

U.S. Department of Health, Education, & Welfare,
Office of Aging, Region IX
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Office of
the Regional
Representative

556-3473

(H.R. 3708 AND S. 811)

OLDER AMERICANS ACT OF 1965

SUMMARY OF PROVISIONS

The bill provides for the creation of an operating agency known as the "Administration on Aging" within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare and headed by a Commissioner on Aging.

The bill authorizes, for the first 2 years, a total of \$13 million in grants to the States for community planning and coordination, demonstration programs, and training of special personnel. Grants for the next 3 years would be appropriated as Congress hereafter authorized.

The bill further authorizes, for the first 2 years, a total of \$4.5 million in grants by the Department of Health, Education, & Welfare to public or nonprofit private agencies, organizations, and institutions for study, development, demonstration, and evaluation projects relating to the needs of older persons, and for the specialized training of individuals in carrying out such projects. Grants for the next three years would be appropriated as the Congress hereafter authorized.

The bill provides for the establishment of a 16-member Advisory Committee on Older Americans with the Commissioner on Aging as Chairman.

TITLE I

A DECLARATION OF OBJECTIVES FOR OLDER AMERICANS

In keeping with the traditional American concept of the inherent dignity of the individual in our democratic society, the bill sets forth a 10-point declaration of objectives for older Americans:

1. An adequate income.
2. The best possible physical and mental health.
3. Suitable housing.
4. Full restorative services.
5. Opportunity for employment without age discrimination.
6. Retirement in health, honor, and dignity.
7. Pursuit of meaningful activity.
8. Efficient community services when needed.
9. Immediate benefit from proven research knowledge.
10. Freedom, independence, and the free exercise of individual initiative.

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TITLE II

ADMINISTRATION ON AGING

1. The act establishes the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.
2. It creates a new position of Commissioner on Aging to be head of the Administration on Aging who will be appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate.
3. Functions of the Administration: (a) Serve as a clearinghouse of information on problems of the aged and aging; (b) assist the Secretary in all matters pertaining to the aging; (c) administer grants provided by the act; (d) develop, conduct, and arrange for research and demonstration programs in the field of aging; (e) provide technical assistance and consultation to State and local governments; (f) prepare and publish educational materials dealing with welfare of older persons; (g) gather statistics in the field of aging; (h) stimulate more effective use of existing resources and available services.

GRANT PROGRAMS

The act provides for three types of grant programs to be administered by the Administration on Aging. They are:

TITLE III

Authorizing grants to the States by the Secretary, amounting to \$5 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966, \$8 million for the fiscal year 1967, and such sums as may be appropriated by Congress for each of the 3 succeeding fiscal years, for projects for: (a) Community planning and coordination of programs for older citizens; (b) demonstration programs or activities relating to aging; (c) training of specialized personnel needed to carry out such programs and activities; and (d) other programs to carry out the purposes of the act, including centers for older persons, exclusive of construction costs. Funds to be allocated to States based on a standard per centum and on a formula considering each State's population aged 65 and over. State plans for project grants shall be approved by the Secretary.

TITLE IV

The act authorizes grants by the Secretary to public or nonprofit private agencies, organizations, institutions, or individuals, for study, development, demonstration, and evaluation projects relating to the needs of older persons.

TITLE V

Grants by the Secretary may be made to organizations and individuals for the specialized training of personnel.

For purposes of carrying out the functions in titles IV and V above, the act authorizes the appropriation of \$1.5 million for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1966, \$3 million for the fiscal year 1967, and such sums as may be appropriated by the Congress for each of the 3 succeeding fiscal years.

TITLE VI

The act provides for the establishment of an Advisory Committee on Older Americans consisting of the Commissioner as Chairman, with 15 citizen members who are experienced in or have demonstrated particular interest in special problems of the aging.