

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR  
SPRINGFIELD, 62706GEORGE H. RYAN  
GOVERNOR

August 7, 2001

To the Honorable Members of the  
Illinois House of Representatives  
92nd General Assembly

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 9(b) of the Illinois Constitution of 1970, I hereby veto House Bill 1302, entitled "AN ACT concerning aging."

House Bill 1302 amends the Illinois Act on Aging to require the Department on Aging to distribute new funds to the Area Agencies on Aging in accordance with the intrastate funding formula. The legislation also provides that legislatively directed programs that provide designated amounts of funding to targeted areas are not subject to the intrastate funding formula.

The thirteen Area Agencies on Aging provide tremendous services that benefit senior citizens throughout the State. I wholeheartedly support their successful efforts to assist our senior citizens. I also understand that certain agencies that serve larger senior populations were concerned by the General Assembly's recent determination that new funds to the Area Agencies on Aging should be distributed equally among the thirteen agencies. Although House Bill 1302 intends to prevent possible inequities in future funding, I believe it is unnecessary legislation. The current Administrative Rules of the Department on Aging, which have the force and effect of law, already require the distribution of funds in accordance with the intrastate funding formula.

Title 89, Section 230.45(a) of the Illinois Administrative Code provides that funds appropriated for the thirteen Area Agencies on Aging are to be distributed based on the intrastate funding formula. Section 230.45(j) of the Code outlines certain exceptions from this requirement, which include "instances of a legislatively directed program requiring funding at a designated level for a defined target populations." Since House Bill 1302 substantially reflects language that is already part of the Department's administrative rules, it is my opinion that it is unnecessary and duplicative to enact this requirement into law.

For these reasons, I hereby veto and return House Bill 1302.

Sincerely,  
s/GEORGE H. RYAN  
Governor