

ASSEMBLY, No. 4444

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED JULY 23, 2020

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman DANIEL R. BENSON

District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)

Assemblyman RALPH R. CAPUTO

District 28 (Essex)

Co-Sponsored by:

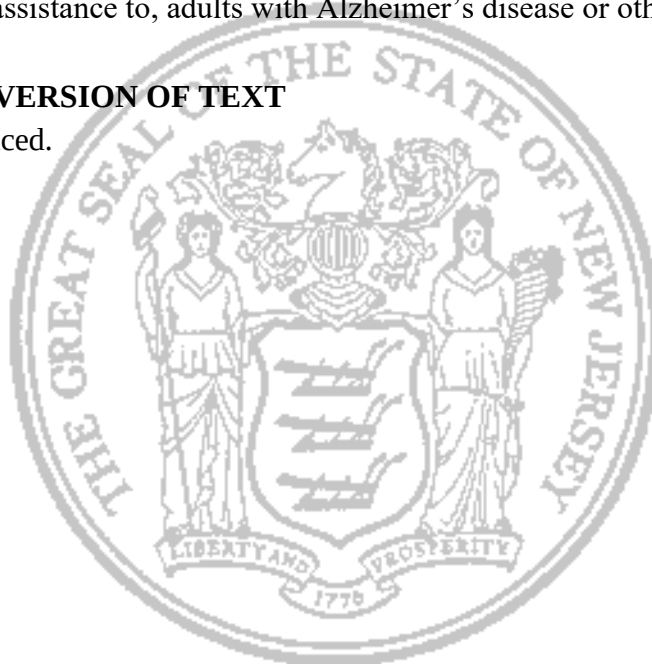
**Assemblywoman Speight, Assemblymen Chiaravalloti, Armato, Mazzeo,
Assemblywoman Chaparro, Assemblyman Conaway, Assemblywomen
Quijano and Timberlake**

SYNOPSIS

Requires county protective services staff to receive training on means and methods of effective, respectful, and compassionate communication with, and provision of assistance to, adults with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 2/22/2021)

1 AN ACT concerning the training of county protective services
2 provider staff on the ways to ensure effective, respectful, and
3 compassionate communication with, and provision of assistance
4 to, adults with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias and
5 amending P.L.1993, c.249.

6
7 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State
8 of New Jersey:

9
10 1. Section 17 of P.L.1993, c.249 (C.52:27D-422) is amended to
11 read as follows:

12 17. a. The commissioner or **[his]** a designee thereof shall
13 establish a training program for county protective services provider
14 staff, which shall be offered at least annually and shall include a
15 minimum of 90 classroom hours. This training shall be required
16 during the first year of employment with an adult protective
17 services provider.

18 b. (1) Commencing on the effective date of
19 P.L. , c. (C.) (pending before the Legislature as this bill),
20 the first-year training program provided under subsection a. of this
21 section shall include at least three classroom hours of instruction on
22 the means and methods that should be used by county protective
23 services staff to facilitate and ensure their effective, respectful, and
24 compassionate communication with, and provision of necessary
25 assistance to, adults who have Alzheimer's disease or other
26 dementias.

27 (2) Each staff member employed by a county protective services
28 provider on the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.) (pending
29 before the Legislature as this bill) who has already completed the
30 mandatory first-year training program under subsection a. of this
31 section, but who has not received the instruction required by
32 paragraph (1) of this subsection as a part of that first-year training,
33 shall be required to complete three classroom hours of supplemental
34 training on the issues specified in paragraph (1) of this subsection
35 within 90 days after the effective date of P.L. , c. (C.)
36 (pending before the Legislature as this bill).

37 (3) Each county protective services staff member who has
38 completed initial training on the issues specified in paragraph (1) of
39 this subsection, whether as a part of first-year training received
40 pursuant to subsection a. of this section or as part of supplemental
41 training received pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subsection, shall
42 be required thereafter to biennially complete three additional
43 classroom hours of refresher training on the issues specified in
44 paragraph (1) of this subsection.

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.

1 (4) The commissioner or a designee thereof shall establish a
2 program to provide the supplemental and refresher training courses
3 required by paragraphs (2) and (3) of this subsection. The training
4 program established pursuant to this paragraph shall provide for
5 supplemental and refresher training courses to be offered on a
6 regular basis in varying regions of the State or, as deemed by the
7 commissioner to be necessary and appropriate, to be provided
8 remotely through an online classroom learning format.

9 (5) Course materials used for training under this subsection shall
10 be regularly reviewed and updated as necessary to incorporate new
11 data, principles, and approved findings relating to the means and
12 methods that should be used by county protective services staff to
13 best facilitate and ensure their effective, respectful, and
14 compassionate communication with, and provision of necessary
15 assistance to, adults who have Alzheimer's disease or other
16 dementias.

17 (cf: P.L.1993, c.249, s.17)

18
19 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month
20 next following the date of enactment, except that the Commissioner
21 of Human Services shall take anticipatory administrative action in
22 advance of the effective date as may be necessary to implement the
23 provisions of this act.

24 25 26 STATEMENT

27
28 This bill would require the Commissioner of Human Services or
29 the commissioner's designee to provide training to county
30 protective services provider staff on the means and methods that
31 should be used by staff to facilitate and ensure their effective,
32 respectful, and compassionate communication with, and provision
33 of necessary assistance to, adults with Alzheimer's disease or other
34 dementias.

35 Existing law already requires the commissioner or his designee
36 to establish a training program for county protective services
37 provider staff, which is to include a minimum of 90 classroom
38 hours and is to be completed by staff members during the first year
39 of employment with an adult protective services provider.
40 However, the law does not specify the content of the courses to be
41 offered under that first year training program. This bill would
42 amend the existing law to specify that, commencing on the bill's
43 effective date, the first-year training program provided by the
44 commissioner will be required to include at least three classroom
45 hours of instruction on the means and methods that should be used
46 by county protective services staff to effectively, respectfully, and

1 compassionately communicate with and provide assistance to adults
2 who have Alzheimer's disease or other dementias. Each staff
3 member employed by a county protective services provider on the
4 bill's effective date who has already completed the first-year
5 training program mandated by existing law, but who has not
6 received the instruction required by the bill as a part of that first-
7 year training, will be required to complete three classroom hours of
8 supplemental training on these issues within 90 days after the bill's
9 effective date.

10 The bill would further require each county protective services
11 staff member who has completed initial training on the means and
12 methods of effective and respectful communication with, and
13 provision of assistance to, adults who have Alzheimer's disease or
14 other dementias to biennially complete three classroom hours of
15 refresher training on these issues throughout the course of the
16 person's employment with the county protective services provider.

17 The bill requires the commissioner or the commissioner's
18 designee to establish a program to provide the supplemental and
19 refresher training courses required by the bill. The program is to
20 provide for supplemental and refresher training courses to be
21 offered on a regular basis in varying regions of the State or, as
22 deemed by the commissioner to be necessary and appropriate, to be
23 provided remotely through an online classroom learning format.

24 The bill further provides for any course materials, which are used
25 in the training courses required under the bill, to be regularly
26 reviewed and updated as necessary to incorporate new data,
27 principles, and approved findings relating to the means and methods
28 that should be used by protective services staff to best facilitate and
29 ensure their effective, respectful, and compassionate
30 communications with, and provision of assistance to, adults who
31 have Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

32 The bill would take effect on the first day of the sixth month next
33 following the date of enactment, and the Commissioner of Human
34 Services will be required to take anticipatory administrative action,
35 in advance of the effective date, as may be necessary to ensure the
36 proper implementation of the bill's training requirements.