RN1716697 **AP 8**

**INTRODUCED BY SENIOR ASSEMBLY MEMBER PURCELL**

Legislative Counsel’s Digest

AP 8: SENIOR HUNGER.

EXISTING LAW, THE FEDERAL ELDERLY NUTRITION PROGRAM, AUTHORIZED UNDER THE FEDERAL OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965, 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 8: RELATING TO SENIOR HUNGER

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO “THE STATE OF SENIOR HUNGER IN AMERICA 2014: AN ANNUAL REPORT,” PUBLISHED IN JUNE 2016 BY THE NATIONAL FOUNDATION TO END SENIOR HUNGER (NFESH), THE TOTAL POPULATION OF SENIORS IN THE UNITED STATES ROSE BY 119 PERCENT BETWEEN 2001 AND 2014; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO THE NFESH ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED IN JUNE 2016, THE FRACTION OF SENIORS EXPERIENCING THE THREAT OF HUNGER INCREASED BY 47 PERCENT BETWEEN 2001 AND 2014; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO THE NFESH ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED IN JUNE 2016, SENIORS WHO ARE RACIAL OR ETHNIC MINORITIES, WHO HAVE LOWER INCOMES, OR WHO ARE YOUNGER (60 TO 69 YEARS OF AGE, INCLUSIVE) ARE MOST LIKELY TO BE THREATENED BY HUNGER; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO THE NFESH ANNUAL REPORT PUBLISHED IN JUNE 2016, 19.61 PERCENT OF SENIORS 60 TO 64 YEARS OF AGE, INCLUSIVE, 16.05 PERCENT OF SENIORS 65 TO 69 YEARS OF AGE, INCLUSIVE, 14.35 PERCENT OF SENIORS 70 TO 74 YEARS OF AGE, INCLUSIVE, 14.22 PERCENT OF SENIORS 75 TO 79 YEARS OF AGE, INCLUSIVE, AND 11.24 PERCENT OF SENIORS 80 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER FACED THE THREAT OF HUNGER IN 2014; AND

WHEREAS, ACCORDING TO DR. OZ, SENIORS NEED A BALANCED DIET OF PROTEIN, FIBER, CARBOHYDRATES, AND FAT. SENIORS ACTUALLY NEED 15 TO 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; AND

WHEREAS, PRICE INCREASES IN FOOD, HOUSING, AND MEDICATION CONSTRAIN SENIORS’ ABILITY TO AFFORD MEALS ON A FIXED INCOME; 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; 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 2017 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.