity,
Savings,
Choice,
Quality, and
Responsibility; and, be it finally

RESOLVED, That a single payer approach for the state and nation be enacted in 1994 with broad-based, fair and affordable financing, so that government, businesses, and individuals all pay their share and everyone is protected against the high cost of care.

RESOLUTION NURSING HOMES

WHEREAS, There have been notable improvements in the quality of life and care in nursing homes in recent years through the efforts of committed nursing home owners and staff, state regulatory agencies and better federal minimum standards; and

WHEREAS, 50,000 people are living in Michigan's 480 nursing homes, county medical care facilities and hospital long term care units and should be treated with dignity and respect by all; and

WHEREAS, 43% of the people who became 65 in 1990 will need nursing home care; and

WHEREAS, Many people have difficulty in finding quality nursing home care in their community because they do not have the money to pay for care for as much as three years; and

WHEREAS, Some nursing homes refuse to fully participate in the Medicaid program and attempt to evict residents once their money is gone; and

WHEREAS, Michigan nursing homes earn about \$1.2 billion a year including some \$800 million from the Medicaid program; and

WHEREAS, The quality of nursing home care is dependent on the number of staff members providing care; and

WHEREAS, The staffing requirements in Michigan nursing homes have not changed since 1978; and

Senior Power Day 1994 Platform

2

RIEGLE LANSING

WASHINGTON

004

05/11/94 17:30 517 377 1544

WHEREAS, Some homes do not meet minimum standards of quality; and

WHEREAS, The measure of a great society is how it cares for its weakest citizens and how it regulates service providers to insure the highest quality of care and services; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That Senior Power Day supports state policy changes to require every nursing home which participates in Medicaid to open all of its beds to Medicaid certification; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Senior Power Day supports state legislation to require that nursing homes admit people from a single list of applicants on a first-come, first-serve basis without regard to the applicant's wealth; and be it further

RESOLVED, That Senior Power Day supports state policy changes and implementation of a system of sanctions to ensure that nursing homes comply with government standards. These sanctions should include fines which increase with severity and repetition, bans on admissions, monitors to evaluate performance, temporary managers or receivers to operate a home, and transfer of the home to owners capable of operating it according to governmental standards. Closing or terminating governmental funding of a home should only be used as a last resort; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That Senior Power Day supports the enactment of proposed state legislation to increase the number of nursing care staff in nursing homes.

RESOLUTION IN-HOME HEALTH CARE SERVICES

WHEREAS, The aged and disabled largely prefer the comforts of home to any health care or residential facility; and

WHEREAS, This state has developed and implemented two programs, care management and a Medicaid home care waiver program, which assist aged and disabled people to live independently and safely in their own homes and apartments; and

WHEREAS, The care management and Medicaid waiver programs insure that aged and disabled people have personal health care needs met as well as home delivered meals and a clean, comfortable living environment with home-cleaning and home-maintenance assistance; and

WHEREAS, These two programs also address the needs of family caregivers with respite services and other supports so as to continue family caregiving; and

WHEREAS, These two programs of in-home health care services are
Senior Power Day 1994 Platform

3

517 377 1544

05-11-94 04:12PM P004 #45

05/11/94

17:30

517 377 1544

RIEGLE LANSING

WASHINGTON

005

a necessary part of a full, efficient and humane health and human services delivery system which guarantees options to the aged and disabled and their families; and

WHEREAS, Care management is available in only 57 out of 83 counties, and the waiver program serves the aged and disabled residents of only 13 counties; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the care management and Medicaid waiver programs must be expanded statewide to secure the complete range of health care options.

RESOLUTION
HOME-DELIVERED MEALS

WHEREAS, Nutritionally balanced meals are vital to good health; and

WHEREAS, There are 201 Michigan municipalities (counties, cities, townships, villages) or parts of municipalities that do not have home delivered meals; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that 1/3 of the current home delivered meal clients need an additional meal daily; and

WHEREAS, Although the 1994 increases in funding for home delivered meals are a step in the right direction, state and federal funds have not kept pace with increasing demand and increasing costs; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That home delivered meal funding be increased by \$5.5 million to meet the needs of these municipalities and clients. We call on both the state and federal governments to appropriate the funding for these meal services.

RESOLUTION
TRANSPORTATION

WHEREAS, Accessible and affordable transportation is necessary for promotion of an independent lifestyle for all, so that individuals can meet their health, financial and social needs; and

WHEREAS, Agencies and all levels of government who provide some transportation services and in particular special transportation services need to coordinate those services in order to most effectively utilize taxpayer dollars; and

WHEREAS, Transportation has become cost prohibitive for the older citizen of low income status who must depend on public or volunteer services; therefore, be it

Senior Power Day 1994 Platform

517 377 1544

05-11-94 04:12PM P005 #45

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

09-May-1994 04:30pm

TO: (See Below)
FROM: David Leavy
Office of Communications
SUBJECT: Older Americans Proc.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

May 9, 1994

OLDER AMERICANS MONTH, 1994

- - - - -

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A PROCLAMATION

Each year over 2 million of us become older Americans -- entering a time of life that can bring new freedom, new choices, and new beginnings. Retirement years offer the freedom to strengthen family bonds and to share knowledge and talents with friends and family members. It can be a time to engage in cultural, intellectual, and recreational activities with others and to provide them with the guidance that comes from a lifetime of experience. It can be a time of new beginnings -- used to pursue a second career, to gain more education, or to engage in volunteer work that makes our neighborhoods, communities, and the world a better place in which to live.

To enjoy these opportunities, we must take greater responsibility in planning for a long life. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle and staying physically fit can help us to make the most of these new freedoms, choices, and beginnings. While we in Government work to promote universal health care coverage for all Americans, all of us can encourage friends and families to pursue daily practices that promote physical and mental

well-being.

This year's Older Americans Month celebration centers around the theme of long life and good health with the slogan --"Aging: An Experience of a Lifetime." I am asking all Americans to help make this theme a reality by striving to achieve healthy and productive lifestyles.

Each year, we are learning new ways to promote longer, healthier, and more rewarding lives. We can do this by learning to eat nutritiously, by giving up smoking, by moderating our consumption of alcoholic beverages, and by entering into a personal or group fitness program. New studies show that regardless of age, it's never too late to improve health and vitality.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, WILLIAM J. CLINTON, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in