

House Study Bill 610 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE _____

BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
HUMAN RESOURCES BILL BY
CHAIRPERSON SMITH)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders
2 and the role of the department of public health in
3 collecting data concerning Alzheimer's disease and providing
4 resources and services to persons suffering from the
5 disease.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 135.171, Code 2009, is amended by
2 striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the
3 following:

4 **135.171 Alzheimer's disease and related disorders —**
5 **Alzheimer's disease service needs.**

6 1. The department shall develop a resource to oversee
7 information and resources related to policy and services
8 affecting the rapidly increasing number of residents of
9 this state with Alzheimer's disease and similar forms of
10 irreversible dementia, and the caregivers and families of the
11 residents.

12 2. The department, in consultation with the Alzheimer's
13 association, area agencies on aging, the department on aging,
14 and other entities that work with persons suffering from
15 dementia-related illnesses, shall have the following duties:

16 a. Develop and improve resources and services to enhance the
17 quality of life for persons affected by dementia and for their
18 caregivers.

19 b. Compile a biannual analysis of Iowa's population by
20 county and age to determine the existing service utilization
21 and future service needs of persons with Alzheimer's disease
22 and similar forms of irreversible dementia and of the
23 caregivers to these persons. The analysis shall also address
24 the availability of existing caregiver services for such needs
25 and the appropriate service level for the future.

26 c. Collect data on the numbers of persons demonstrating
27 combative behavior related to Alzheimer's disease and similar
28 forms of irreversible dementia. The department shall also
29 collect data on the number of physicians and geropsychiatric
30 units available in the state to provide treatment and services
31 to such persons. Health care facilities that serve such
32 persons shall provide information to the department for the
33 purposes of the data collection required by this paragraph.

34 d. Recommend the delivery of services in the most effective
35 and efficient manner possible to facilitate the needs of people

1 with dementia and their caregivers.

2 *e.* Convene workgroups as needed to address emerging concerns
3 related to the purpose of the department.

4 *f.* Seek funding that will enhance the department's abilities
5 to perform its duties under this section.

6 *g.* Raise public awareness about existing services for
7 Iowans impacted by Alzheimer's disease and similar forms of
8 irreversible dementia through public awareness campaigns and
9 referrals to existing resources.

10 *h.* Coordinate and oversee collaborative efforts to implement
11 the recommendations of the 2007 Alzheimer's disease task force,
12 ensuring that the department's work supports but does not
13 duplicate other initiatives and programs within the state,
14 including the activities of the department on aging pursuant
15 to section 231.62.

16 3. The department shall modify its community needs
17 assessment activities to include questions to identify and
18 quantify the numbers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and
19 similar forms of irreversible dementia at the community level.

20 4. The implementation of the requirements of this section
21 shall be limited to the extent of the funding appropriated or
22 otherwise made available for the requirements.

23 EXPLANATION

24 This bill strikes and replaces Code section 131.71,
25 incorporating the existing provisions, relating to the
26 collection and analysis of information relating to Alzheimer's
27 disease. The department shall develop a resource to oversee
28 information and resources related to policy and services
29 affecting persons with dementia, and the caregivers and
30 families of those persons. The department has a variety of
31 duties relating to improving services to persons with dementia,
32 and their caregivers and families, consulting with state
33 agencies and other stakeholders, compiling a biannual analysis
34 of Iowa's population by county and age to determine current
35 utilization and future service needs of stakeholders, and

1 raising public awareness about existing services.

2 The bill incorporates existing language from Code section
3 131.71 which requires the department of public health
4 to include in its community needs assessment activities
5 questions to identify and quantify the numbers of persons with
6 Alzheimer's disease and similar forms of irreversible dementia
7 at the community level.

8 The bill incorporates existing language from Code section
9 131.71 which makes implementation of these requirements
10 contingent on the availability of funding.