

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 2632

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED FEBRUARY 13, 2020

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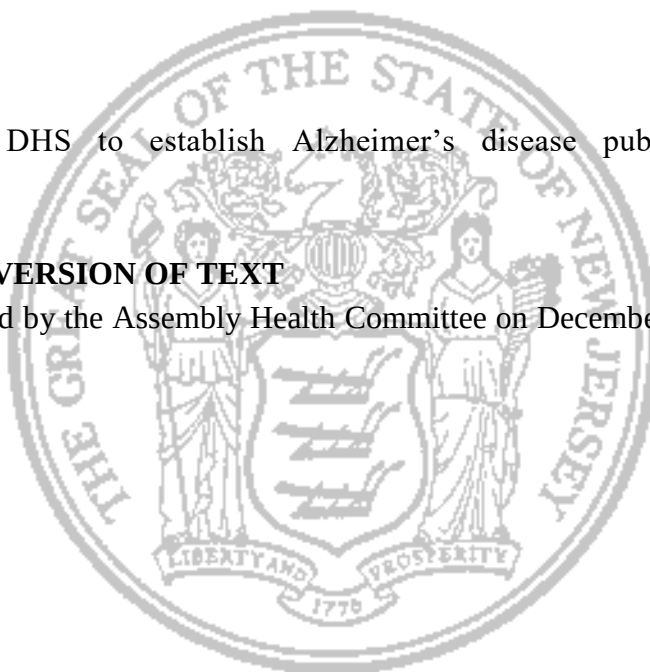
Assemblyman Caputo, Assemblywoman Timberlake, Assemblyman Conaway, Assemblywoman McKnight, Assemblymen Benson, Moen, Assemblywomen Reynolds-Jackson, Carter, Assemblymen DeAngelo, Johnson, Chiaravalloti, DiMaio, Karabinchak, Assemblywoman Quijano, Assemblymen Catalano, McGuckin, Dancer, Assemblywoman Jasey, Assemblymen Calabrese and Giblin

SYNOPSIS

Requires DHS to establish Alzheimer's disease public awareness campaign.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Health Committee on December 6, 2021, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 12/2/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning Alzheimer’s disease and supplementing Title
2 ¹ [26] 30¹ of the Revised Statutes.

3
4 BE IT ENACTED by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
5 of New Jersey:

6
7 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as the
8 “Alzheimer’s Disease Public Awareness and Education Act.”

9
10 2 ¹ ₂ ¹ The Legislature finds and declares that:

11 a. Alzheimer’s ¹ disease¹ is a progressive brain disorder that
12 damages and eventually destroys brain cells, leading to diminished
13 memory, thinking, and other brain functions.

14 b. The visible symptoms of Alzheimer’s disease are often
15 mistaken to be a normal part of aging.

16 c. Many people with the disease encounter precarious personal
17 and legal situations due to their diminished brain function.

18 d. Alzheimer’s disease takes an enormous emotional,
19 psychological, financial, and physical toll on the individual,
20 caregivers, and families.

21 e. It has been estimated that 5.8 million Americans are living
22 with Alzheimer’s disease, with that number expected to grow to 14
23 million by 2050.

24 f. There are currently no medicines that are effective in the
25 treatment of Alzheimer’s disease.

26 g. Alzheimer’s disease and ¹ [other dementias] related
27 disorders or other forms of dementia cost¹ the nation \$290 billion
28 per year ¹ ₂ ¹ which ¹ cost¹ could rise to \$1.1 trillion by 2050;

29 h. Increased public awareness and education are needed among
30 health care, social services, judicial, law enforcement, and
31 emergency medical services personnel in order to better respond to
32 the needs of ¹ [Alzheimer’s disease]¹ patients ¹ living with
33 Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders or other forms of
34 dementia¹ , their caregivers, and ¹ their¹ families.

35 i. It is imperative for New Jersey to commit itself to actively
36 support public awareness and education efforts throughout the State
37 in order to better meet the needs of its citizens who are suffering
38 from ¹ or affected by¹ Alzheimer’s disease.

39
40 3. As used in this act:

41 “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of ¹ [Health] Human
42 Services¹ .

43 “Department” means the Department of ¹ [Health] Human
44 Services¹ .

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHE committee amendments adopted December 6, 2021.

1 “Program” means the Alzheimer's disease public awareness and
2 education program established pursuant to this act.

3
4 4. The commissioner, subject to available funds, shall establish
5 an Alzheimer's disease public awareness and education program.

6 a. The purpose of the program shall be to promote public
7 awareness of Alzheimer's disease and the value of early detection
8 and possible treatments, including the benefits and risks of those
9 treatments. The department may accept for that purpose any grant
10 of monies, services, or property from the federal government, an
11 organization, or a medical school.

12 b. The program shall include the following:

13 (1) Development of a public campaign to promote Alzheimer's
14 disease awareness and education, including, but not limited to, the
15 following subjects:

16 (a) the **‘[cause and]’** nature **‘, symptoms, and warning signs’** of
17 the disease;

18 (b) lifestyle issues relating to how individuals and families cope
19 with Alzheimer's disease, including, but not limited to, diet and
20 physical exercise;

21 (c) environmental safety and injury prevention;

22 (d) availability of Alzheimer's disease diagnostic and treatment
23 services in the community; and

24 **‘[(f)] (e)’** cognitive aging and the benefits of early detection
25 and diagnosis.

26 (2) Development of educational materials to be made available
27 through local boards of health, physicians, hospitals, and clinics;
28 **‘and’**

29 (3) Development of educational programs for judicial staff,
30 police officers, fire fighters, and social services and emergency
31 medical service providers, to assist them in recognizing the
32 symptoms of Alzheimer's disease and understanding how to respond
33 to the needs of persons with the disease in the course of performing
34 their duties **‘[;’**

35 (4) Development and maintenance of a list of current providers
36 of services for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease.
37 Dissemination of the list shall be accompanied by a description of
38 diagnostic procedures and a statement about the current status of
39 Alzheimer's disease research and treatment. The statement shall
40 indicate that the department does not endorse specific Alzheimer's
41 disease centers in this State; and

42 (5) Continuation of New Jersey’s Behavioral Risk Factor
43 Survey**’**.

44
45 5. The department, in consultation with the Greater New Jersey
46 Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, shall prepare and make
47 available on the department’s Internet website in English and

1 Spanish, and in a manner that is easily understandable by the
2 general public, information about the symptoms and treatment of
3 Alzheimer's disease and any other information that the
4 commissioner deems necessary.

5

6 6. The Commissioner of ¹**【Health】** Human Services¹, pursuant
7 to the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-
8 1 et seq.), may adopt rules and regulations to effectuate the
9 purposes of this act.

10

11 7. This act shall take effect on the 180th day following
12 enactment, except that the Commissioner of ¹**【Health】** Human
13 Services¹ may take such anticipatory administrative action in
14 advance as shall be necessary for the implementation of the act.