

HB375 INTRODUCED



1 HB375
2 G3WHLC6-1
3 By Representative Wadsworth
4 RFD: State Government
5 First Read: 03-Feb-26



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the Department of Human Resources arranges protective services for adults in need of care and protection.

This bill would require the department to develop a dementia training program about how to identify individuals with Alzheimer's or other dementias, common safety risks, and best practices for servicing those individuals.

This bill would require individuals who are employed by or contracted with the department to investigate complaints about adults in need of care and protection to complete a dementia training program upon the start of employment or contract assignment, and would require continuing education relating to dementia for those individuals every two years.

This bill would also authorize the department to adopt rules.

A BILL

TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

Relating to Adult Protective Services; to add a new



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Section 38-9-12 to the Code of Alabama 1975; to require the Department of Human Resources to develop dementia training programming; to require certain employees or contractors of the department to undergo dementia training; and to authorize the department to adopt rules.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Section 38-9-12 is added to the Code of Alabama 1975, to read as follows:

§38-9-12

(a) The department shall develop and implement dementia training programming. The programming shall include instruction on Alzheimer's disease and other dementias and include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) Identification of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias.

(2) Common safety risks, including wandering, falling, and neglect.

(3) Communication impairments and behavioral changes.

(4) Best practices for interacting with and providing services to individuals with dementia, including considerations for preventing abuse and neglect.

(5) For programming offered to newly hired or contracted individuals, all of the following:

a. General information about Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

b. Safety risks for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias.

c. Communication strategies and behavior management



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57 strategies for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and other
58 dementias.

59 (b) Each individual who is employed by or contracted
60 with the department and is responsible for seeking out adults
61 in need of care and protection pursuant to Section 38-9-4(b)
62 shall complete dementia training as follows:

63 (1) Upon his or her start of employment or contract
64 assignment, two hours of training.

65 (2) Every two years of employment or contract
66 assignment, two hours of training for purposes of continuing
67 education.

68 (c) The department may adopt rules to administer and
69 implement this section, including, but not limited to, rules
70 to develop curriculum, training schedules, and documentation
71 requirements.

72 Section 2. This act shall become effective on October
73 1, 2026.