

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 246

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2019

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman WAYNE P. DEANGELO

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Co-Sponsored by:

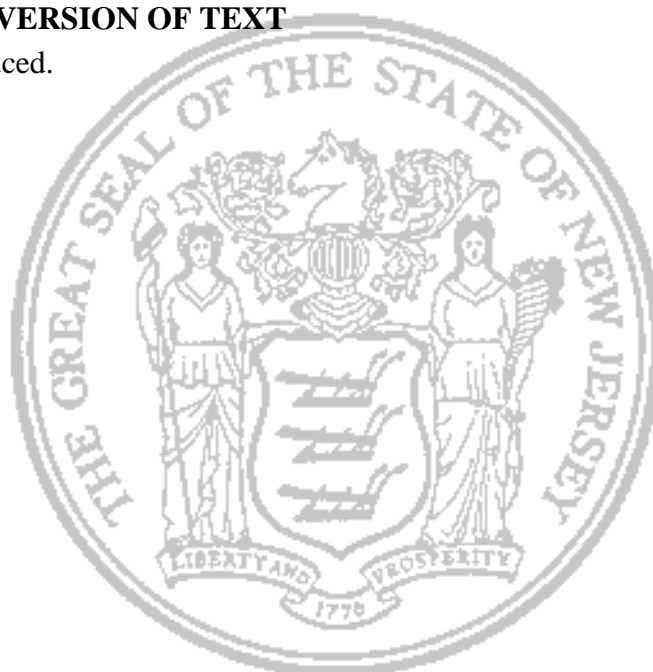
**Assemblyman Calabrese, Assemblywoman Lopez, Assemblyman
Houghtaling and Assemblywoman Downey**

SYNOPSIS

Urges New Jersey counties and municipalities to commit to becoming age-friendly communities.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 6/21/2019)

1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging New Jersey counties and
2 municipalities to commit to becoming age-friendly communities.
3

4 **WHEREAS**, The United Nations projects that, by the year 2050, the
5 number of people worldwide who are aged 60 years or over will
6 more than double to 2.1 billion individuals; and

7 **WHEREAS**, Older individuals have an increased likelihood of
8 experiencing social isolation as a result of financial and
9 accessibility issues, and may face discrimination due to their age;
10 and

11 **WHEREAS**, To address the world's aging population, the World Health
12 Organization (WHO) has launched the Global Network of Age-
13 Friendly Cities and Communities to help cities in 39 countries
14 assess the needs of their older residents and develop more age-
15 friendly policies and programs; and

16 **WHEREAS**, Age-friendly communities establish public policies,
17 services, public transportation, public spaces, and infrastructure
18 designed to enable older adults to participate fully in society, enjoy
19 good health, and live safely; and

20 **WHEREAS**, The WHO has identified eight Domains of Livability that
21 affect the quality of life of older individuals, which are: Outdoor
22 Spaces and Buildings, Transportation, Housing, Social
23 Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Civic Participation and
24 Employment, Communication and Information, and Community
25 and Health Services; and

26 **WHEREAS**, These features of an age-friendly community can be
27 utilized by residents of all ages; and

28 **WHEREAS**, Since 2012, AARP (formerly the American Association of
29 Retired Persons) has affiliated with the WHO to operate the AARP
30 Network of Age-Friendly States and Communities (AARP
31 Network), which supports states, counties, and municipalities as
32 they prepare for the rapid aging of the United States' population by
33 paying increased attention to the environmental, economic, and
34 social factors that influence the health and well-being of older
35 adults; and

36 **WHEREAS**, The U.S. Census Bureau projects that, by 2030, one in
37 every five U.S. residents will be 65 years or older and that, by 2035,
38 people age 65 and older will outnumber the under-18 population;
39 and

40 **WHEREAS**, Older adults are valuable members of American society,
41 making major contributions to our nation's economy, workforce,
42 culture, and family life; and

43 **WHEREAS**, Nationwide, over 318 communities and three states have
44 been accepted for membership in the AARP Network, including the
45 New Jersey municipalities of Elizabeth, Englewood, Garfield,
46 Maplewood, Montclair, Princeton, South Orange, and Teaneck;
47 now, therefore,

1 **BE IT RESOLVED** *by the General Assembly of the State of New*
2 *Jersey:*

3

4 1. This House respectfully urges New Jersey counties and
5 municipalities to commit to taking the steps necessary for
6 acceptance into the AARP Network of Age-Friendly States and
7 Communities, as defined by the World Health Organization.

8

9 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
10 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
11 President of the Senate, the New Jersey Association of Counties,
12 and the New Jersey League of Municipalities.

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STATEMENT

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17 This resolution urges New Jersey counties and municipalities to
18 commit to becoming age-friendly communities, as defined by the
19 World Health Organization and AARP. In the U.S., AARP partners
20 with the WHO to operate the Network of Age-Friendly States and
21 Communities, which consists of municipalities and states that are
22 committed to supporting the inclusion of older residents in the
23 social, cultural, economic, and political life of the community. To
24 be accepted into the AARP Network of States and Communities,
25 elected officials are required to submit an application on behalf of
26 the state or municipality, which serves as a commitment to conduct
27 a baseline assessment of the community's age-friendliness, develop
28 a community action plan based on the assessment's findings,
29 identify measurable outcomes to gauge the action plan's
30 effectiveness, and involve older residents in all facets of plan
31 development and implementation.