

Department of Legislative Services
 Maryland General Assembly
 2020 Session

FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE
First Reader

Senate Bill 725 (Senator Lam, *et al.*)
 Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

Maryland Department of Health - Public Health Outreach Programs - Cognitive Impairment, Alzheimer's Disease, and Other Types of Dementia

This bill requires the Maryland Department of Health (MDH), in partnership with the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA), the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Council, and the Alzheimer’s Association, to incorporate specified information regarding cognitive impairment, Alzheimer’s disease, and other types of dementia into relevant public health outreach programs to educate health care providers and increase public understanding and awareness.

Fiscal Summary

State Effect: General fund expenditures increase by \$64,200 in FY 2021 and \$11,900 in FY 2022 for contractual support and printing and communication expenses. Revenues are not affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	64,200	11,900	0	0	0
Net Effect	(\$64,200)	(\$11,900)	\$0	\$0	\$0

Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease

Local Effect: None.

Small Business Effect: None.

Analysis

Current Law/Background: Maryland's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders *Commission* was established by executive order in 2011 and 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 December 2012 report, 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 report also indicated that the commission would pursue the establishment of a *permanent* council through the legislative process.

Chapters 305 and 306 of 2013 established the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders *Council* in 2013 for a three-year period. The council released an annual report in 2014, updating the status of the 2012 State plan and reiterating the council's commitment to the goals expressed in the commission's previous report. Chapters 74 and 75 of 2016 subsequently altered the council's membership and extended its termination date to September 30, 2019. Chapters 410 and 411 of 2019 further altered the membership and duties of the council, required the council to submit an annual report, and extended the council's termination date to September 30, 2024.

According to the council, approximately 130,000 Marylanders are expected to have Alzheimer's disease or related dementia by 2025, and a disproportionate number of these individuals will represent racial and ethnic minorities.

Alzheimer's Association

The Alzheimer's Association estimates approximately 110,000 Marylanders aged 65 and older are currently living with Alzheimer's. The Alzheimer's Association provides a variety of services to Marylanders who experience cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other types of dementia. Additionally, the association hosts support groups and provides free education programs and online services; free printed educational materials are available for incorporation into established outreach programs as well.

State Expenditures: MDH general fund expenditures increase by \$64,221 in fiscal 2021, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 2020 effective date. MDH advises that one permanent full-time position is needed to implement this bill. However, the Department of Legislative Services notes that the added responsibilities incurred by this bill are not ongoing and, thus, may be performed by a contractual employee for a period of one year. This estimate, therefore, reflects the cost of hiring one community health educator to work with MDOA, the council, and the Alzheimer's Association to incorporate specified information into public health outreach programs currently administered by MDH. The

estimate includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, one-time printing and communication expenses, and ongoing operating expenses.

	<u>FY 2021</u>	<u>FY 2022</u>
Contractual Position	1	(1)
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$38,499	\$11,767
Printing and Communication Expenses	15,500	0
Operating Expenses	<u>10,222</u>	<u>159</u>
Total State Expenditures	\$64,221	\$11,926

In fiscal 2022, general fund expenditures increase by \$11,926, which reflects ongoing salary, fringe benefits, and operating expenses through the anticipated termination of the contractual position on September 30, 2021.

This estimate does not include any health insurance costs that could be incurred for specified contractual employees under the State’s implementation of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

This estimate reflects anticipated costs associated with printing educational materials and related communications costs for MDH. To the extent MDH can obtain printed educational materials from the Alzheimer’s Association at no cost, expenditures decrease accordingly.

Additional Comments: Virginia enacted nearly identical [legislation](#) in 2018.

Additional Information

Prior Introductions: None.

Designated Cross File: HB 456 (Delegate Sample-Hughes, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations, HB 456 (Delegate Sample-Hughes, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

Information Source(s): Maryland Department of Aging; Maryland Department of Health; Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Council; Alzheimer’s Association; Virginia Legislative Information System; Department of Legislative Services

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rh/jc

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