

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 1

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and related dementias place enormous emotional and financial stress on individuals with the diseases and their family members; and

Whereas informal caregivers, such as family members and friends, provide the majority of care for people in the community with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; and

Whereas over 165,000 unpaid caregivers in Oregon provide over \$2.2 billion worth of unpaid care each year; and

Whereas the intensive support required to care for a person with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia can negatively impact the caregiver's health and well-being; and

Whereas while death rates from heart disease, cancer and stroke are gradually declining nationally, the number of people dying of Alzheimer's disease is growing; and

Whereas people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias often have other chronic health conditions, and the costs associated with managing those coexisting conditions in people with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias are higher as a result of cognitive impairment; and

Whereas the cost of long-term care for individuals with dementia is significantly higher than for those without dementia; and

Whereas while most people with dementia live at home and receive unpaid help from family and friends, older adults who have Alzheimer's disease or related dementia are twice as likely to receive

paid care as those without Alzheimer's disease or related dementia and they make up a large proportion of all people who receive home care, adult day center services, assisted living care and nursing home care; and

Whereas the State of Oregon spends significant resources on care for and support of people living with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and their families, to wit, Medicaid costs alone in this state amount to about \$300 million per year; and

Whereas the State of Oregon's public resources will be crippled unless we recognize and address the impacts Alzheimer's disease and related dementias have on our communities; and

Whereas employers in this state are also impacted by the costs of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias; and

Whereas Alzheimer's disease and related dementias cost businesses nationwide \$61 billion per year in health care expenses and lost productivity; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Legislative Assembly of the State of Oregon:

That we, the members of the Seventy-seventh Legislative Assembly, recognize that people with Alzheimer's disease or a related dementia and their families must have all of the information and support they need and services delivered as effectively and efficiently as possible; and be it further

Resolved, That we support the adoption and implementation of the State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias in Oregon developed by the State Plan for Alzheimer's Disease in Oregon Task Force.

Filed in the office of Secretary of State March 19, 2013