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H.B. 254
136th General Assembly

Bill Analysis

Version: As Introduced

Primary Sponsors: Reps. Baker and Hoops

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SUMMARY

- Requires the Department of Health, in coordination with the Department of Aging, Commission on Minority Health, and community organizations, to incorporate Alzheimer's disease and dementia awareness information into relevant public health outreach it conducts.
- Requires those entities to design the information to educate and increase awareness and understanding among health care providers, community organizations, and the public regarding specified topics related to cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other dementia.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Alzheimer's disease and dementia awareness

H.B. 254 requires the Department of Health to coordinate with the Department of Aging, the Commission on Minority Health, and community organizations that focus on Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia to incorporate awareness information into the Department of Health's relevant public health outreach. Under the bill, the parties must design the information to educate and increase awareness and understanding among health care providers, community organizations, and the general public on topics related to cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other dementia.

The topics must include:

- Early warning signs;
- The value of reducing risk factors of Alzheimer's disease and other types of dementia, including through conducting healthy brain initiatives and disseminating healthy lifestyle materials;

- The importance of early detection and timely diagnosis;
- How to reduce the risk of cognitive decline, particularly among individuals from broad cultural, ethnic, racial, geographic, and socioeconomic backgrounds and those disproportionately affected by dementia who are at greater risk of developing Alzheimer’s disease or other dementia;
- Assessment tools for detection and diagnosis; and
- The importance of an annual Medicare wellness visit or other physical for individuals age 65 and older for cognitive health, including the Medicare plan billing code for treatment related to cognitive impairment.

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-06-25
