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**SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 1646**

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**State of Washington**

**67th Legislature**

**2022 Regular Session**

**By** House Health Care & Wellness (originally sponsored by Representatives Bateman, Harris, Leavitt, Walen, Dolan, Bronoske, Callan, Eslick, Goodman, Macri, Simmons, Tharinger, Kloba, Stonier, Davis, Riccelli, and Ormsby)

READ FIRST TIME 01/21/22.

1 AN ACT Relating to continuing the work of the dementia action  
2 collaborative; adding a new section to chapter 43.20A RCW; and  
3 creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that:

6 (1) In 2020, an estimated 120,000 Washingtonians age 65 and older  
7 were living with Alzheimer's disease or another dementia and the  
8 number is expected to rise to 140,000 by 2025;

9 (2) Dementia affects the whole family in many ways, including  
10 pulling family members, most often women, out of the workforce to  
11 care for their loved ones with the disease;

12 (3) There are an estimated 295,000 unpaid caregivers in  
13 Washington providing 426,000,000 total hours of unpaid care annually;

14 (4) The legislature authorized the preparation of the first  
15 Washington state plan to address Alzheimer's disease and other  
16 dementias in 2016; and

17 (5) There is great value in continuing to improve awareness and  
18 services for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and other  
19 dementias, and reestablishing the formal dementia action  
20 collaborative to update the state plan and make recommendations is  
21 essential.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.**    A new section is added to chapter 43.20A  
2    RCW to read as follows:

3        (1) The dementia action collaborative is established with members  
4    as provided in this subsection.

5        (a) The governor shall appoint the following members, and may  
6    appoint additional members at the governor's discretion:

7        (i) A representative of the governor's office;

8        (ii) A representative and an alternate from the department in the  
9    aging and long-term support administration;

10       (iii) A representative and an alternate from the department in  
11    the developmental disabilities administration;

12       (iv) A representative and an alternate from the department of  
13    health;

14       (v) A representative and an alternate from the health care  
15    authority;

16       (vi) A representative and an alternate from the office of the  
17    state long-term care ombuds;

18       (vii) At least one person with Alzheimer's disease or another  
19    dementia;

20       (viii) A caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease or  
21    another dementia;

22       (ix) A representative of the University of Washington's memory  
23    and brain wellness center;

24       (x) A representative of an organization representing area  
25    agencies on aging;

26       (xi) A representative of an association representing long-term  
27    care facilities in Washington;

28       (xii) A representative of an association representing physicians  
29    in Washington;

30       (xiii) A representative of a Washington-based organization of  
31    volunteers, family, and friends of those affected by Alzheimer's  
32    disease and other dementias;

33       (xiv) A representative of an Alzheimer's advocacy organization;

34       (xv) An attorney who specializes in elder law;

35       (xvi) An Alzheimer's disease researcher;

36       (xvii) A representative of an organization representing emergency  
37    medical service providers in Washington;

38       (xviii) An expert in workforce development;

39       (xix) A representative of the Washington state council on aging;

40       (xx) A representative of the governor's office of Indian affairs;

1 (xxi) A licensed behavioral health provider with clinical  
2 expertise in Alzheimer's disease or other dementias;

3 (xxii) A representative of a health care organization that  
4 primarily serves people of color, including seniors; and

5 (xxiii) A nurse with expertise in serving individuals with  
6 Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

7 (b) In appointing members to the dementia action collaborative,  
8 the governor shall give priority to persons who had previously served  
9 on the Alzheimer's disease working group established pursuant to  
10 chapter 89 (Senate Bill No. 6124), Laws of 2014, and its successor  
11 work groups.

12 (2)(a) The secretary or the secretary's designee shall convene  
13 the dementia action collaborative and submit all required reports.  
14 The secretary or the secretary's designee shall serve as the cochair  
15 with either the member representing an Alzheimer's disease advocacy  
16 organization or the member representing the Washington-based  
17 organization of volunteers, family, and friends of those affected by  
18 Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

19 (b) The department shall provide any necessary administrative  
20 support to the dementia action collaborative.

21 (c) Meetings of the dementia action collaborative must be open to  
22 the public. At least one meeting each year must accept comments on  
23 the dementia action collaborative's proposed recommendations from  
24 members of the public, including comments from persons and families  
25 affected by Alzheimer's disease or other dementias. The department  
26 must use technological means, such as web casts, to assure public  
27 participation.

28 (3)(a) The dementia action collaborative must assess the current  
29 and future impacts of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias on  
30 Washington residents, including:

31 (i) Examining progress in implementing the Washington state  
32 Alzheimer's plan adopted in 2016;

33 (ii) Assessing available services and resources for serving  
34 persons with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias, as well as  
35 their families and caregivers;

36 (iii) Examining and developing strategies to rectify disparate  
37 effects of Alzheimer's disease and other dementias on people of  
38 color; and

39 (iv) Developing a strategy to mobilize a state response to this  
40 public health crisis.

1 (b) In addition to the activities in (a) of this subsection, the  
2 dementia action collaborative must review and revise the Washington  
3 state Alzheimer's plan adopted in 2016, and any subsequent revisions  
4 to that plan. Revisions to the plan must evaluate and address:

5 (i) Population trends related to Alzheimer's disease and other  
6 dementias, including:

7 (A) Demographic information related to Washington residents  
8 living with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias, including average  
9 age, average age at first diagnosis, gender, race, and comorbidities;  
10 and

11 (B) Disparities in the prevalence of Alzheimer's disease and  
12 other dementias between different racial and ethnic populations;

13 (ii) Existing services, resources, and health care system  
14 capacity, including:

15 (A) The types, cost, and availability of dementia services,  
16 medicaid reimbursement rates for dementia services, and the effect of  
17 medicaid reimbursement rates on the availability of dementia  
18 services;

19 (B) Dementia-specific training requirements for long-term  
20 services and supports staff;

21 (C) The needs of public safety and law enforcement to respond to  
22 persons with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias;

23 (D) The availability of home and community-based resources,  
24 including respite care and other services to assist families, for  
25 persons with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias;

26 (E) Availability of long-term dementia care beds, regardless of  
27 payer;

28 (F) State funding and Alzheimer's disease research through  
29 Washington universities and other resources; and

30 (G) Advances in knowledge regarding brain health, dementia, and  
31 risk reduction related to Alzheimer's disease and other dementias  
32 since the adoption of the Washington state Alzheimer's plan  
33 established in 2016.

34 (4) The department must submit a report of the dementia action  
35 collaborative's findings and recommendations to the governor and the  
36 legislature in the form of an updated Washington state Alzheimer's  
37 plan no later than October 1, 2023. The department must submit annual  
38 updates and recommendations of the dementia action collaborative for

1 legislative and executive branch agency action to the governor and  
2 the legislature each October 1st, beginning October 1, 2024.

--- **END** ---