

SEPTEMBER RECOGNIZED AS PACE MONTH IN CALIFORNIA

ACR 278 PASSED BY CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE

Sacramento, CA, August 29, 2018: As part of its final actions in the 2017-18 legislative session, the Legislature passed ACR 278, declaring September as PACE Month in California. The resolution, which recognizes the success of Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®), in addressing the needs of frail elderly and persons with disabilities, was introduced by Assembly Member Arambula and co-authored by more than 70 Assembly Members. The resolution applauds PACE as a fully integrated model of care that provides comprehensive, highly coordinated care for frail older adults who meet the state's nursing home level of care, enabling them to continue living in the community. ACR 278 also notes that PACE assumes full financial risk for all care and medical services, including transportation, hospitalization, and long-term care, in return for capitated payments from Medicare and Medi-Cal.

The PACE model of care revolves around an interdisciplinary team of doctors, nurses, therapists, social workers, dietitians, drivers, and others who provide direct care and services to meet program participant needs. Despite serving a very frail nursing home-eligible senior population, only five percent of participants are living in nursing homes at any given time. More than 90 percent say that they are very satisfied with PACE and would refer PACE to a close friend. PACE programs provide tremendous fiscal benefits to the state of California in savings of up to \$19 million per year.

"PACE is the right solution at the right time for older adults at heightened risk of nursing home placement who wish to continue to live independently," said CalPACE Chief Executive Officer Peter Hansel. "PACE provides one-stop shopping, providing the full continuum of services to meet their health care and supportive services needs."

PACE was developed in 1971 by On Lok in San Francisco, CA and has grown nationally to include 124 programs in 31 states serving over 45,000 participants.. Currently, PACE organizations in California serve more than 7,400 participants at 39 PACE Centers and Alternative Care Sites in 12 counties, including Alameda, Contra Costa, Fresno, Humboldt, Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, and Santa Clara.

During PACE Month, CalPACE is taking the opportunity to educate the aging population, family caregivers, medical providers, and elected officials about the benefits of PACE.

The California PACE Association (CalPACE) works to advance the efforts of Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE®). PACE programs coordinate and provide all needed preventive, primary, acute, and long-term care services so older individuals can continue living in the community. The PACE model is centered on the belief that it is better for the well-being of seniors with chronic care needs and their families to be served in the community whenever possible. For more information, visit www.calpace.org.