

GREEN SHEET REDIGEST

HB 397

2021 Regular Session

White

PUBLIC HEALTH: Provides relative to public health programs and services related to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias

DIGEST

Proposed law provides that it is in the public interest to provide information to increase understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases. Further provides that it is the public policy of this state that health care providers in Louisiana have access to guidance and education outreach programs regarding Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases.

Proposed law provides that the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) may in its existing public health programs and services educate health care providers on all of the following:

- (1) The importance of effective care planning, including treatment options, support and services, long-term care options, advanced directives, and care at every stage of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to include appropriate counseling.
- (2) The use of validated cognitive assessment tools.

Proposed law provides that LDH may include provisions in its public health outreach programs that, at a minimum, do all of the following:

- (1) Increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases including any link to chronic disease, such as vascular risk factors.
- (2) Advise the public of the value of early detection of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases along with information on the early signs of such diseases.
- (3) Educate the public on the importance of identifying and reporting signs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to health care providers for timely diagnosis.
- (4) Increase data and surveillance applicable to Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases and encourage additional data analysis and accurate reporting on death certificates.

Proposed law provides that LDH shall consult with the Louisiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and other experts, advocates, or associations to facilitate the distribution of educational materials that address Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases.

Proposed law provides that LDH shall consult with and seek input from the Louisiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association and other experts, advocates, and associations when promulgating rules and regulations to comply with the provisions of proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 40:2200.7.1 and 2200.7.2)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

- 1. Revise proposed law to provide all of the following:

- a. Delete proposed law stating that it is the public policy of this state to require the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) to provide consistent guidance and effective education outreach programs to health care providers across the state, and add instead that it is the public policy of this state that health care providers in Louisiana have access to guidance and education outreach programs regarding Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases.
 - b. Add to proposed law a requirement that LDH work with the Louisiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association to facilitate the distribution, by any means agreed upon by the department and the association, of the educational materials prepared by the association that address Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases.
 - c. Revise proposed law requiring that administrative rules of LDH include types of cognitive assessment tools to be available to health care providers to provide instead that such rules may include these cognitive tools.
2. Revise proposed law that mandates LDH to educate, provide outreach programs, and promulgate rules and regulations and add instead an authorization for LDH to perform these functions.
 3. Make technical changes.

Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the engrossed bill

1. Adds other experts, advocates, or associations to the parties with which LDH shall consult regarding the distribution of educational materials and the promulgation of rules and regulations.
2. Makes technical changes.