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TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director

Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: November 13, 2023

RE: RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL CAREGIVER

MONTH

Council President Mary Sheffield requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a **RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL CAREGIVER MONTH.**

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

BY COUNCIL PRESIDENT MARY SHEFFIELD

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NOVEMBER AS NATIONAL CAREGIVER MONTH

- **WHEREAS,** According to a research report from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), nearly one in five (19%) Americans are providing unpaid care to an adult with health or functional needs; ¹ and
- WHEREAS, Family caregivers provide a staggering 90% of care for adults who require long-term care and who do not live in a medical residential facility. These caregivers serve as a critical extension of the US health care system, and the demand for caregivers continues to increase as the baby boomer population continues to age; and
- WHEREAS, Family caregivers provide an average of 18 hours of care per week, and a 2021 report from the AARP estimates that the economic value of their labor was approximately \$600 billion, which was more than all out-of-pocket spending on health care in the US in 2021;³ and
- WHEREAS, Caregivers perform work that is selfless and essential, and while many caregivers feel their role has given them a sense of purpose or meaning (51%), these positive emotions often coexist with feelings of stress or strain. Many caregivers report physical, emotional, and financial strain, and many caregivers neglect their own health while caring for others;⁴ and
- WHEREAS, National Caregiver Month seeks to shed light on the vital work performed by caregivers and aims to enhance their quality of life, as even the most compassionate and dedicated caregivers require moments of respite from their demanding and important work; and
- WHEREAS, November is a time to recognize the dedication of caregivers who work tirelessly to provide care, companionship, and affection to their elderly or disabled family members; NOW, THEREFORE BE IT
- **RESOLVED**, That the Detroit City Council hereby recognizes November as National Caregiver Month; **NOW BE IT FINALLY**
- **RESOLVED,** That the Detroit City Clerk send copies of this resolution to the Detroit Area Agency on Aging and AARP Michigan.

https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2023/3/valuing-the-invaluable-2023-update.doi.10.26419-2Fppi.00082.006.pdf

brief.html#:~:text=22.3%25%20of%20adults%20reported%20providing,in%20five%20(18.9%25)%20men.

¹ AARP, *Caregiving in the US*, May 2020 - https://www.aarp.org/content/dam/aarp/ppi/2020/05/full-report-caregiving-in-the-united-states.doi.10.26419-2Fppi.00103.001.pdf

² Swartz K, Collins LG. Caregiver Care. Am Fam Physician. 2019 Jun 1;99(11):699-706. PMID: 31150177.

³ AARP, Valuing the Invaluable: Strengthening Supports for Family Caregivers, March 2023 -

⁴ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) – Caregiving for Family and Friends - https://www.cdc.gov/aging/caregiving/caregiver-