

HJR89 INTRODUCED



1 6NXX33-1

2 By Representatives Shaver, Rehm, Shedd, Hall, Carns, Drummond

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4 RFD: RULES

5 First Read: 18-Apr-23

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HJR___ CREATING THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE TASK FORCE.

WHEREAS, The Alzheimer's Disease Task Force was created in 2012 by House Joint Resolution 433 and was terminated on March 1, 2014; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to reconstitute the Alzheimer's Disease Task Force; now therefore,

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 Healthcare Committee or its successor.

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

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

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

(6) The Commissioner of the Alabama Medicaid Agency.



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28 (7) The Commissioner of the Alabama Department of
29 Human Resources or his or her designee.

30 (8) The Director of the Dementia Education, Care, and
31 Training Program.

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

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

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

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

41 (13) A representative of the Alabama Department of
42 Veterans Affairs, appointed by the department.

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

46 (15) A representative of the Alabama Probate Judges
47 Association, appointed by the association.

48 (16) A representative of Alzheimer's of Central
49 Alabama in Birmingham, Alabama, appointed by the
50 organization.

51 (17) A representative of the Alzheimer's Association
52 Alabama Chapter in Huntsville, Alabama, appointed by the
53 association.

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



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56 (19) A representative of the Alabama Silver-Haired
57 Legislature, appointed by the membership of that body.

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

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

61 (22) A representative of the medical profession
62 appointed by the Medical Association of the State of
63 Alabama.

64 (23) A representative of the State Board of Health,
65 appointed by the board.

66 (24) A representative of AARP Alabama, appointed by
67 the association.

68 (25) The following members appointed by the
69 Lieutenant Governor:

70 a. A gerontologist or other clinician knowledgeable
71 in preventing dementia.

72 b. An Alabama resident who is interested or involved
73 in developing biotechnological applications to treat
74 Alzheimer's disease.

75 (26) The following members appointed by the Governor:

76 a. An individual with dementia, appointed from a list
77 of three names submitted by the Alabama Department of Mental
78 Health.

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



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82 c. An Alzheimer's disease researcher, appointed from
83 a list of three names submitted by the Alabama Department of
84 Mental Health.

85 (27) Additional members may be added by majority vote
86 of the task force membership.

87 (b) (1) The Governor shall call the first meeting of
88 the task force, at which the members shall elect a chair and
89 a vice chair from among the membership.

90 (2) The legislative members of the task force shall
91 be entitled to their legislative compensation, per diem, and
92 travel expenses for each day they attend a meeting of the
93 task force pursuant to Section 49 of the Constitution of
94 Alabama of 2022.

95 (3) The non-legislative members of the task force
96 shall serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for
97 necessary expenses in attending meetings of the task force
98 pursuant to the policies of their respective appointing
99 authority.

100 (4) The membership of the task force shall be
101 inclusive and reflect the racial, gender, geographic, urban,
102 rural, and economic diversity of the state.

103 (c) The task force shall examine all of the following
104 subjects in assessing the current and future impact of
105 Alzheimer's disease and related dementia with the goal of
106 making recommendations for mobilizing a coordinated state
107 strategy and response:



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108 (1) The state's role in long-term care, family
109 caregiver support, and assistance to persons with early
110 onset and early-stage Alzheimer's disease.

111 (2) State policy regarding individuals with dementia,
112 including Alzheimer's disease.

113 (3) Existing public or private resources, services,
114 and capacity, including, but not limited to, all of the
115 following:

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

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

119 c. Quality care measures for residential care
120 facilities.

121 d. Capacity of public safety and law enforcement to
122 respond to individuals with dementia such as Alzheimer's
123 disease.

124 e. Availability of home-based and community-based
125 resources for individuals with dementia such as Alzheimer's
126 disease and respite care for caregiving families.

127 f. The inventory of long-term care dementia units for
128 individuals with significant behavioral problems.

129 g. Adequacy and appropriateness of
130 geriatric-psychiatric units for individuals with behavior
131 disorders associated with Alzheimer's disease or other
132 dementia.

133 h. Adequacy of community hospitals to provide
134 appropriate health care to individuals with dementia.



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135 i. Adequacy of the probate system to appoint and
136 monitor guardians for individuals with dementia.

137 j. Adequacy of existing resources within the criminal
138 justice system to protect the civil and financial rights of
139 individuals with dementia.

140 k. Availability of appropriate resources for
141 individuals under the age of 60 who have dementia.

142 l. Availability of memory screening services for
143 early detection of Alzheimer's disease and its treatment.

144 m. Availability of dementia prevention programs.

145 n. Assisted living residential options for
146 individuals with dementia.

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

149 p. Disparities in health care for minority
150 populations with dementia.

151 (4) Needed state policies and initiatives, including,
152 but not limited to, planning for coordinated services to
153 individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia and
154 their families, with strategies to address identified gaps
155 in services.

156 (5) The level of coordination of efforts between
157 responsible state and county agencies to address current and
158 future challenges to the care of individuals with
159 Alzheimer's disease, including the state university system's
160 capacity to produce the required number of critical health
161 care professionals.



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162 (d) (1) In pursuing its work, the task force shall
163 hold public meetings and use technology, such as web casts,
164 to gather feedback on its recommendations from individuals
165 and families affected by Alzheimer's disease and the wider
166 public.

167 (2) Upon request of the chair, the Secretary of the
168 Senate and the Clerk of the House of Representatives shall
169 provide necessary clerical assistance and the Alabama
170 Department of Mental Health shall provide necessary
171 administrative support.

172 (3) The total expenditure of the task force shall not
173 exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

174 (e) (1) The task force shall submit its findings and
175 recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature in the
176 form of a State Alzheimer's Disease Plan no later than the
177 fifth day of the 2025 Regular Session of the Legislature, at
178 which time the task force shall terminate.

179 (2) The recommendations of the task force shall not
180 be considered a medical protocol, guideline, or standard of
181 care for the treatment of any disease or condition.

182 (f) Pursuant to Section 36-14-17.1, Code of Alabama
183 1975, the task force shall provide to the Secretary of State
184 a notice of all meetings, the name of each member serving on
185 the task force, and a copy of the final State Alzheimer's
186 Disease Plan and other interim reports or documents produced
187 throughout the duration of the task force.

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