



SR0342

LRB099 11631 GRL 34647 r

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SENATE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, On February 18, 2015, Governor Bruce Rauner's
3 administration released its proposal for the Fiscal Year 2016
4 State budget; and

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WHEREAS, On that day, the Illinois Department of Human
6 Services announced that it intended to save money by making it
7 more difficult to enter the Division of Rehabilitative Services
8 Home Services Program by changing the minimum threshold for
9 eligibility; the Illinois Department on Aging also announced
10 that it intended to save money by making it more difficult to
11 enter the Community Care Program by changing the minimum
12 threshold for eligibility; and

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WHEREAS, The prior threshold for service was a score of 29
14 on the Determination of Need Assessment; the new proposed
15 threshold for service would be a score of 37 on the
16 Determination of Need Assessment; and

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WHEREAS, The current Determination of Need minimum of 29
18 covers people with disabilities and seniors who are in need of
19 help in critical areas of daily living; and

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WHEREAS, The Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family
21 Services would carry the administrative responsibility for

1 creating the change by seeking federal approval to amend 2 1915
2 (C) Home and Community-Based Services Waivers to change the
3 Determination of Need Assessment score requirement; and

4 WHEREAS, Changing the score from 29 to 37 would immediately
5 eliminate 10,000 people with disabilities from the Home
6 Services Program; changing the score would also prevent 16,000
7 seniors from becoming eligible for service in the next year,
8 and 21,000 more would be eliminated in reassessment in the next
9 year; and

10 WHEREAS, The members of this body find it unconscionable to
11 deny 47,000 people with disabilities and seniors the
12 opportunity to live independently in their communities; and

13 WHEREAS, The proposed change to the Determination of Need
14 score was made without any input from disability and senior
15 advocates; and

16 WHEREAS, Each person with a disability in the Home Services
17 Program saves Illinois Medicaid at least \$17,000 a year by
18 living in the community instead of a nursing home; and

19 WHEREAS, Each senior living independently with support
20 from the Community Care Program saves Illinois Medicaid
21 approximately \$24,000 a year by living in the community instead

1 of a nursing home; and

2 WHEREAS, Thousands of workers in the Home Services Program
3 and the Community Care Program would be left without employment
4 when consumers are made ineligible; therefore, be it

5 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL
6 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we state our opposition
7 to the proposed change of the Determination of Need Score
8 minimum threshold from 29 to 37, which would result in
9 thousands of people with disabilities and seniors being left
10 without critical support for activities of daily living in
11 their own homes; and be it further

12 RESOLVED, That we urge the Governor and the Illinois
13 Department of Human Services to withdraw any and all plans to
14 amend the Medicaid State plan to change the Determination of
15 Need score requirements; and be it further

16 RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be
17 delivered to the Governor and the Secretary of Human Services.