

2024 Regular Session

SENATE BILL NO. 46

BY SENATOR MCMATH

HEALTH DEPARTMENT. Creates the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Advisory Council within the Louisiana Department of Health. (gov sig)

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 36:259(B)(20) and R.S. 40:2018.8, relative to the Alzheimer's and Related  
3 Dementias Advisory Council; to create the Alzheimer's and Related Dementias  
4 Advisory Council; to provide for composition of the council; to provide for duties  
5 of the council; to provide for effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 36:259(B)(20) is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §259. Transfer of agencies and functions to Louisiana Department of Health

9 \* \* \*

10 B. The following agencies are placed within the Louisiana Department of  
11 Health and shall exercise and perform their powers, duties, functions, and  
12 responsibilities as otherwise provided by law:

13 \* \* \*

14 (20) Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Advisory Council (R.S.  
15 40:2018.8).

16 \* \* \*

17 Section 2. R.S. 40:2018.8 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

1           **§2018.8. Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Advisory Council; composition;**

2                           **purpose**

3                   **A. There is hereby established within the Louisiana Department of**  
4                   **Health, the Louisiana Alzheimer's and Related Dementias Advisory Council,**  
5                   **referred to in this Section as the "council".**

6                   **B. The council shall be governed by the following twenty-one members:**

7                   **(1) A person with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia appointed by**  
8                   **the governor.**

9                   **(2) A caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia**  
10                   **appointed by the governor.**

11                   **(3) A representative of the nursing facility industry appointed by the**  
12                   **governor.**

13                   **(4) A representative of the assisted living industry appointed by the**  
14                   **governor.**

15                   **(5) A representative of the adult day services industry appointed by the**  
16                   **governor.**

17                   **(6) A physician specializing in neurology or geriatric care appointed by**  
18                   **the governor.**

19                   **(7) A representative from the rural health community appointed by the**  
20                   **governor.**

21                   **(8) A representative from an organization representing senior citizens**  
22                   **appointed by the governor.**

23                   **(9) A representative of the Community Living Ombudsman Program**  
24                   **appointed by the governor.**

25                   **(10) The executive director of the Alzheimer's Association, Louisiana**  
26                   **Chapter or his designee.**

27                   **(11) The assistant secretary of the office of behavioral health or his**  
28                   **designee.**

29                   **(12) The assistant secretary of the office of aging and adult services or**

1 his designee.

2 (13) The assistant secretary of the office of public health or his designee.

3 (14) The assistant secretary of the office of citizens with developmental  
4 disabilities or his designee.

5 (15) The Medicaid executive director or his designee.

6 (16) The executive director of the governor's office of elderly affairs or  
7 his designee.

8 (17) The secretary of the Louisiana Department of Veterans Affairs or  
9 his designee.

10 (18) The executive director of the Louisiana Commission on Law  
11 Enforcement or his designee.

12 (19) The executive director of the Louisiana Workforce Commission or  
13 his designee.

14 (20) Two representatives from academic research institutions in  
15 Louisiana that conduct dementia disease research appointed by the governor.

16 C. Members of the council shall serve four year terms, concurrent with  
17 the term of the governor. Members are eligible for reappointment. Any designee  
18 shall serve at the pleasure of the designating authority.

19 D. Council members shall not receive compensation or a per diem for  
20 their services or attendance at council meetings, except for those travel-related  
21 expenses already provided for by their agency.

22 E. The chairman shall be elected by the council for a term to be  
23 determined by the council. No member shall serve more than two consecutive  
24 terms as chairman.

25 F. The council may establish subcommittees and appoint persons outside  
26 of the council to these bodies as it considers necessary and appropriate to carry  
27 out its duties.

28 G. The council shall hold its initial meeting no later than November 1,  
29 2024. The council shall meet at least quarterly each calendar year and at any

1 other times as it considers necessary.

2 H. The Louisiana Department of Health shall provide support for the  
3 council, including staff, facilities, and resources to facilitate remote  
4 participation in meetings to the extent authorized by law.

5 I. The council shall be responsible for the following:

6 (1) Conducting assessments of Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia  
7 in Louisiana, including:

8 (a) Trends in the state's Alzheimer's population and needs, including the  
9 changing population with dementia.

10 (b) Existing policies regarding dementia.

11 (c) Program utilization among people living with dementia.

12 (2) Developing and leading implementation of a five-year statewide plan  
13 to address Alzheimer's and related dementias.

14 (a) The plan shall address gaps identified in the assessment and topics,  
15 including but not limited to the following:

16 (i) Access to care, support, and treatment.

17 (ii) Quality of care for people living with dementia.

18 (iii) Risk reduction, early detection, and diagnosis.

19 (iv) Coordinated statewide response to Alzheimer's.

20 (b) The council shall submit the five-year statewide plan to the governor  
21 and legislature no later than November 1, 2025, and every five years thereafter.

22 (c) The council shall submit an annual written report of the progress of  
23 the plan to the governor's office and legislature no later than November first of  
24 each year.

25 Section 3. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
26 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
27 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
28 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
29 effective on the day following such approval.

