HJR433
142060-1
By Representative Hall
RFD: Rules
First Read: 01-MAY-12
CREATING THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TASK FORCE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That there is created the Alzheimer's Disease Task Force.

(a) The membership of the task force shall consist of all of the following:

(1) The Chair of the House of Representatives Health Committee or its successor.

(2) The Chair of the Senate Health Committee or its successor.

(3) The Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health, or his or her designee.

(4) The Director of the Department of Public Health, or his or her designee.

(5) The Director of the Department of Senior Services, or his or her designee.

(6) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency, or his or her designee.
(7) The Commissioner of the Department of Human Resources, or his or her designee.

(8) The Director of the Dementia Education Training Program.

(9) A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(10) A member of the Senate, appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate.

(11) A representative of the nursing facility industry, appointed by the Nursing Home Association.

(12) A representative of the assisted living industry, appointed by the Board of Examiners of Assisted Living Administrators.

(13) A representative of the State Department of Veterans' Affairs, appointed by the department.

(14) A representative of the adult day care services industry, appointed by the Department of Senior Services.

(15) A representative of the probate judges association, appointed by the association.

(16) A representative of the Alzheimer's Foundation of the South in Mobile, Alabama, appointed by the foundation.

(17) A representative of Alzheimer's of Central Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama, appointed by the organization.

(18) A representative of the Alzheimer's Association of North Alabama in Huntsville, Alabama, appointed by the association.
(19) A representative of the Alzheimer's Organization—Greater Montgomery Area, appointed by the organization.

(20) A representative of the Alzheimer's Resource Center in Dothan, Alabama, appointed by the center.

(21) A representative of the Alabama Silver Haired Legislature, appointed by the membership of that body.

(22) An at-large member, appointed by the Governor.

(23) An at-large member, appointed by the Department of Mental Health.

(24) A representative of the medical profession, appointed by the Medical Association of the State of Alabama.

(25) A representative of the State Board of Health, appointed by the State Board of Health.

(26) A representative of the Alabama Association of Retired Persons, appointed by the association.

(27) The following members appointed by the Governor:

a. A person with dementia, appointed from a list of three names submitted by the Department of Mental Health.

b. A caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease, appointed from a list of three names submitted by the Department of Mental Health.

c. An Alzheimer's disease researcher, appointed from a list of three names submitted by the Department of Mental Health.
(28) Additional members may be added by majority vote of the membership of the task force.

(b) Members shall serve without compensation. The membership of the task force shall be inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban/rural, and economic diversity of the state. The Governor shall call the first meeting of the task force at which time the members shall elect a chair and a vice chair from among the membership of the task force.

(c) The task force shall assess the current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementias on the residents of Alabama, shall examine the existing long-term care industries, services, health care manpower, and resources addressing the needs of persons with Alzheimer's disease, their families, and caregivers, and shall develop a strategy to mobilize a state response to the crisis produced by dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.

(d) The task force shall include an examination of all of the following in its assessment and recommendations:

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

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

   b. The state policy regarding persons with dementia such as Alzheimer's disease.
(2) Existing services, resources, and capacity including, but not limited to, all of the following:

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

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

c. Quality care measures for residential care facilities.

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

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

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

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

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

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

j. Adequacy of existing resources within the criminal justice system to protect the civil and financial rights of persons with dementia.
k. Availability of appropriate resources for persons under the age of 60 with dementia.

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

m. Availability of dementia prevention programs.

n. Assisted living residential options for persons with dementia.

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

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

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

(e) The task force shall do all of the following:

(1) Examine the level of integration of efforts by responsible state and county agencies to address current and future challenges to good care, including the state university system's capacity to produce critical health care professionals.

(2) Hold public meetings and utilize technological means, such as web casts, to gather feedback on the recommendations from the general public and from persons and families affected by Alzheimer's disease.
(3) Submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in the form of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan no later than March 1, 2014, at which time the task force shall terminate.

(f) The recommendations of the task force may not be considered a medical protocol, guideline, or standard of care for the treatment of any disease or condition.

(g) Upon the request of the chair, the Secretary of the Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall provide necessary clerical assistance for the work of the task force and the Department of Mental Health shall provide necessary administrative support for the task force.

(h) The total expenditures of the task force shall not exceed $5,000.