

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 397

BY REPRESENTATIVE WHITE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

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

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact the heading of Part XIV of Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Louisiana
3 Revised Statutes of 1950 and to enact Subpart B of Part XIV of Chapter 11 of Title
4 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, to be comprised of R.S. 40:2200.7.1
5 and 2200.7.2, relative to Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases; to provide
6 for education concerning and awareness of such diseases; to provide for the early
7 detection of such diseases; to provide for the promulgation of rules by the Louisiana
8 Department of Health; to provide for the designation and organization of certain laws
9 by the Louisiana State Law Institute; and to provide for related matters.

10 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

11 Section 1. The heading of Part XIV of Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Louisiana
12 Revised Statutes of 1950 is hereby amended and reenacted and Subpart B of Part XIV of
13 Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, comprised of R.S.
14 40:2200.7.1 and 2200.7.2, is hereby enacted to read as follows:

15 PART XIV. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND DEMENTIA TRAINING

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17 SUBPART B. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND OTHER DEMENTIA DISEASES

18 §2200.7.1. Legislative intent

19 A. The legislature hereby finds and declares that:

1 (1) It is the intent of the legislature that existing health programs and
2 services educate healthcare professionals on the importance of early detection and
3 timely diagnosis of cognitive impairment and dementia.

4 (2) It is in the public interest to provide information to increase
5 understanding and awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases.

6 (3) It is the public policy of this state to require the Louisiana Department
7 of Health to provide consistent guidance and effective education outreach programs
8 to healthcare providers across the state.

9 §2200.7.2. Alzheimer's and other dementia diseases training; rulemaking

10 A. The Louisiana Department of Health shall in its existing public health
11 programs and services educate healthcare providers on all of the following:

12 (1) The importance of effective care planning, including treatment options,
13 support and services, long-term care options, advanced directives, and care at every
14 stage of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to include appropriate
15 counseling.

16 (2) The use of validated cognitive assessment tools.

17 B. The office of public health within the Louisiana Department of Health
18 shall include provisions in its public health outreach programs that, at a minimum,
19 accomplish the following:

20 (1) Increase the awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia
21 diseases including any link to chronic disease, such as vascular risk factors.

22 (2) Advise the public of the value of early detection of Alzheimer's disease
23 and other dementia diseases along with information on the early signs of such
24 diseases.

25 (3) Educate the public on the importance of identifying and reporting signs
26 of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases to healthcare providers for timely
27 diagnosis.

1 (4) Increase data and surveillance applicable to Alzheimer's disease and
2 other dementia diseases and encourage additional data analysis and accurate
3 reporting on death certificates.

4 C. The Louisiana Department of Health shall promulgate rules and
5 regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act as are necessary to
6 implement this Subpart. Such rules and regulations shall include but not be limited
7 to the type of cognitive assessment tools that shall be available to healthcare
8 providers. The department shall consult with and seek input from the Louisiana
9 chapter of the Alzheimer's Association in the promulgation of such rules and
10 regulations.

11 Section 2. (A) The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to designate R.S.
12 40:2200.1 through 2200.5 as Subpart A of Part XIV of Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the
13 Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and is further directed to apply to the Subpart the
14 heading "Dementia Training".

15 (B) The Louisiana State Law Institute is hereby directed to designate R.S.
16 40:2200.7.1 and 2200.7.2, as enacted by Section 1 of this Act, as Subpart B of Part XIV of
17 Chapter 11 of Title 40 of the Louisiana Revised Statutes of 1950, and is further directed to
18 apply to the Subpart the heading "Alzheimer's Disease and Other Dementia Diseases".

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)]

HB 397 Original

2021 Regular Session

White

Abstract: Authorizes the La. Dept. of Health to provide education and training to healthcare providers who treat patients suffering from Alzheimer's disease or other dementia diseases.

Proposed law states that the legislature is aware of the importance of early detection and timely diagnosis of cognitive impairment and dementia. Furthermore, proposed law provides that it is in the public interest that information shall be provided to better understand Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases and increase awareness. Also, proposed law states that it is public policy of the state to require the La. Dept. of Health (LDH) to provide consistent guidance and effective education programs to healthcare providers across the state.

Proposed law provides that LDH shall 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.

Proposed law requires the office of public health to provide information that does all of the following:

- (1) Increases the awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other dementia diseases including any link to chronic disease, 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 encourage additional data analysis and accurate reporting on death certificates.

Proposed law states that LDH shall promulgate rules and regulations in accordance with present law to comply with the provisions of proposed law. Further provides that the department shall consult with and seek input from the La. chapter of the Alzheimer's Association when promulgating such rules and regulations.

Proposed law makes technical changes and corrections in present law.

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