

RÉSUMÉ DIGEST

ACT 73 (HB 397)

2021 Regular Session

White

New law provides that it is in the public interest that information be provided to better understand Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to increase awareness.

New law states that it is public policy of the state that the Louisiana Department of Health (LDH) provide consistent guidance and effective education programs to healthcare providers statewide.

New law provides that LDH may educate healthcare providers on 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.

New law states that the LDH office of public health may provide information that does all of the following:

- (1) Increases awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases including any link to chronic diseases, such as vascular risk factors.
- (2) Advises 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) Educates the public on the importance of identifying and reporting signs of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to healthcare providers for timely diagnosis.
- (4) Increases data and surveillance applicable to Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases and encourages additional data analysis and accurate reporting on death certificates.

New law authorizes LDH to promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with existing law to comply with the provisions of new law. Further provides that LDH shall consult with and seek input from the Louisiana chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, along with other experts, advocates, or associations, when promulgating such rules and regulations.

Effective August 1, 2021.

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