

# STATE OF NEW YORK

7344

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

## IN ASSEMBLY

May 5, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. ENGLEBRIGHT, BARRETT, ZEBROWSKI, MONTESANO, McDO-  
NOUGH, RA, L. ROSENTHAL, COOK, GUNTHER, CUSICK, COLTON, OTIS --  
Multi-Sponsored by -- M. of A. ABBATE, PALMESANO, QUART -- read once  
and referred to the Committee on Health

AN ACT to amend the public health law, in relation to establishing an  
Alzheimer's disease outreach and education program

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assem-  
bly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. The public health law is amended by adding a new section  
2701-a to read as follows:

§ 2701-a. Alzheimer's disease outreach and education program. 1. The  
department, in consultation with the office for the aging, is hereby  
authorized and directed to establish an Alzheimer's disease outreach and  
education program for medical and non-medical professionals, including  
physicians, nurses, law enforcement personnel and social services  
personnel who work with older New Yorkers and their families, and for  
consumers, caregivers and other individuals and organizations working  
with or on behalf of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related demen-  
tia. The purpose of such program shall be to:

(a) promote earlier identification of dementia in health care facili-  
ties including but not limited to hospitals, nursing homes, clinics and  
assisted living facilities;

(b) provide information and assistance on where to find community  
support services, including caregiver support groups and services,  
respite, care management and to serve as a clearinghouse for related  
information; and

(c) promote public awareness of and access to resources and informa-  
tion concerning Alzheimer's disease and any other dementia related  
matters that the commissioner and director of the office for the aging  
deem appropriate.

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets  
[-] is old law to be omitted.

LBD11209-01-1

1     2. The program shall include but shall not be limited to any of the  
2     following elements:

3     (a) educational and informational materials in print, audio, visual,  
4     electronic or other media;

5     (b) training curriculum including best practices for institutions of  
6     higher learning and for ongoing in-service training;

7     (c) public service announcements and advertisements; and

8     (d) establishment of toll-free telephone hotlines and electronic  
9     services to provide information.

10    3. In order to develop materials mentioned in this section, the  
11    department shall produce, make available to others for reproduction, or  
12    contract with not-for-profit corporations whose primary purpose is to  
13    provide family intervention services related to Alzheimer's disease on a  
14    statewide basis in order to postpone or prevent nursing home placements  
15    of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementia. These mate-  
16    rials shall be made available to the public free of charge as appropri-  
17    ate or for a fee under certain circumstances. The commissioner may  
18    require any health care provider to make these materials available to  
19    patients where appropriate and encourage non-medical professionals to  
20    make them available to the clients they serve.

21    4. In exercising any of his or her powers under this section, the  
22    commissioner shall consult with appropriate health care professionals  
23    and providers, senior service providers, organizations representing  
24    persons with dementia or cognitive impairments, consumers and patients  
25    or organizations representing them.

26    5. The commissioner shall ensure that all information and materials  
27    produced under this section are maintained and updated to reflect best  
28    practice recommendations and are culturally and linguistically appropri-  
29    ate for the communities served by the Alzheimer's disease outreach and  
30    education program. The department shall post electronic copies of  
31    outreach material, including best practices, on its website. The office  
32    for the aging shall post the same information on its website.

33    6. The commissioner may appoint advisory councils relating to various  
34    matters under this section. All such councils shall include represen-  
35    tation of health care professionals, providers, senior service provid-  
36    ers, organizations representing persons with dementia or cognitive  
37    impairments, consumers, patients and other appropriate interests. The  
38    members of the councils shall receive no compensation for their  
39    services, but shall be allowed their actual and necessary expenses  
40    incurred in performance of their duties.

41    7. In addition to state funds appropriated to administer this section,  
42    the commissioner may accept grants from public or private sources. The  
43    commissioner, in administering this section, shall seek to coordinate  
44    the department's programs and activities under this section with other  
45    public and private programs, and may undertake joint or cooperative  
46    programs with other public or private entities.

47    8. The commissioner may make rules and regulations necessary and  
48    appropriate for the implementation of this section.

49    § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.