

Subchapter 6
ALZHEIMER'S ADVISORY COUNCIL
Arkansas Code §20-8-601 - 20-8-604

20-8-601. Findings.

The General Assembly finds that:

- (1) Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and fatal brain disease that destroys brain cells and causes problems with memory, thinking, and behavior;
- (2) More than five million four hundred thousand (5,400,000) Americans now have Alzheimer's disease;
- (3) Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia and is the sixth leading cause of death in the United States; and
- (4) No cure exists for Alzheimer's disease, but treatments for symptoms used in conjunction with appropriate services and support can improve the quality of life for those living with the disease.

History. Acts 2011, No. 889, § 1; 2013, No. 1510, § 1.

Amendments. The 2013 amendment substituted "five million four hundred thousand (5,400,000)" for "five million (5,000,000)" in (2).

20-8-602. Alzheimer's Advisory Council — Creation — Membership.

(a) There is created the Alzheimer's Advisory Council, to consist of twenty-three (23) members as follows:

- (1) Five (5) members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as follows:
 - (A) Two (2) members of the House of Representatives;
 - (B) One (1) member who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;
 - (C) One (1) member to represent the healthcare provider community; and
 - (D) One (1) member to represent the adult day services industry;
- (2) Five (5) members appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the Senate as follows:
 - (A) Two (2) members of the Senate;
 - (B) One (1) member who is a paid caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's disease;
 - (C) One (1) member to represent the assisted living industry; and
 - (D) One (1) member who is a scientist who specializes in Alzheimer's disease research;

(3) Four (4) members appointed by the Governor as follows:

- (A) One (1) member who is a physician caring for persons diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease;
- (B) One (1) member to represent the nursing facility industry;
- (C) One (1) member who is a person active in the state chapter of the Alzheimer's Association; and
- (D) One (1) member who is a person active in the Alzheimer's Arkansas Programs and Services; and

(4) Nine (9) members as follows:

- (A) The Director of the Department of Health or his or her designee;
- (B) The Director of the Department of Human Services or his or her designee;
- (C) The Director of the Division of Behavioral Health Services or his or her designee;
- (D) The Director of the Arkansas Center for Health Improvement or his or her designee;
- (E) The Director of the Department of Workforce Services or his or her designee; and
- (F) Four (4) members appointed by the state chapter of the Alzheimer's Association to represent Arkansas families that have been affected by Alzheimer's disease.

(b) Members of the council shall be appointed by September 1, 2011.

- (c) (1) Members of the council shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities.
- (2) A vacancy on the council shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

- (d) (1) The Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall each designate a co-chair from among the members of the council.
- (2) The co-chairs shall jointly call the first meeting of the council.

- (e) (1) A majority of the members of the council shall constitute a quorum.
- (2) A majority vote of the members present is required for any action of the council.

(f) Council meetings shall be held in Pulaski County, Arkansas, and at other locations in the state as the council shall deem necessary.

(g) The Bureau of Legislative Research shall provide staff support to the council as necessary to assist the council in the performance of its duties.

- (h) Legislative members of the council shall be reimbursed for expenses and per diem at the same rate and from the same source as provided by law for members of the General Assembly attending meetings of the interim committees.

History. Acts 2011, No. 889, § 1; 2013, No. 1510, § 2.

Amendments. The 2013 amendment substituted “twenty-three (23)” for “seventeen (17)” in (a); “Five (5)” for “Four (4)” in (a)(1) and (a)(2); “Two (2) members” for “One (1) member” in (a)(1)(A) and (a)(2)(A); substituted “healthcare” for “health care” in (a)(1)(C); in (a)(3)(A), substituted “physician caring for persons diagnosed” for “family member of a person living” and deleted “or other form of dementia” from the end; substituted “Nine (9)” for “Five (5)” in (a)(4); and added (a)(4)(F).

20-8-603. Duties.

The Alzheimer's Advisory Council shall:

- (1) Assess the current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia on the residents of the State of Arkansas;
- (2) Examine the existing industries, services, and resources addressing the needs of persons living with Alzheimer's disease, their families, and caregivers; and
- (3) Develop a strategy to mobilize a state response to the public health crisis created by Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia.

History. Acts 2011, No. 889, § 1; 2013, No. 1510, § 3.

Amendments. The 2013 amendment deleted the (a) designation from the beginning of the introductory paragraph; and deleted (b).

20-8-604. Reports.

The Alzheimer's Advisory Council shall present a draft of assessments and recommendations for meeting the Alzheimer's disease needs in the State of Arkansas to the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor and the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor on or before October 1 of each even-numbered year.

History. Acts 2011, No. 889, § 1; 2013, No. 1510, § 4.