

Department of Legislative Services
Maryland General Assembly
2013 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
Revised

Senate Bill 679

(Senator Pugh, *et al.*)

Finance

Health and Government Operations

Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council

This bill establishes the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Council and specifies council membership. The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DHMH) is required, with the assistance of the Maryland Department of Aging (MDoA) to staff the council and may request staffing assistance from interested public health entities.

The bill terminates September 30, 2016.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: Some of the council's duties have already been initiated by a previously established commission, while others (including the development of a specified public outreach campaign) are already being undertaken by MDoA. Thus, DHMH and MDoA can handle the bill's requirements with existing budgeted resources.

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Bill Summary: The council is required to:

- continue the work initiated by the Maryland Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Commission, including the development and monitoring of the 2012 Maryland State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders;

- include in the State plan strategies and actions that support prevention and early detection, address chronic disease factors contributing to health disparities, and enhance quality of care;
- improve access to and coordination of services and knowledge of available resources and information;
- review State statutes, policies, and programs to improve and enhance quality of life and support and services, as specified by the bill;
- develop a public education campaign, as specified by the bill;
- and improve data collection capacity on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders in the State to better target support, services, and needs.

A member of the council may not receive compensation as a member of the council but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

Current Law/Background: Maryland's Virginia I. Jones Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders was established by executive order in 2011 and was tasked with making recommendations for a State plan to address the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (as well as their families and caregivers). In its report, dated December 2012, the commission identified five goals: support prevention and early identification, enhance quality of care, enhance supports for individuals and families, enhance public awareness, and improve data capacity to track progress. The commission also indicated in its report that it would pursue the establishment of a permanent council through the legislative process.

According to the commission, approximately 100,000 Marylanders are expected to have Alzheimer's disease by 2025, and a disproportionate number of these individuals will represent racial and ethnic minorities.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Cross File: HB 690 (Delegate Pena-Melnyk, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Virginia I. Jones Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders, Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, Maryland Department of Aging, Department of Legislative Services

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