

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE

BILL NO. Senate Bill 840

PRINTER NO. 1676

AMOUNT

\$270,000 in Fiscal Year 2024-25

FUND

Lottery Fund

DATE INTRODUCED

July 11, 2023

PRIME SPONSOR

Senator Brown

DESCRIPTION

Senate Bill 840 creates the free-standing Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia and Related Disorders Act, which establishes a permanent Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia and Related Disorders Office (office) and Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia and Related Disorders Advisory Committee (advisory committee) within the Department of Aging.

The office will be led by an appointed, full-time director who will be responsible for:

- Overseeing activities associated with the state plan;
- Reviewing the existing state plan to evaluate changes in trends, scientific and research achievements and other emerging issues and to determine if adjustments are necessary;
- Reviewing the state plan every five years, in consultation with the advisory committee;
- Providing strategic direction and support to the advisory committee;
- Establishing and maintaining relationships with other state agencies and organizations within Pennsylvania to foster public-private collaboration;
- Evaluating existing Alzheimer’s disease and dementia programs and services;
- Identifying service gaps within the state;
- Increasing awareness of and facilitating access to care for individuals with dementia; and
- Utilizing dementia-related data to coordinate with the department to improve public health outcomes.

The office and the advisory committee shall use the existing Pennsylvania state plan for Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders established pursuant to Executive Order 2013-01, or a successor state plan established by a department plan or regulation.

The bill also establishes the Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia and Related Disorders Advisory Committee comprised of cabinet level individuals; legislative representation; individuals with and caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer’s

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disease, dementia or a related disorder; medical professionals; and representation from various interest groups.

Members shall not receive compensation or remuneration for their service as advisory committee members. Nongovernmental members shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for travel and related expenses accrued in the performance of their duties as committee members. The committee chair shall be the Secretary of Aging, or designee, while the Secretary of Health, or designee, shall be the vice chair.

The advisory committee shall meet on a quarterly basis and have the following duties:

- Assess the current and future impact of Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders on Commonwealth residents;
- Examine the existing industries, services and resources available to people with Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders, their families and caregivers;
- Develop strategies to mobilize a statewide response to the public health crisis created by these conditions;
- Develop the state plan addressing these issues and advise the department on the necessary updates and implementation of the state plan;
- Make recommendations to other Commonwealth departments and agencies on regulations, licensure, financing and other responsibilities of those departments and agencies relating to Alzheimer’s disease, dementia and related disorders;
- Consult with other departments and agencies on regulations, licensure, financing and other responsibilities related to these conditions; and
- Perform other duties assigned by the Governor that relate to these conditions.

This act shall take effect in 180 days.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Enactment of House Bill 840 is estimated to cost \$270,000 in Lottery funding during Fiscal Year 2024-25. The Department of Aging estimates an increase in personnel costs of \$270,000 for four additional staff positions to establish the Alzheimer’s Disease, Dementia and Related Disorders Office. This estimate is based upon funding for a partial year of operation. The full annualized cost for this staff is \$540,000.