

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA
ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE
FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE BILL 405

Introduced by Davis, 43; Howard, 9.

Read first time January 16, 2015

Committee: Health and Human Services

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to Alzheimer's and related disorders; to
- 2 create a work group; to provide a termination date; to provide
- 3 powers and duties; and to declare an emergency.
- 4 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1 Section 1. (1) The Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Advisory Work
2 Group is created. The work group shall have a membership of thirteen
3 persons including the chief executive officer of the Department of Health
4 and Human Services or his or her designee, two members of the Legislature
5 appointed by the Executive Board of the Legislative Council as nonvoting
6 members of the work group, the Public Guardian or his or her designee as
7 a nonvoting member of the work group, and the following members appointed
8 by the Governor: One representative of the area agencies on aging, one
9 representative of an organization advocating for patients and caregivers
10 for patients with Alzheimer's or related disorders, one representative of
11 the law enforcement community, one representative of patients with
12 Alzheimer's or related disorders, one representative of caregivers for
13 patients with Alzheimer's or related disorders, and four representatives
14 selected from any of the following categories: Client advocacy
15 organizations; health care provider advocacy organizations; private
16 health care providers; and community-based health professionals.

17 (2) The members shall select a chairperson and a vice chairperson
18 from among the membership.

19 (3) The members shall not be reimbursed for their service on the
20 work group but may be reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses as
21 provided in sections 81-1174 to 81-1177. The work group may work with a
22 private organization to provide administrative support.

23 Sec. 2. The Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Advisory Work Group
24 shall meet and organize as soon as possible after the effective date of
25 this act. The work group shall develop a state plan as provided in
26 section 3 of this act and electronically deliver the state plan to the
27 Governor and the Legislature on or before December 15, 2016. The work
28 group shall make a presentation of the state plan to the Health and Human
29 Services Committee of the Legislature on or before December 15, 2016. The
30 work group shall terminate on December 31, 2016.

31 Sec. 3. (1) The Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Advisory Work

1 Group shall develop a state plan as provided in this section. The work
2 group shall:

3 (a) Assess the current and future impact of Alzheimer's and related
4 disorders on residents of the state;

5 (b) Determine the existing services and resources in the state that
6 address the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's and related disorders
7 and their families and caregivers; and

8 (c) Develop recommendations to respond to escalating needs for the
9 services and resources described in subdivision (b) of this subsection.

10 (2) In fulfilling the duties described in subsection (1) of this
11 section, the work group shall examine:

12 (a) Trends and needs in the state relating to populations with
13 Alzheimer's or related disorders, including (i) the state's role in the
14 provision of long-term care, (ii) family caregiver support, (iii) the
15 provision of early-stage diagnoses, assistance, support, and medical
16 services, (iv) younger onset of Alzheimer's or related disorders, (v)
17 ethnic populations at higher risk, and (vi) risk reduction;

18 (b) Existing services, resources, and capacity available to
19 individuals with Alzheimer's or related disorders, including:

20 (i) The type, cost, availability, and adequacy of services,
21 including, (A) home and community-based resources, (B) respite care, (C)
22 residential long-term care, and (D) geriatric-psychiatric units for
23 individuals with associated behavioral disorders;

24 (ii) Dementia-specific training requirements for individuals who are
25 employed to provide care to individuals with Alzheimer's or related
26 disorders;

27 (iii) Quality of care measures for services delivered across the
28 continuum of care;

29 (iv) The capacity of public safety and law enforcement to respond to
30 individuals with Alzheimer's or related disorders; and

31 (v) State support to institutions of higher learning for research on

1 Alzheimer's or related disorders;

2 (c) The need for state policy or action in order to provide clear,
3 coordinated services and support to individuals with Alzheimer's or
4 related disorders and their families and caregivers; and

5 (d) Strategies to identify gaps in services.

6 Sec. 4. Since an emergency exists, this act takes effect when
7 passed and approved according to law.