HLS 25RS-2100 ENGROSSED

2025 Regular Session

1

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 42

BY REPRESENTATIVE WALTERS

MTR VEHICLE/OFFICE: Urges and requests the office of motor vehicles to study the necessity of Louisiana state identification cards for citizens with Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request the office of motor vehicles to study the necessity of special
3	identification cards for Louisiana citizens with Alzheimer's and related dementia
4	diseases; including, the types of proof required from a physician of the condition, the
5	necessary information required on the identification card, waiver of fees for
6	obtaining the identification cards, and the potential expiration and renewal of
7	identification cards.
8	WHEREAS, R.S. 40:1321(C) requires a fee of fifteen dollars for the issuance or
9	renewal of a special identification card; and
10	WHEREAS, upon presentation of a voter registration card or certificate, the fee
11	applicable to the issuance or renewal of a special identification card is waived for any person
12	who does not have a Louisiana driver's license; and
13	WHEREAS, R.S. 40:1321(S) provides for Louisiana citizens with autism to request
14	a special state identification card designation indicating the person has autism spectrum
15	disorder or seizure disorder exhibited on the card; and
16	WHEREAS, one major requirement for a special identification card is the
17	presentation of a statement from a qualified medical or mental health professional licensed
18	in Louisiana or any other state or territory in the United States verifying the person's
19	disability as established by administrative rule; and

1	WHEREAS, the state of Louisiana does not require an additional fee for the
2	designation on special identification cards; and
3	WHEREAS, the difference between the special identification cards for Louisiana
4	citizens with autism and other identification cards is the indication to "Autism", appearing
5	below the picture of the person; and
6	WHEREAS, according to a 2025 special report by the Alzheimer's Association, there
7	is a distinction between dementia and Alzheimer's disease; and
8	WHEREAS, dementia is an overall term for a particular group of symptoms that is
9	caused by many different conditions; and
10	WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the most common cause of dementia symptoms,
11	involving different types of brain changes; and
12	WHEREAS, according to the Alzheimer's Association, approximately ninety-four
13	thousand seven hundred citizens, aged sixty-five and older, in Louisiana have been
14	diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease; and
15	WHEREAS, according to the Alzheimer's Association, approximately one hundred
16	sixty-eight family members and friends serve as unpaid care givers for Louisiana citizens
17	with Alzheimer's disease; and
18	WHEREAS, according to Louisiana State University's Healthy Aging Research
19	Center, Louisiana was among the five states with the highest occurrence of Alzheimer's and
20	related dementia diseases in 2024; and
21	WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease and related dementia diseases have grown one
22	hundred forty-five percent over the past twenty years; and
23	WHEREAS, the MedicAlert Foundation is one of the many organizations that
24	provide a special medial identification card for people with Alzheimer's and related dementia
25	diseases; and
26	WHEREAS, these special medical identification cards include the disease, the
27	impairments, the name of the person, "Call MedicAlert", or any other important phone
28	numbers; and

1	WHEREAS, the MedicAlert Foundation reports that six out of ten people with
2	dementia will wander from safety and are incapable of telling others where they live or how
3	to contact their care givers; and
4	WHEREAS, statistics further show that if people with dementia are not located
5	within a few hours, the odds of injury and death increase dramatically; and
6	WHEREAS, according to the MedicAlert Foundation, approximately five hundred
7	people who wander from their safe environment are located using their MedicAlert
8	identification cards; and
9	WHEREAS, the possession of a special identification card for those with Alzheimer's
10	and related dementia diseases is essential to protecting those citizens of this state; and
11	WHEREAS, many with Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases have limited
12	access to travel due to an inability to drive; and
13	WHEREAS, the state of California offers a "homebound program" for citizens with
14	disabilities who are unable to go to the office of motor vehicles in-person; and
15	WHEREAS, the debilitating nature of Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases
16	causes many with these diseases to become unemployable and unemployed; and
17	WHEREAS, according to the resource center for dementia, Dementia Care Central,
18	the average cost for memory care in Louisiana is approximately four thousand five hundred
19	seventy-two dollars.
20	THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby
21	urge and request the office of motor vehicles to study the feasibility and potential methods
22	of offering special identification cards to citizens with Alzheimer's or related dementia
23	diseases.
24	BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of motor vehicles shall study the
25	following:
26	(1) Laws and ordinances that establish procedure for obtaining Alzheimer's and
27	related dementia diseases identification cards.
28	(2) The feasibility of creating alternative methods for obtaining identification in
29	person.

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1 (3) The feasibility of offering extended expiration dates for special identification 2 cards.

- (4) The feasibility of waiving fees for Louisiana citizens applying for Alzheimer's
   and related dementia diseases identification cards.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the office of motor vehicles shall submit a written report to the House and Senate Transportation, Highway and Public Works committees prior to July 1, 2026.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the secretary of the office of motor vehicles.

## **DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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Urges and requests that the office of motor vehicles (OMV) study the necessity for special identification cards for citizens with Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases, the potential threat to the safety of La. citizens, and the feasibility of waiving fees for special identification cards for La. citizens with Alzheimer's and related dementia diseases. Requires the OMV to submit a written report to the House and Senate Transportation, Highways and Public Works committees prior to July 1, 2026.