

**As Reported by the Senate Health, Human Services and Aging
Committee**

133rd General Assembly

**Regular Session
2019-2020**

Am. S. B. No. 24

Senators Wilson, Yuko

**Cosponsors: Senators Eklund, Kunze, Hackett, Terhar, Antonio, Fedor, Thomas,
Williams**

A BILL

To establish the Alzheimer's Disease and Related
Dementias Task Force.

1
2

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) There is hereby established within the
Department of Aging the Alzheimer's Disease and Related
Dementias Task Force, consisting of all of the following
members:

3
4
5
6

(1) One individual who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's
disease or related dementia or a family member of such an
individual;

7
8
9

(2) One individual who is the caregiver of an individual
diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia;

10
11

(3) One individual who represents nursing homes;

12

(4) One individual who represents residential care
facilities;

13
14

(5) One individual who represents providers of adult day

15

habilitation services;	16
(6) One individual who represents providers of medical care;	17 18
(7) One physician who has experience diagnosing, treating, and researching Alzheimer's disease;	19 20
(8) One psychologist who specializes in dementia care;	21
(9) One individual who conducts research regarding Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	22 23
(10) Two individuals, each of whom represents an organization that advocates on behalf of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	24 25 26
(11) Two individuals, each of whom has experience in Alzheimer's-related care, treatment, research, education, or advocacy;	27 28 29
(12) One individual who represents LeadingAge Ohio;	30
(13) One individual who represents the Ohio Health Care Association;	31 32
(14) One individual who represents the Ohio Assisted Living Association;	33 34
(15) One individual who represents the Ohio Council for Home Care and Hospice;	35 36
(16) One individual who represents the Association of Area Agencies on Aging;	37 38
(17) The Director of Health or the Director's designee;	39
(18) The Director of Aging or the Director's designee;	40
(19) The Medicaid Director or the Director's designee;	41

(20) The Director of Veterans Services or the Director's
designee; 42 43

(21) The State Long-term Care Ombudsman or the Ombudsman's
designee; 44 45

(22) Two members of the Ohio Senate, one from the majority
caucus and one from the minority caucus; 46 47

(23) Two members of the Ohio House of Representatives, one
from the majority caucus and one from the minority caucus. 48 49

(B) The Governor shall appoint the members described in 50
divisions (A) (1) to (16) of this section. Of the members 51
described in division (A) (10) of this section, the Governor 52
shall appoint at least one individual selected by the 53
Alzheimer's Association. The Senate President shall appoint the 54
members described in division (A) (22) of this section and the 55
Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint the 56
members described in division (A) (23) of this section. 57
Appointments shall be made not later than ninety days after the 58
effective date of this act. Vacancies shall be filled in the 59
same manner as original appointments. 60

(C) Members shall serve without compensation, except to 61
the extent that serving on the Task Force is considered part of 62
the member's regular duties of employment, but shall be 63
reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred in the 64
performance of official duties. 65

(D) The Director of Aging or Director's designee shall 66
serve as the Task Force's chairperson. The Director of Health or 67
the Director's designee shall serve as the Task Force's vice 68
chairperson. The Task Force shall hold its first meeting not 69
later than 30 days after the appointment of its members. 70

Thereafter, the Task Force shall meet at the call of the 71
chairperson. 72

(E) A majority of the members constitutes a quorum for the 73
conduct of meetings. The Task Force shall comply with public 74
records and open meetings requirements as described in sections 75
121.22 and 149.43 of the Revised Code. 76

Section 2. The Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias 77
Task Force shall examine the needs of individuals diagnosed with 78
Alzheimer's disease or related dementias, the services available 79
in this state for those individuals, and the ability of health 80
care providers and facilities to meet the individuals' current 81
and future needs. The Task Force shall consider and make 82
findings and recommendations on all of the following topics: 83

(A) Trends in the state's Alzheimer's disease and related 84
dementias populations and service needs, including: 85

(1) The state's role in providing or facilitating long- 86
term care, family caregiver support, and assistance to those 87
with early-stage or early-onset Alzheimer's disease or related 88
dementias; 89

(2) The state's policies regarding individuals with 90
Alzheimer's disease or related dementias; 91

(3) The fiscal impact of Alzheimer's disease and related 92
dementias on publicly funded health care programs; 93

(4) The establishment of a surveillance system to better 94
determine the number of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's 95
disease or related dementias and to monitor changes to such 96
numbers. 97

(B) Existing resources, services, and capacity relating to 98

the care of individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or	99
related dementias, including:	100
(1) The type, cost, and availability of dementia care	101
services;	102
(2) Dementia-specific training requirements for employees	103
of long-term care facilities;	104
(3) Quality care measures for residential care facilities;	105
(4) Home and community-based services, including respite	106
care, for individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or	107
related dementias and their families;	108
(5) Number and availability of long-term care dementia	109
units or providers;	110
(6) The adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric	111
psychiatric units for individuals with behavioral disorders	112
associated with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;	113
(7) Assisted living options for individuals diagnosed with	114
Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	115
(8) State-supported Alzheimer's and related dementias	116
research conducted at universities located in this state.	117
(C) Policies and strategies that address the following:	118
(1) Increasing public awareness of Alzheimer's disease and	119
related dementias;	120
(2) Encouraging improved detection and diagnosis of	121
Alzheimer's disease and related dementias;	122
(3) Improving the health care received by individuals	123
diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	124

(4) Improving the quality of the health care system in	125
serving individuals diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease or	126
related dementias;	127
(5) Evaluating the capacity of the health care system in	128
meeting the growing number and needs of those with Alzheimer's	129
disease and related dementias;	130
(6) Equipping health care professionals and others to	131
better care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related	132
dementias;	133
(7) Increasing the number of health care professionals	134
necessary to treat the growing aging and Alzheimer's disease and	135
dementia populations;	136
(8) Improving services provided in the home and community	137
to delay and decrease the need for institutionalized care for	138
individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	139
(9) Improving long-term care, including assisted living,	140
for those with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias;	141
(10) Assisting unpaid Alzheimer's disease or dementia	142
caregivers;	143
(11) Increasing and improving research on Alzheimer's	144
disease and related dementias;	145
(12) Promoting activities to maintain and improve brain	146
health;	147
(13) Improving the collection of data and information	148
related to Alzheimer's disease and related dementias and their	149
public health burdens;	150
(14) Improving public safety and addressing the safety-	151

related needs of those with Alzheimer's disease or related 152
dementias; 153

(15) Addressing legal protections for, and legal issues 154
faced by, individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related 155
dementias; 156

(16) Improving the ways in which the government evaluates 157
and adopts policies to assist individuals diagnosed with 158
Alzheimer's disease or related dementias and their families. 159

Section 3. Not later than eighteen months after the 160
effective date of this act, the Task Force shall submit to the 161
Governor and General Assembly a report detailing its findings 162
and recommendations. The report shall be submitted to the 163
General Assembly in accordance with section 101.68 of the 164
Revised Code. On submission of its report, the Task Force shall 165
cease to exist. 166

Section 4. The Department of Aging shall provide meeting 167
space and staff and administrative support for the Task Force. 168