

1 State of Arkansas  
2 95th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2025  
4

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1592

5 By: Representatives J. Mayberry, Ladyman, Rye, Gramlich  
6 By: Senators C. Penzo, D. Wallace, Hill, F. Love, G. Leding  
7

## For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS ALZHEIMER’S AND  
9 DEMENTIA PUBLIC HEALTH ACT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
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## Subtitle

12 TO CREATE THE ARKANSAS ALZHEIMER’S AND  
13 DEMENTIA PUBLIC HEALTH ACT.  
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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:  
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19 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 15, is amended to add an  
20 additional subchapter to read as follows:

21 Subchapter 25 – Arkansas Alzheimer’s and Dementia Public Health Act  
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23 20-15-2501. Title.

24 This subchapter shall be known and may be cited as the "Arkansas  
25 Alzheimer’s and Dementia Public Health Act".  
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27 20-15-2502. Legislative findings.

28 The General Assembly finds that:

29 (1) Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias are a growing  
30 public health crisis, with significant social and economic impacts on  
31 families and communities in Arkansas;

32 (2) Early detection, timely diagnosis, and coordinated care  
33 improve outcomes and quality of life for individuals living with Alzheimer’s  
34 disease and related dementias;

35 (3) Modifiable risk factors, such as physical inactivity,  
36 hypertension, diabetes, obesity, and social isolation increase the risk of



1 cognitive decline, particularly in underserved communities;

2 (4) Dementia has strong links to chronic conditions such as  
 3 cardiovascular disease and diabetes, requiring integrated public health  
 4 strategies;

5 (5) Public health outreach, education for healthcare providers,  
 6 and healthcare access are essential to reducing the burden of dementia; and

7 (6) Improved data collection and analysis are necessary to  
 8 monitor progress, identify gaps, and inform public health policy and resource  
 9 allocation.

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 11 20-15-2503. Interagency collaboration.

12 (a) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health  
 13 shall collaborate to implement the State Alzheimer’s State Plan to address  
 14 dementia and improve cognitive health.

15 (b) The implementation of the plan shall include:

16 (1) Partnerships with healthcare providers and community-based  
 17 organizations;

18 (2) The expansion of public health campaigns that address brain  
 19 health, caregiver support, and the links between chronic disease and  
 20 dementia;

21 (3) Applications for federal funding to address Alzheimer’s and  
 22 dementia; and

23 (4) Other national cognitive health initiatives as applicable.

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 25 20-15-2504. Public health outreach.

26 The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health shall  
 27 integrate cognitive health and dementia information and education into  
 28 existing public health programs, including without limitation:

29 (1) Education for healthcare providers, which shall include:

30 (A) The importance of early detection and timely diagnosis  
 31 of cognitive impairment;

32 (B) Information on the Medicare annual wellness visit for  
 33 individuals who are sixty-five (65) years of age and older;

34 (C) Awareness of the Medicare care planning billing code  
 35 for individuals with cognitive impairment; and

36 (D) Guidance on care planning, including treatment

1 options, advanced directives, and referrals to resources; and

2 (2) Public awareness campaigns, which shall include in  
 3 nonclinical terms:

4 (A) Cognitive health and dementia risk reduction;

5 (B) Early warning signs of Alzheimer’s disease and other  
 6 dementias;

7 (C) The value of early detection and timely diagnosis; and

8 (D) The relationship between Alzheimer’s disease,  
 9 dementia, and other chronic health conditions.

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 11 20-15-2505. Data collection and reporting.

12 The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health shall:

13 (1) Enhance data collection and analysis related to Alzheimer’s  
 14 disease and related dementias to:

15 (A) Monitor prevalence and demographics across Arkansas;  
 16 and

17 (B) Integrate data from chronic disease programs to  
 18 identify trends; and

19 (2) Establish and update at least annually a publicly accessible  
 20 Alzheimer’s and Dementia Data Dashboard that:

21 (A) Provides data on the prevalence, demographics, and  
 22 geographic distribution of Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias;

23 (B) Includes metrics on healthcare utilization and long-  
 24 term care services;

25 (C) Highlights trends and outcomes related to public  
 26 health initiatives; and

27 (D) Reports on the utilization of the care planning code.

28  
 29 20-15-2506. Funding and resources.

30 (a) The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health  
 31 shall:

32 (1) Seek federal grants, private funding, and other resources to  
 33 support implementation of this subchapter; and

34 (2) Partner with nonprofit organizations, private entities, and  
 35 research institutions to maximize available resources to support  
 36 implementation of this subchapter.

1           (b) The requirements of this subchapter are subject to the  
2 availability of funds in each agency that may be used for data collection,  
3 reporting, or other requirements of this subchapter.  
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5           SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. TEMPORARY LANGUAGE. Implementation dates.

6           The Department of Human Services and the Department of Health shall  
7 begin implementing the education for healthcare providers and the public  
8 awareness campaigns under § 20-15-2504 no later than January 1, 2026.  
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