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Lisa Herbold
Leg. Caring Across Generations RES
June 13, 2012)
Version #2

RESOLUTION 31388

A RESOLUTION supporting the Caring Across Generations campaign that seeks to transform long term care in the U.S., both to help the individuals who rely on these services and to support the workers who provide home care.

WHEREAS, our country is facing a "care gap", with the population of individuals who need long-term direct care services expected to grow to 27 million in 2050, while the current direct care workforce is 3 million; and

WHEREAS, in the state of Washington, recent federal government reports indicate that 16.2% of residents receive Social Security benefits, 14.6% of residents receive Medicare benefits, and 15.4% of residents receive Medicaid benefits and depend on these vital programs as a foundation for their economic survival; and

WHEREAS, according to the 2010 Census, 10.3% of the Seattle population is 65 or older, and 12.1% of the population is between the ages of 55 and 64; and

WHEREAS, in Seattle, 3,792 individuals receive home care support through DSHS, and the number will grow as the baby-boomers age; and

WHEREAS, additionally, 21% of the U.S. adult population age 18 and older provides unpaid care to an adult age 18 or older; and

WHEREAS, caring for the aging and people with disabilities is among our most important responsibilities as a nation, yet across the country individuals and families are struggling to find quality care that meets their full range of needs, and is dependable and affordable; and

WHEREAS, seniors and individuals with disabilities thrive in communities that provide choice as well as access to in-home care and integration, and in turn, communities thrive when they are diverse and inclusive of seniors and people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, home and community based care options are often more affordable and more cost effective than larger residential care settings, yet the direct care workforce in these settings is not protected by many important labor laws, including overtime protection and minimum wage- creating substandard working conditions that threaten the standards for all working people; and

WHEREAS, in King County, 62.5% of direct care workers earn less than 200% of the poverty level, and in Seattle, the care workforce is made up of 65.4% people of color and only 24.4% of home care workers have employer-sponsored health insurance; and

WHEREAS, the direct care workforce does not have uniform training standards and a meaningful career ladder that provides opportunities for advancement; and



1 WHEREAS, immigrants are filling the vital role of care workers all over the country, but the lack of a
2 pathway to citizenship pushes workers into an underground economy, and destabilizes our
3 communities through the constant threat of deportation; and

4 WHEREAS, because all members of our society deserve a dignified quality of life, and dignified, quality
5 jobs, Seattle is one of over 15 cities across the country hosting a Care Congress, bringing together
6 family care givers, long-term care workers, domestic workers, care recipients and families to
7 build across generations for change; and

8 WHEREAS, our federal, state and local governments have the responsibility to make policy changes that
9 address these needs.

10 NOW, THEREFORE,

11 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF SEATTLE, THE**
12 **MAYOR CONCURRING, THAT:**

13 Section 1. The City of Seattle supports the Caring Across Generations campaign. The
14 campaign's policy agenda calls on our country to:

- 15 a. Protect a worker's right to organize;
- 16 b. Fund increased access to Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security;
- 17 c. Increase the number of living wage jobs with access to health insurance, other benefits,
18 and health and safety protections necessary to meet the growing demand for direct care;
- 19 d. Enable rewarding career paths with linguistically and culturally relevant training
20 programs to improve quality of care and safety for care workers;
- 21 e. Provide a path to legal status and citizenship for undocumented care workers and their
22 families that is tied to participation in training and certification programs;
- 23 f. Support individuals and families who hire direct care workers by creating a tax credit,
24 adding long term care coverage as part of the Medicare coverage package, and by
25 providing training and assistance on how to hire and retain direct care workers; and
- 26 g. Support for individuals and families who are providing unpaid kin care, through Social
27 Security care-giving credits, paid family leave, and childcare subsidies.



1 Section 2. Seattle City Office of Intergovernmental Relations (OIR) will promote these
2 interests with local, regional, state, federal and governments, including the National League of
3 Cities, and support legislation that advances the Caring Across Generations campaign, including
4 Senate Resolution 453.

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6 Adopted by the City Council the ____ day of _____, 2012, and
7 signed by me in open session in authentication of its adoption this ____ day
8 of _____, 2012.

9 _____
10 President _____ of the City Council

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12 THE MAYOR CONCURRING:
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14 _____

15 Michael McGinn, Mayor

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17 Filed by me this ____ day of _____, 2012.
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19 _____
20 Monica Martinez Simmons, City Clerk

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22 (Seal)
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FISCAL NOTE FOR NON-CAPITAL PROJECTS

Department:	Contact Person/Phone:	CBO Analyst/Phone:
Legislative	Lisa Herbold	N/A

Legislation Title:

A RESOLUTION supporting the Caring Across Generations campaign that seeks to transform long term care in the U.S., both to help the individuals who rely on these services and to support the workers who provide home care.

Summary of the Legislation:

Statement of support for the Caring Across Generations campaign and the campaign's policy agenda.

Background:

2012 is the first year of the "age wave." Every eight seconds, an American will turn 65. In the coming years, more people will need care and more workers will need quality jobs. The Communities Across Generation campaign seeks to transform long-term care in the United States for those who count on caregivers to meet their basic daily needs, the workers who provide the care, and the families who need affordable quality care for their loved ones.

Please check one of the following:

This legislation does not have any financial implications.

(Please skip to "Other Implications" section at the end of the document and answer questions a-h. Earlier sections that are left blank should be deleted. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each question.)

This legislation has financial implications.

(If the legislation has direct fiscal impacts (e.g., appropriations, revenue, positions), fill out the relevant sections below. If the financial implications are indirect or longer-term, describe them in narrative in the "Other Implications" Section. Please delete the instructions provided in parentheses at the end of each title and question.)

Other Implications:

- a) **Does the legislation have indirect financial implications, or long-term implications?**
No
- b) **What is the financial cost of not implementing the legislation?**



None

- c) **Does this legislation affect any departments besides the originating department?**
Yes, the Office of Intergovernmental Relations.
- d) **What are the possible alternatives to the legislation that could achieve the same or similar objectives?**
N/A
- e) **Is a public hearing required for this legislation?**
No
- f) **Is publication of notice with *The Daily Journal of Commerce* and/or *The Seattle Times* required for this legislation?**
No
- g) **Does this legislation affect a piece of property?**
No
- h) **Other Issues:**
N/A

