

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 82

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

218th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 1, 2018

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman PAMELA R. LAMPITT

District 6 (Burlington and Camden)

SYNOPSIS

Urges Congress to enact "Responding to Urgent Needs of Survivors of the Holocaust Act."

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION** urging Congress to enact the
2 "Responding to Urgent Needs of Survivors of the Holocaust
3 Act."
4
5 **WHEREAS**, The "Older Americans Act of 1965" (Pub.L. 89-73)
6 (OAA) was enacted in response to Congressional concerns about
7 the lack of community-based social services for senior citizens
8 around the nation; and
9 **WHEREAS**, The OAA gave states authority over grants for community
10 planning, social services, research and development projects for the
11 elderly, and personnel training on aging-related issues; and
12 **WHEREAS**, The OAA also established the Administration on Aging in
13 the Department of Health and Human Services as the federal
14 agency responsible for administering the grants for legal,
15 nutritional, supportive home, community-based social, disease
16 prevention, and health promotion services and programs for the
17 prevention of elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation; and
18 **WHEREAS**, In June of 2012, S.3358, the "Responding to Urgent Needs
19 of Survivors of the Holocaust Act" (RUSH Act), was introduced to
20 amend the OAA to ensure that the approximately 127,000 aging
21 Holocaust survivors currently living in the United States can access
22 health care, nutrition, transportation, and community-based support
23 services to enable them to age in place; and
24 **WHEREAS**, Many Holocaust survivors who emigrated to the United
25 States live in poverty and represent an extremely vulnerable at-risk
26 population, more reliant on social services programs than most
27 other older Americans, with a disproportionate number needing
28 services such as personal care, home-delivered and congregate
29 meals, transportation, and mental health support; and
30 **WHEREAS**, The RUSH Act addresses the unique challenges facing
31 aging Holocaust survivors residing both at home and in community
32 based long-term care facilities by ensuring that their religious,
33 cultural, and ethnic needs are met and allowing Holocaust survivors
34 to age with dignity, comfort, and security; and
35 **WHEREAS**, The RUSH Act includes Holocaust survivors on the list of
36 older Americans receiving preference for services under the OAA;
37 authorizes the Administration on Aging, through its Community
38 Living Program, to implement services specifically for aging
39 Holocaust survivors; and establishes a grant program to provide
40 money to nonprofit organizations to create, improve, and expand
41 transportation services for the survivors; and
42 **WHEREAS**, The RUSH Act also authorizes the OAA's Nutrition
43 Program to ensure that home-delivered nutrition services meet the
44 special health related and nutritional needs of program participants
45 with religious, cultural, or ethnic dietary food restrictions and to
46 encourage employees of these programs to observe homebound
47 senior citizens and recognize the warning signs of medical

1 emergencies, injuries, elder abuse, neglect, or exploitation; now,
2 therefore,

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4 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
5 Jersey:

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7 1. The General Assembly urges the United States Congress to
8 enact S.3358, the "Responding to Urgent Needs of Survivors of the
9 Holocaust Act," which addresses the unique challenges facing aging
10 Holocaust survivors residing both at home and in community-based
11 long-term care facilities, ensures that their religious, cultural, and
12 ethnic needs are met, and allows Holocaust survivors to age with
13 dignity, comfort, and security.

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15 2. Copies of this resolution, as filed with the Secretary of State,
16 shall be transmitted by the Clerk of the General Assembly to the
17 President of the United States, the Assistant Secretary for Aging in
18 the Administration on Aging in the Department of Health and
19 Human Services, and every member of the New Jersey
20 Congressional delegation.

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STATEMENT

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25 This resolution urges the United States Congress to enact S.3358,
26 the "Responding to Urgent Needs of Survivors of the Holocaust
27 Act," which addresses the unique challenges facing aging Holocaust
28 survivors residing both at home and in community-based long-term
29 care facilities, ensures that their religious, cultural, and ethnic needs
30 are met, and allows Holocaust survivors to age with dignity,
31 comfort, and security.