



SPONSOR: Sen. Hoffner & Rep. Harris & Rep. Dorsey Walker  
Sens. Gay, Hansen, Hocker, Huxtable, Lockman,  
Mantzavinos, Pettyjohn, Sokola, Sturgeon; Reps.  
Baumbach, Bolden, Bush, Hensley, Hilovsky,  
K. Johnson, S. Moore, Morrison, Michael Smith, Yearick

DELAWARE STATE SENATE  
152nd GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 158

PROCLAIMING MAY 16, 2024, AS "HOME CARE ADVOCACY DAY" IN THE STATE OF DELAWARE.

1 WHEREAS, the United States Census Bureau's data shows that about 20% of Delaware's population is 65 years  
2 old or older; and

3 WHEREAS, the Delaware Department of Health and Social Services projects that, between 2015 and 2030, there  
4 will be an almost 40% increase in Delaware's population of individuals who are 60 years old or older; and

5 WHEREAS, individuals, as they age, are more likely to experience physical disability, have difficulty completing  
6 activities of daily living, and require memory care; and

7 WHEREAS, surveys from the American Association of Retired Persons ("AARP") show that most American  
8 seniors would like to age in their own homes and communities; and

9 WHEREAS, support in the home is essential for seniors to successfully age in place; and

10 WHEREAS, social and economic forces, including the COVID-19 pandemic, have permanently changed how our  
11 families live, work, and provide care; and

12 WHEREAS, the AARP estimates that more than 1/5, around 21%, of American adults are volunteer caregivers for  
13 a loved one; and

14 WHEREAS, professional home care services give many seniors a cost-effective option for in-home support  
15 services and can also reduce the demands on family and volunteer caregivers; and

16 WHEREAS, home care services contribute to health, safety, independence, dignity, and quality of life for  
17 individuals with disabilities, chronic illnesses, or age-related limitations by providing personalized care and monitoring in  
18 the comfort and familiarity of their own homes; and

19 WHEREAS, the University of Delaware Center for Applied Demography & Survey Research reports that  
20 Delaware's home care workforce is declining while demand for home care services is increasing; and

21 WHEREAS, a robust and capable home care workforce is vital to respond to the needs of Delaware's rapidly  
22 growing senior population and to support the health and well-being of those who need and rely on home care services; and

23 WHEREAS, the home care workforce requires public sector recognition, support, and investment to build a robust  
24 home care infrastructure that can provide the care necessary for individuals to live independently and age with dignity; and

25 WHEREAS, "Home Care Advocacy Day" amplifies the voices of home care providers, caregivers, and aging  
26 adults and advocates for policies and resources that support the delivery of high-quality, person-centered care in a home  
27 setting; and

28 WHEREAS, "Home Care Advocacy Day" highlights the importance of standards for quality care, training for  
29 home care providers, and access to medical equipment and supplies that are necessary to ensure the well-being of  
30 individuals receiving care and their caregivers; and

31 WHEREAS, "Home Care Advocacy Day" recognizes the dedication and hard work of caregivers, empowers  
32 individuals receiving care to advocate for their needs and preferences, and promotes client-centered care models that  
33 prioritize individual choice, autonomy, and decision-making regarding care plans and home care services.

34 NOW, THEREFORE:

35 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the 152<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, the House of Representatives concurring  
36 therein, that May 16, 2024, is recognized as "Home Care Advocacy Day" to highlight the critical importance of access to  
37 quality home care for Delaware's aging residents.

#### SYNOPSIS

This Concurrent Resolution proclaims May 16, 2024, as "Home Care Advocacy Day" in Delaware to recognize the dedication and hard work of caregivers, to emphasize the critical importance of access to quality home care services for Delaware's aging residents to live independently and age with dignity, and to advocate for policies and resources that support the delivery of high-quality, person-centered care in the home setting.

Author: Senator Hoffner