COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND 2022 Legislative Session

Resolution No.	CR-022-2022		
Proposed by	Council Member Dannielle Glaros		
Introduced by	Council Members Glaros, Streeter, Turner, Dernoga, Harrison, Ivey,		
Co-Sponsors	Franklin, Davis, and Hawkins		
Date of Introduc	ction March 22, 2022		
RESOLUTION			
A RESOLUTION concerning			
The 50th Anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program			

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For the purpose of observing and recognizing the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program and its funding to Meals on Wheels which supports a nutritious meal, a friendly visit and a safety check to seniors in our communities.

WHEREAS, the average life expectancy is at a record high of 79 years. As we get older, even the most independent among us may experience physical declines or financial hardship that strips away our independence. Add to that an increase in geographic mobility of our families, and the result is millions of seniors left behind, hungry and alone; and

WHEREAS, hunger and social isolation jeopardize the health and well-being of older adults: and

WHEREAS, the annual March for Meals celebration commemorates the historic day in March of 1972 when President Nixon signed into law a measure that amended the Older Americans Act of 1965 to include a national nutrition program for seniors 60 years and older; and

WHEREAS, March 2022 marks the 50th Anniversary of the Older Americans Act Nutrition Program; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels is a national network of local programs determined to combat senior isolation and hunger; and

WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels is dedicated to providing seniors in our community with the support that enables them to remain living in their own homes, where they want to be. This support is typically a nutritious meal, a friendly visit and a quick safety check; and

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WHEREAS, Meals on Wheels of College Park, Meals on Wheels of Takoma Park/Silver Spring, and the Prince George's County Department of Social Services provide meals to hundreds of Prince George's County seniors every week; and

WHEREAS, these meal deliveries continued throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, providing crucial support to some of our most vulnerable residents; and

WHEREAS, this work is accomplished thanks to the generosity of donors and dozens of dedicated volunteers who prepare and deliver meals; and

WHEREAS, the Older Americans Act pays for approximately one third of Meals on Wheels funding, while local communities and private resources generate the rest. These sources vary and include client payments, contributions from private donors, foundations and state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, the current funding levels are inadequate and waiting lists are building.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Prince George's County, Maryland, that the Prince George's County Council joins the National Meals on Wheels network to rally support for this vital public-private partnership that provides millions of seniors with essential services that help them remain healthier and independent at home.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Prince George's County Council urges Congress to increase funding for this vital program.

Adopted this 22nd day of March, 2022.

COUNTY COUNCIL OF PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND

	BY:	
	Calvin S. Hawkins, II Chair	_
ATTEST:		
Donna J. Brown Clerk of the Council	-	