



Press Release

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State budget cuts would be costly for senior citizens, state

Naperville, Ill.—Senior citizens who desire to remain independent by living at home as long as possible may lose that option as Governor Quinn drafts the upcoming state budget. Proposed budget cuts would reduce services for critical senior service programs, forcing many seniors living on fixed income to move into nursing home facilities, possibly tripling their care costs. The proposed budget would also be a major blow to employment around the state, as companies would be forced to lay off employees as a result of a smaller clientele.

According to the AARP, nearly half of eligible people receiving more cost-effective, home-based care will be cut from the Illinois Department on Aging's Community Care Program. This could force senior citizens into more expensive living situations, such as moving into nursing homes.

"The cuts proposed by Governor Quinn could be devastating to our senior population, many of whom live on extremely fixed incomes," says Home Care Personal Services Operations Manager, Peggy Arnold. "This proposal would affect half of our clientele, and could possibly mean massive layoffs by not only our company, but many other companies who provide in-home assistance to seniors."

Other programs affected by these cuts include the Circuit Breaker property tax relief program, home meal delivery, and other community services. Seniors and caregivers are encouraged to call 1-800-664-9903 to urge the Governor to retain these critical senior services.

Home Care Personal Services, Inc., (Naperville, Ill.) provides in-home assistance to nearly 800 clients in Illinois. The agency offers a variety of services for those needing short-term or long-term care at home in Naperville, Crystal Lake, Bourbonnais, Peoria, and surrounding areas. More information can be found on the agency's website www.illinoiscaregivers.com.

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