RN1521812 **AP 1**

**INTRODUCED BY SENIOR ASSEMBLY MEMBER PURCELL**

Legislative Counsel’s Digest

AP 1: SENIOR HUNGER.

EXISTING LAW, THE FEDERAL ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM, AUTHORIZED UNDER THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT, PROVIDES GRANTS TO STATE AGENCIES ON AGING TO SUPPORT THE DELIVERY OF NUTRITION SERVICES TO SENIOR CENTERS AND TO THE HOMES OF SENIORS WHO ARE AT LEAST 60 YEARS OF AGE. THE PROGRAM IS DESIGNED TO ADDRESS PROBLEMS OF DIETARY INADEQUACY AND SOCIAL ISOLATION AMONG OLDER PERSONS. EXISTING STATE LAW AUTHORIZES THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF AGING TO MAKE AVAILABLE STATE FUNDS TO FUND SENIOR NUTRITION PROGRAMS THAT COMPLEMENT PROGRAMS IMPLEMENTED PURSUANT TO THE OLDER AMERICANS ACT.

THIS MEASURE WOULD MEMORIALIZE THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONGREGATE NUTRITION SERVICES AND HOME-DELIVERED NUTRITION SERVICES.

VOTE: MAJORITY.

AP 1: RELATING TO SENIOR HUNGER

WHEREAS, FOOD PRICES HAVE INCREASED BY 60 PERCENT, ENERGY PRICES HAVE INCREASED BY 40 PERCENT, THE COST OF RENTING A HOME OR APARTMENT HAS RISEN DRAMATICALLY, AND SO HAS THE COST OF MEDICINE, MAKING IT DIFFICULT FOR SENIORS WHO SUPPORT THEMSELVES ON FIXED INCOMES TO AFFORD HOME-COOKED MEALS; AND

WHEREAS, MANY SENIORS, IN LIGHT OF THESE RISING PRICES AND THEIR OWN DIMINISHED MOBILITY, DEPEND ON PROGRAMS THAT FUND CONGREGATE NUTRITION SERVICES OR HOME-DELIVERED NUTRITION SERVICES, WITHOUT WHICH THESE SENIORS WOULD BE MALNOURISHED. THE NUMBER OF MALNOURISHED SENIORS IS GROWING; AND

WHEREAS, FUNDING CUTS HAVE FORCED HOME-BOUND SENIORS AND THOSE AT SENIOR CENTERS TO BE PUT ON WAITING LISTS FOR THESE NUTRITION SERVICES. THE FUNDING CUTS ARE FORCING FRAIL AND ISOLATED SENIORS OUT OF THE PROGRAMS; AND

WHEREAS, POOR NUTRITION CAN LEAD TO A RANGE OF PROBLEMS, INCLUDING DEPRESSION AND VARIOUS PHYSICAL AILMENTS, THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENCE OF WHICH CAN, IN TURN, CREATE AN INCREASED NEED FOR NURSING HOME AND HOSPITAL CARE; AND

WHEREAS, SENIORS WHO DO NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH TO BUY FOOD AND CARRY IT HOME, OR WHO DO NOT HAVE MONEY FOR TRANSPORTATION COSTS, OFTEN DEPEND UPON NEIGHBORS OR FAMILY MEMBERS TO GET THEIR FOOD. ALTHOUGH THEY TRY TO HELP, SOMETIMES FRIENDS AND FAMILY MEMBERS BUY FOOD THAT DOES NOT FIT THE SENIOR’S DIET; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO DR. OZ, SENIORS NEED A BALANCED DIET OF PROTEIN, FIBER, CARBOHYDRATES, AND FAT. SENIORS ACTUALLY NEED 15-20 MORE GRAMS OF PROTEIN THAN THE AVERAGE PERSON. A SENIOR’S DIET SHOULD BE LOW IN SODIUM, CARBOHYDRATES, AND FAT; AND

WHEREAS, SENIORS NEED TO CONTINUE TO BE THE BENEFICIARIES OF PROGRAMS THAT DELIVER CRITICAL NUTRITION SERVICES TO CONGREGATE MEAL LOCATIONS FOR SENIORS, INCLUDING SENIOR CENTERS, CHURCHES, OR SCHOOLS, OR DIRECTLY TO THE RESIDENCES OF THESE SENIORS;

WHEREAS, POOR NUTRITION CAN LEAD TO A RANGE OF PROBLEMS, INCLUDING DEPRESSION AND VARIOUS PHYSICAL AILMENTS, THE DEVELOPMENT AND PRESENCE OF WHICH CAN, IN TURN, CREATE AN INCREASED NEED FOR NURSING HOME AND HOSPITAL CARE; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, BY THE SENIOR ASSEMBLY AND THE SENIOR SENATE, JOINTLY, THAT THE SENIOR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AT ITS 2015 REGULAR SESSION, A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS VOTING THEREFOR, HEREBY PROPOSES THAT THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA ENACT APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR CONGREGATE NUTRITION SERVICES AND HOME-DELIVERED NUTRITION SERVICES IN RELATION TO THE PERCENTAGE OF INCREASE IN SENIOR POPULATION; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS MEASURE BE TRANSMITTED TO THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE, AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.