

criminatory personnel practices because of age. (6) Retirement in health, honor, dignity—after years of contribution to the economy. (7) Pursuit of meaningful activity within the widest range of civic, cultural, and recreational opportunities. (8) Efficient community services which provide social assistance in a coordinated manner and which are readily available when needed. (9) Immediate benefit from proven research knowledge which can sustain and improve health and happiness. (10) Freedom, independence, and the free exercise of individual initiative in planning and managing their own lives.”

2. Operation

The Administration on Aging, as one of the operating agencies of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare carries on functions both individually and jointly with its other operating agencies. Coordination is effected by the Office of the Secretary, by means of a departmental committee on aging, and through direct rapprochements with other agencies.

Coordination with programs of other departments is effected through joint program consultation on operations and through the President's Council on Aging, established by Executive Order 11022 in 1962. The Secretary serves as chairman and the Commissioner on Aging as deputy chairman of the council which includes the Departments of Health, Education, and Welfare; Agriculture; Commerce; Housing and Urban Development; Labor; Treasury; and the Civil Service Commission and the Veterans' Administration.

A significant cooperative activity of the Administration on Aging with the Office of Economic Opportunity is the program for employing impoverished older people in community services (foster grandparents program). This program is described separately in the final section of this report.

The Administration on Aging initiates and maintains liaison and cooperative activities with national organizations of older people and with professional and voluntary organizations in the field.

Administration of the program of grants to the States and provision of consultation to States and communities is handled by central office staff with the assistance of regional representatives on aging in the nine regional offices of the department.

In carrying out the purposes of the Older Americans Act, the Secretary is assisted by a 15-member Advisory Committee on Older Americans under the chairmanship of the Commissioner on Aging. Technical advisory committees are established as needed.

3. History

The Older Americans Act (Public Law 89-73) was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 14, 1965. The Administration on Aging, established by the act, became operational on October 1, 1965, when a supplemental appropriation for the Department was made. At the same time, the President named a Commissioner for the Administration, who was then confirmed by the Senate.

The law represents the fulfillment of a longtime objective of congressional leaders to designate a high-level agency of Government to be concerned with all the manifold needs of older people and to serve as a clearinghouse and coordinating mechanism for the activities of Government agencies which affect the aging.