

ASSEMBLY, No. 3831

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MARCH 16, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman KEVIN J. ROONEY

District 40 (Bergen, Essex, Morris and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

SYNOPSIS

Establishes “New Jersey Alzheimer's Disease Master Plan Study Commission.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 3/16/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning Alzheimer's disease and other related
2 dementias.

3

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

6

7 1. a. There is established the New Jersey Alzheimer's Disease
8 Master Plan Study Commission in the Department of Human
9 Services.

10 b. The commission shall consist of 15 members as follows:

11 (1) the Commissioners of Health and Human Services, or their
12 designees, who shall serve ex officio;

13 (2) two members of the Senate, to be appointed by the President
14 of the Senate, who shall not be of the same political party;

15 (3) two members of the General Assembly, to be appointed by
16 the Speaker of the General Assembly, who shall not be of the same
17 political party; and

18 (4) nine members appointed by the Governor, as follows: two
19 persons recommended by the Alzheimer's Association; three health
20 care professionals who are currently involved in the provision of
21 direct services, one of whom shall be a representative of an agency
22 that provides home care services to persons with dementia, one of
23 whom shall be a representative of an assisted living facility that
24 provides specialized services to persons with dementia, and one of
25 whom shall be a representative of a licensed nursing home that
26 provides specialized services to persons with dementia; one
27 representative from the clergy who has experience providing
28 emotional and spiritual care and support for persons with
29 Alzheimer's disease and their families; two persons, who by reason
30 of family relationship or legal guardianship, bear or have borne
31 responsibility in caring for a person with Alzheimer's disease; and
32 one attorney who is currently licensed and practicing in New Jersey,
33 has expertise in legal and financial planning and elder care issues,
34 and has extensive community-based experience working with
35 persons with Alzheimer's disease and their families.

36 c. Vacancies in the membership of the commission shall be
37 filled in the same manner provided for the original appointments.

38 d. The commission shall organize as soon as practicable
39 following the appointment of its members, and shall select a
40 chairperson from among the members. The chairperson shall
41 appoint a secretary who need not be a member of the commission.

42 e. Members of the commission shall serve without
43 compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses
44 incurred in the performance of their duties as members of the
45 commission, within the limits of funds appropriated or otherwise
46 made available to the commission for its purposes.

47 f. The commission shall be entitled to call to its assistance and
48 avail itself of the services of the employees of any State, county, or

1 municipal department, board, bureau, commission, or agency as it
2 may require, and as may be available to it for its purposes.

3 g. The Department of Human Services shall provide staff
4 support to the commission, as necessary.

5
6 2. It shall be the duty of the New Jersey Alzheimer's Disease
7 Master Plan Study Commission, established pursuant to section 1 of
8 this section, to develop a master plan for the State to implement to
9 address the impact of Alzheimer's disease and other related
10 dementias. The master plan shall include measures to:

11 a. Prepare the State to address the needs of individuals
12 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers.

13 b. Educate the public to increase awareness and understanding
14 about Alzheimer's and other related dementias utilizing identified
15 community resources, services, and efforts.

16 c. Improve the quality and effectiveness of the health care
17 provided to individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

18 d. Ensure adequate and sustainable funding for individuals
19 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

20 e. Enable individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease to
21 live in the most integrated, community-based setting, in accordance
22 with their needs and preferences.

23 f. Foster opportunities for individuals diagnosed with
24 Alzheimer's disease to be meaningfully engaged in their
25 communities.

26 g. Support unpaid family caregivers who serve individuals
27 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

28 h. Develop programs and policies for individuals diagnosed
29 with Alzheimer's disease that impact mental and physical health,
30 safety, and well-being.

31 i. Develop programs and policies for individuals diagnosed
32 with Alzheimer's disease that enable individuals to receive services
33 at home and in community-based settings as an alternative to
34 institutionalization.

35 j. Develop programs and policies for individuals diagnosed
36 with Alzheimer's disease that lift these individuals out of poverty.

37 k. Establish benchmarks to assess and measure progress in
38 accomplishing the master plan goals.

39 l. Develop affordable housing options for individuals
40 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease

41 m. Prevent exploitation and abuse, including financial abuse
42 and physical abuse, of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's
43 disease.

44
45 3. The New Jersey Alzheimer's Disease Master Plan Study
46 Commission, established pursuant to section 1 of this section, may
47 meet and hold hearings at such places and times as it shall
48 designate, and shall submit the Master Plan to the Governor, and to

1 the Legislature pursuant to section 2 of P.L.1991, c.164 (C.52:14-
2 19.1), within two years of the appointment of a majority of the
3 public members of the commission.

4
5 4. This act shall take effect immediately. The commission
6 shall expire 60 days after the submission of the report required
7 pursuant to section 3 of this act.

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10 STATEMENT

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12 This bill establishes the “New Jersey Alzheimer's Disease Master
13 Plan Study Commission” (commission) in the Department of
14 Human Services.

15 Under the bill, the commission is to consist of 15 members as
16 follows: (1) the Commissioners of Health and Human Services; (2)
17 two members of the Senate, to be appointed by the President of the
18 Senate, who are not to be of the same political party; (3) two
19 members of the General Assembly, to be appointed by the Speaker
20 of the General Assembly, who are not to be of the same political
21 party; and (4) nine members appointed by the Governor, as
22 provided for in the bill.

23 Under the bill, it is the duty of the commission to develop a
24 master plan for the State to implement to address the impact of
25 Alzheimer's disease and other related dementias. The master plan
26 is to include measures to: (1) prepare the State to address the needs
27 of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease and their
28 caregivers; (2) educate the public to increase awareness and
29 understanding about Alzheimer's and other related dementias
30 utilizing identified community resources, services, and efforts; (3)
31 improve the quality and effectiveness of the health care provided to
32 individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease; (4) ensure
33 adequate and sustainable funding for individuals diagnosed with
34 Alzheimer's disease; (5) enable individuals diagnosed with
35 Alzheimer's disease to live in the most integrated, community-
36 based setting, in accordance with their needs and preferences; (6)
37 foster opportunities for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's
38 disease to be meaningfully engaged in their communities; (7)
39 support unpaid family caregivers who serve individuals diagnosed
40 with Alzheimer's disease; (8) develop programs and policies for
41 individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease that impact mental
42 and physical health, safety, and well-being; (9) develop programs
43 and policies for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease that
44 enable individuals to receive services at home and in community-
45 based settings as an alternative to institutionalization; (10) develop
46 programs and policies for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's
47 disease that lift these individuals out of poverty; (11) establish
48 benchmarks to assess and measure progress in accomplishing the

1 master plan goals; (12) develop affordable housing options for
2 individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease; and (13) prevent
3 exploitation and abuse, including financial abuse and physical
4 abuse, of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.

5 The commission is to submit the Master Plan to the Governor,
6 and to the Legislature within two years of the appointment of a
7 majority of the public members of the commission. This bill is to
8 take effect immediately, and the commission is to expire 60 days
9 after the submission of the plan required under the bill.