

HB528 INTRODUCED



1 HB528
2 BYXHVJJ-1
3 By Representatives Mooney, Fincher, Bolton, Stubbs, Starnes,
4 Easterbrook, Baker, Givens, Fidler, Wadsworth, Lee, Hulsey,
5 Butler, Harrison, Bedsole, Brinyark, Colvin, Wilcox,
6 Yarbrough, Hall, Lands, Travis, McClammy, Hollis, Lawrence,
7 Daniels, Collins, Garrett, Robbins, Carns, Standridge
8 RFD: State Government
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SYNOPSIS:

This bill would create the Alabama Dementia Network within the Alabama Department of Public Health.

This bill would require the Alabama Department of Public Health to designate education, diagnostic, support, and referral hubs.

This bill would require the Alabama Department of Public Health to adopt rules to administer the Alabama Dementia Network program.

This bill would require the Alabama Department of Public Health to partner with other entities to implement the act, including other state agencies, local health departments, nonprofit organizations, and institutions of higher education.

This bill would also require the Alabama Department of Public Health to collect data to measure the effectiveness of the program and publish an annual report summarizing the program effectiveness.

A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to the Alabama Department of Public Health; to



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29 create the Alabama Dementia Network; to authorize the
30 department to administer the program; to authorize the
31 department to adopt rules for administering the program; to
32 require the department to partner with other entities to
33 implement and administer the program; and to require data
34 collection and annual public reporting.

35 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

36 Section 1. This act shall be known and may be cited as
37 the "Alabama Dementia Network Act."

38 Section 2. (a) The Alabama Dementia Network is
39 established within the Alabama Department of Public Health.

40 (b) The Alabama Dementia Network shall be a coordinated
41 statewide program to do all of the following:

42 (1) Support provider education and enable early
43 identification and assessment of cognitive impairment and
44 improved care.

45 (2) Increase geographic accessibility to Alzheimer's
46 diagnosis and treatment.

47 (3) Facilitate referrals to specialty care and
48 community-based services.

49 (4) Support caregivers and individuals living with
50 dementia.

51 (c) The Alabama Department of Public Health shall
52 designate hubs to provide clinical education, diagnostic
53 services, family support, and ongoing referrals.

54 (d) The Alabama Department of Public Health shall adopt
55 rules necessary to administer the Alabama Dementia Network,
56 including, but not limited to:



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57 (1) Establishing eligibility, program, and operational
58 requirements for health systems, and academic medical centers
59 or other qualified entities for participation in the Alabama
60 Dementia Network;

61 (2) Setting minimum standards for the use of care
62 plans;

63 (3) Setting standards for allowable uses of telehealth
64 or other remote care delivery options; and

65 (4) Establishing data collection, reporting, and
66 privacy protections.

67 (e) The Alabama Department of Public Health may adopt
68 rules necessary to implement and administer this act.

69 Section 3. (a) The Alabama Department of Public Health
70 shall partner with other entities to implement and administer
71 this act, which may include any of the following:

72 (1) Other state agencies, including, but not limited
73 to, the Department of Senior Services, the Alabama Medicaid
74 Agency, and the Department of Mental Health.

75 (2) Local health departments.

76 (3) Nonprofit organizations, including organizations
77 with missions relating to Alzheimer's disease, dementia care,
78 and caregiver support.

79 (4) Institutions of higher education and research
80 entities.

81 (b) The partnerships may include coordination of
82 services, shared training initiatives, public awareness
83 efforts, and data-sharing agreements consistent with state and
84 federal law.



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85 Section 4. (a) The Alabama Department of Public Health
86 shall collect data necessary to measure the effectiveness,
87 reach, and outcomes of the Alabama Dementia Network,
88 consistent with applicable privacy and confidentiality laws.

89 (b) The Alabama Department of Public Health shall
90 publish an annual public report summarizing the Alabama
91 Dementia Network Activities, outcomes, and recommendations for
92 program improvement or expansion. The report shall be made
93 available on the Alabama Department of Public Health's
94 publicly accessible website.

95 Section 5. Nothing in this act shall be construed to
96 require an appropriation. The Alabama Dementia Network may be
97 supported through available federal funds, grants,
98 public-private partnerships, or legislative appropriations.

99 Section 6. This act shall become effective on October
100 1, 2026.