

1 HB384
2 122013-4
3 By Representative Hall
4 RFD: Health
5 First Read: 21-JAN-10

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ENROLLED, An Act,

To create a task force to assess the current and future impact of dementia such as Alzheimer's disease on the residents of Alabama, provide for its membership, provide for its duties and responsibilities, and provide for a termination date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. There is hereby created the Alzheimer's Disease Task Force. The membership of the task force shall consist of the following: The Chair of the House of Representatives Health Committee, the Chair of the Senate Health Committee, the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, or a designee, the Director of the Department of Public Health, or a designee, the Director of the Department of Senior Services, or a designee, the Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency or a designee, the Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources or a designee, and the following members appointed as follows: One person with Alzheimer's disease, one caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease, a representative of the nursing facility industry, a representative of the assisted living industry, appointed by the Governor; a representative of the adult day services industry, a representative of the probate judges association, a representative of the medical care provider industry,

1 appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; an Alzheimer's disease
2 researcher and one representative of a community-based
3 Alzheimer family support organization, appointed by the
4 Speaker of the House of Representatives; two representatives
5 of a community-based Alzheimer family support organization,
6 appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate; one
7 representative of a community-based Alzheimer family support
8 organization and a representative of AARP, appointed by the
9 Speaker Pro Tempore of the House of Representatives; two
10 representatives of the medical profession, appointed by the
11 Medical Association of the State of Alabama; and two
12 representatives of the State Board of Health, appointed by the
13 State Board of Health. Members shall serve without
14 compensation. The membership of the task force shall be
15 inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic,
16 urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state. The Governor
17 shall call the first meeting of the task force at which time
18 the members shall elect a chair and vice-chair. The Department
19 of Mental Health shall provide necessary administrative
20 support for the task force.

21 Section 2. The task force shall assess the current
22 and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
23 on the residents of Alabama, shall examine the existing
24 long-term care industries, services, health care manpower, and
25 resources addressing the needs of persons with Alzheimer's

1 disease, their families, and caregivers, and shall develop a
2 strategy to mobilize a state response to the crisis produced
3 by dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.

4 Section 3. The task force shall include an
5 examination of the following in its assessment and
6 recommendations:

7 (1) Trends in state Alzheimer's disease population
8 and needs, including the changing population with dementia,
9 including, but not limited to, the following:

10 a. The state role in long-term care, family
11 caregiver support, and assistance to persons with early-stage
12 and early onset of Alzheimer's disease.

13 b. The state policy regarding persons with dementia
14 such as Alzheimer's disease.

15 (2) Existing services, resources, and capacity,
16 including, but not limited to, the following:

17 a. Type, cost, and availability of dementia
18 services.

19 b. Dementia-specific training requirements for
20 long-term care staff.

21 c. Quality care measures for residential care
22 facilities.

23 d. Capacity of public safety and law enforcement to
24 respond to persons with dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.

1 e. Availability of home-based and community-based
2 resources for persons with dementias such as Alzheimer's
3 disease and respite care to assist families.

4 f. Inventory of long-term care dementia care units
5 for persons with significant behavioral problems.

6 g. Adequacy and appropriateness of
7 geriatric-psychiatric units for persons with behavior
8 disorders associated with Alzheimer's disease and related
9 dementia.

10 h. Adequacy of community hospitals to provide
11 appropriate health services to persons with dementia.

12 i. Adequacy of the probate system to approve and
13 monitor guardians for persons with dementia.

14 j. Adequacy of existing resources within the
15 criminal justice system to protect the civil and financial
16 rights of persons with dementia.

17 k. Availability of appropriate resources for persons
18 under the age of 60 with dementia.

19 l. Availability of memory screening service for
20 early detection and treatment.

21 m. Availability of dementia prevention programs.

22 n. Assisted living residential options for persons
23 with dementia.

24 o. State support of Alzheimer's disease research
25 through universities and other resources.

1 p. Examine health care disparities for minority
2 populations with dementia.

3 (3) Needed state policies or responses, including,
4 but not limited to, directions for the provision of clear and
5 coordinated services and supports to persons and families
6 living with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and
7 strategies to address any identified gaps in services.

8 Section 4. (a) The task force shall examine the
9 level of integration of efforts by responsible state and
10 county agencies to address current and future challenges to
11 good care, including the state university system's capacity to
12 produce critical health care professionals.

13 (b) The task force shall hold public meetings and
14 utilize technological means, such as web casts, to gather
15 feedback on the recommendations from the general public and
16 from persons and families affected by Alzheimer's disease.

17 (c) The task force shall submit its findings and
18 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in the
19 form of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan no later than March
20 1, 2011, at which time the task force shall terminate.

21 Section 5. The recommendations of the task force
22 shall not be considered a medical protocol, guideline, or
23 standard of care for the treatment of any disease or
24 condition.

1 Section 6. This act shall become effective
2 immediately following its passage and approval by the
3 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.

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Speaker of the House of Representatives

President and Presiding Officer of the Senate

House of Representatives

I hereby certify that the within Act originated in
and was passed by the House 14-APR-10.

Greg Pappas
Clerk

Senate	<hr/> 22-APR-10 <hr/>	Amended and Passed
House	<hr/> 22-APR-10 <hr/>	Concurred in Senate Amendment