

News...

..from the Illinois House of Representatives

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Dan Beiser

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Beiser Pushes to Expand Silver Alert Program

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. –As Illinois’ senior population continues to grow, state Rep. Dan Beiser, D-Alton, is supporting legislation that would develop a comprehensive approach to increasing awareness of Alzheimer’s and other forms of dementia.

“Every year as the baby boomer generation grows older, Illinois seniors population rises by 200,000,” Beiser said. “As this continues, more of our neighbors and friends will be affected by Alzheimer’s and dementia, and we need to be prepared for these changes in our population.”

In 2005, Beiser passed legislation creating an alert system to assist the Illinois State Police (ISP) and other law enforcement agencies in finding endangered and missing seniors, a precursor to the current Silver Alert system. Senate Bill 1846, which Beiser is sponsoring, creates the Silver Search Program, which, through coordination between the ISP and the Silver Search Task Force, will put in place plans and resources for law enforcement to help find adults suffering from dementia. Additionally, the task force will work to increase awareness of these diseases throughout the state.

“Individuals with dementia and their caregivers face many daily challenges that can make assisting them difficult in emergencies,” Beiser added. “We need to make sure that our communities, law enforcement and health care providers have the resources they need to keep seniors safe.”

For more information, please contact Beiser’s constituent service office at 618-465-5900.

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