



Date: November 18, 2014

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Al Austin, Eighth District *al*
Councilmember Roberto Uranga, Seventh District *R*

Subject: Resolution to commemorate National Family Caregivers Month

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Request the City Attorney to draft a resolution to commemorate National Family Caregivers Month and in recognition of the importance of the In-Home Care Provider Workforce.

BACKGROUND:

Nearly 145,600 homecare workers live in the County of Los Angeles, including over 11,200 workers who reside in Long Beach, delivering quality care to our most vulnerable residents, including seniors and adults and children with disabilities.

Homecare workers not only provide vital care to those in need, but, by doing so, save taxpayers millions of dollars each year when compared to more costly tax funded institutional care. The work of homecare workers often goes unnoticed, as do the financial struggles caregivers and their families experience in order to provide this lifeline service to those in need.

The number of family and non-family members requiring in-home care will drastically increase as the number of Americans who are 65 years of age and older is expected to double in the next 30 years.

During National Family Caregivers Month, it is appropriate for the City Council to recognize the important contributions homecare workers bring to those receiving care, as well as their communities, and support their continuing efforts to lift workers out of poverty and revitalize communities.

FISCAL IMPACT: There is no fiscal impact.

DRAFT RESOLUTION

Recognition of the Importance of the In-Home Care Provider Workforce and National Family Caregivers Month (November)

Whereas, close to 145,600 homecare workers in the County of Los Angeles; including over 11,200 workers who reside in Long Beach, deliver quality care to our most vulnerable residents, including seniors and adults and children with disabilities;

Whereas, homecare workers not only provide vital care to those in need, but by doing so save taxpayers millions of dollars each year when compared to more costly tax funded institutional care;

Whereas, the work of homecare workers often goes unnoticed as do the financial struggles caregivers and their families experience in order to provide this lifeline service to those in need;

Whereas, the number of family and non-family members requiring in-home care will drastically increase as the number of Americans who are 65 years of age and older is expected to double in the next 30 years;

Whereas, in order to meet the future demands of caregiving we must ensure a stable workforce by recognizing today the important contributions homecare workers bring to those receiving care, to our communities and to society as a whole,

Whereas, providing homecare workers with a living wage will generate demand for goods and services in the local economy, stimulate increased employment opportunities, and generate additional income which will in turn lead to additional spending in Long Beach;

Whereas, other communities across California including Los Angeles, San Diego, West Hollywood, Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco have taken steps to recognize the importance of creating a pathway to a fair and living wage as a standard to lift workers out of poverty and revitalize communities;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that the City of Long Beach stands in support of homecare workers, acknowledging the essential work and contributions they bring to Long Beach by officially recognizing the month of November as Family Caregivers Month and supporting their efforts to lift themselves and their communities out of poverty as they fight for a path for a fair and living wage.