

## **NEVADA SILVER HAIREd LEGISLATIVE FORUM**

*(Nevada Revised Statutes 427A.320)*

### **Raising Awareness of the Stigma Seniors May Face in Our Society and to Advocate on Behalf of Seniors Who Face This Stigma.**

## **RESOLUTION**

**WHEREAS**, The Nevada Silver Haired Legislative Forum was created to identify and act upon issues of importance to aging persons; and

**WHEREAS**, Stereotypical and discriminatory attitudes exist toward old age, the process of aging, and seniors, which the Forum considers a stigma; and

**WHEREAS**, Discriminatory practices against seniors, especially in employment, as well as in other social roles, diminish their opportunities for a higher quality of life and undermine their personal dignity. For instance, age discrimination results in either not getting hired or missing promotions and being laid off or fired; and

**WHEREAS**, The Forum is advocating on behalf of seniors who face this stigma and do not have a voice in our society; and

**WHEREAS**, This stigma may cause anxiety, depression, helplessness, loss of productivity and self-esteem, and social isolation that leads to negative effects on seniors' overall mental and physical health. Affected seniors are more vulnerable to abuse and self-neglect and tend to have a higher mortality rate; and

**WHEREAS**, Abusers may manipulate and isolate vulnerable seniors to gain undue influence over them, which is a form of psychological abuse and could be considered criminal behavior; and

**WHEREAS**, Socially isolated seniors are at risk of increased self-neglect, which manifests in chaotic medication management, dehydration, malnutrition, poor personal hygiene, and other unattended health conditions; now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED BY THE NEVADA SILVER HAIREd LEGISLATIVE FORUM**, That the Forum hereby urges all parties involved in caring for seniors to continue working together to find solutions in effectively managing the aging process and overcoming the stigma associated with being a senior; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, That the Forum hereby raises awareness of this stigma and encourages all people to be innovative and creative in their support of seniors while helping them lead meaningful and quality lives with dignity, joy, and respect.