



SENATOR
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SENATE DEMOCRAT LEADER ★ SENATE DISTRICT 40

NEWS RELEASE

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Senate advances Simpson proposal to address needs of aging residents
Study committee would review best practices for aging in place community model

INDIANAPOLIS – The State Senate approved a proposal Monday that urges the creation of a legislative study committee to help local communities better address the needs of aging residents. Senate Resolution 22, authored by State Senator Vi Simpson (D-Ellettsville), directs the committee to identify best practices in providing community infrastructure, features and services to locally support residents through the aging process.

“Our goal is to provide a community model for enabling citizens to continue to be active, engaged members of their hometown throughout the aging process,” said Simpson. “Hoosiers of all ages would benefit from a comprehensive plan to move local communities toward sustainable development and quality of life for aging residents.”

Simpson said the study was inspired by Communities for a Lifetime, an initiative by several advocacy groups in the state, including AARP Indiana, IU Center on Aging and Community, and Indiana Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

State adoption of a statewide community model, such as the Communities for a Lifetime initiative, could help local communities better address basic needs such as housing and mobility, optimize physical and mental health through accessible services, maximize independence for those with frailty or disability, and promote social and civic engagement.

According to 2008 U.S. Census Bureau figures, nearly 1.65 million Hoosiers, or one quarter of Indiana residents are between 45 and 65 years of age. Another 813,000 Indiana residents, or 12.8 percent of the state population, are over the age of 65.

If approved by the Legislative Council, the study committee could begin work this summer.

For more information on Sen. Simpson or updates on Senate activities visit www.senatedemocrats.in.gov.

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