



# Ohio Legislative Service Commission

## Bill Analysis

Matthew Magner

### Am. S.B. 245

131st General Assembly  
(As Passed by the Senate)

**Sens.** Manning, Bacon, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Gardner, Hite, Hughes, Patton, Skindell, Yuko, Tavares, Beagle, Jones, Lehner, Oelslager, Peterson, Sawyer, Schiavoni

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## BILL SUMMARY

- Creates the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults.

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## CONTENT AND OPERATION

### Malnutrition Prevention Commission

The bill creates the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults (i.e., 60 years of age and older) in health care settings. Specifically, the Commission must do all of the following:

- (1) Study the impact of malnutrition on older adults in all health care settings and monitor its influence on health care costs and outcomes, quality indicators, and quality of life measures;
- (2) Investigate strategies for reducing the incidence of malnutrition among older adults;
- (3) Develop strategies for improving data collection and analysis regarding malnutrition risks, health care costs, and protective factors for older adults;
- (4) Develop strategies for maximizing the dissemination of proven, effective malnutrition prevention intervention models, including community nutrition programs, medical nutrition therapy, and oral nutrition supplements;

(5) Identify evidence-based strategies, such as educational materials, social marketing, and statewide campaigns, that raise public awareness of malnutrition among older adults;

(6) Identify evidence-based malnutrition prevention intervention models, including community nutrition programs, that reduce both the rate of malnutrition and the rate of rehospitalization due to malnutrition, and identify barriers to those intervention models;

(7) Identify models for integrating the value of malnutrition care into health care quality evaluations across health care payment models;

(8) Examine the key elements of malnutrition prevention intervention initiatives, consider their applicability in this state, and develop strategies for testing, implementing, and evaluating the initiatives.

The bill requires the Commission to submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly within 12 months of the bill's effective date. Upon the report's submission, the Commission will cease to exist.<sup>1</sup>

## **Membership and organization**

The Commission is to consist of the Directors of Health, Aging, Job and Family Services, and Agriculture, or each director's designee; the Executive Director of the Commission on Minority Health, or the Executive Director's designee; and the chairpersons of the House and Senate committees with primary responsibility for health legislation. The following individuals appointed by the Governor are also to serve as Commission members:

(1) A physician;

(2) A university researcher with expertise in gerontology, nutrition, or both;

(3) A dietitian involved with a program funded under the federal Older Americans Act of 1965;

(4) A representative of hospitals or integrated health systems;

(5) Two registered nurses who provide home health care;

(6) A dietitian who practices in a nursing home;

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<sup>1</sup> Section 2.

(7) A dietitian who represents the Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics;

(8) A representative of the Ohio Association of Area Agencies on Aging.

The bill requires the appointed members to be appointed within 30 days of the bill's effective date. Membership lasts until the Commission ceases to exist. Vacancies are to be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

The Director of Health, or the Director's designee, is to serve as the Commission's chairperson. Members are to serve without compensation except to the extent that serving on the Commission is a part of that member's duties of employment.<sup>2</sup>

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## HISTORY

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	11-17-15
Reported, S. Health & Human Services	04-27-16
Passed Senate (33-0)	05-04-16

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<sup>2</sup> Section 1.

