

OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE
September 26-27, 2016

The Older Iowans Legislature (OIL) conducted its second annual “bottom-up” priority bill writing session in the House Chamber of the Iowa State Capitol on September 26-27, 2016.

Delegates to the 2016 Older Iowans Legislature met in four (4) OIL Standing Committees on Monday September 26 to brainstorm senior issues and to recommend possible issues for enactment to the OIL Committee-of-the Whole that met on Tuesday September 27.

On September 27, 2016 the Older Iowans Legislature Committee-of-the-Whole debated, amended, prioritized and enacted the three (3) Older Iowans Legislature Priority Issues that will now be written as the Older Iowans Legislature Priority Bills of 2016.

**OLDER IOWANS LEGISLATURE PRIORITY ISSUES
2016**

Easing Workforce Shortage

The Older Iowans Legislature asks the 2017 session of the Iowa General Assembly to:

- Take steps to address the workforce shortage in healthcare and long-term support services.
 - Conduct analyses on direct care turnover reports as it affects quality of care
 - Improve the recruitment programs for direct care workers, i.e. forgivable loans, scholarships, vocational training, community service
 - For standards of care, create a baseline to determine number of staff to resident ratio
 - Establish an infrastructure to track training requirements including the following:
 - Certifications/minimum training requirements for workers/caregivers in facility, community and homecare settings
 - Mandatory background checks for all employees providing direct care support regardless of payor
 - Licensure for all home health and home care agencies, regardless of payor
 - Create incentives for facilities/agencies/communities to increase retention benefits for direct care workforce

LifeLong Links™ Full Funding

The Older Iowans Legislature asks the 2017 session of the Iowa General Assembly to:

- Fully fund the LifeLong Links™ –Iowa’s Aging and Disability Resource Center

Funding for facilities to house aging sexual predators

The Older Iowans Legislature asks the 2017 session of the Iowa General Assembly to:

- Appropriate funds for special facilities to house aging sexual predators