

Committee: _____

RESOLUTION

Establish Maximum Hot Water Heater Settings in Institutions/Health Care Facilities

A RESOLUTION TO set a mandatory maximum setting of not more than 120° F on all and any hot Water heaters in any, but not limited to skilled care, assisted living, rehab facilities, day care centers and any other such treatment centers and/or other housing facilities for Texas Seniors.

WHEREAS, In the State of Texas nursing home residents and residents of, but not limited to skilled care, assisted living, rehab facilities, day care centers and any other such treatment centers and/or other housing in which seniors spend all or part of their time; during the course of their stay Seniors are often unsupervised in their access to hot water supplies; or are left unattended, within the reach of hot water taps; and

WHEREAS, careless, inappropriate and unattended use of hot water very often results in scalding burns, a major cause of costly and severe burn injury, lengthy treatment, rehabilitation and often resultant death to seniors; and

WHEREAS, such costly, severe and painful injury can be minimized by the expedient and economical measure of setting such hot water heater thermostats at a maximum of not more than 120°F, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED That, the 10th Texas Silver-Haired Legislature encourage and strongly recommend that the 79th Texas Legislature enact legislation that all licensed facilities for the care, housing or treatment of seniors be required to place a monitoring device allowing no higher than 120° F settings on hot water heaters installed in, including but not limited to skilled care, assisted living, rehab facilities, day care centers and any other such treatment centers and/or other housing of Texas Seniors. Such facilities found to be in violation of hot water temperature control shall face severe penalties set by Texas State Health and Safety Code.

PASSED AND APPROVED this____day of September, 2004, by the _____Committee,

Chair

PASSED AND APPROVED this____day of September, 2004, by by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

Al Campbell, Secretary