

SHORT TITLE: Public health and safety; creating the Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act; codification; effective date.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 46th Legislature (1998)

SENATE BILL NO. 826

By: Leftwich of the Senate

and

Seikel of the House

AS INTRODUCED

An Act relating to public health and safety; creating the Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act; providing short title; providing for legislative findings and declarations; defining terms; requiring that nursing facilities that provide a special care program or special unit for persons with Alzheimer's disease shall disclose certain information; providing to whom disclosure is made; requiring examinations; providing for contents; providing certain procedures; providing for development of form; providing for construction of act; providing for promulgation of rules; providing for codification; and providing an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-879.2a of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act".

B. The Legislature finds and declares that:

1. Certain nursing homes and related facilities, residential care/assisted living facilities, adult congregate living facilities, home health agencies, adult day care centers, hospices, and continuing care retirement communities are presently known to offer to provide or provide a special program or special unit for persons who have Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder;

2. It is in the public interest to provide for the protection of consumers regarding the accuracy and authenticity of such claims; and

3. It is the public policy of this state to require such facilities to disclose the reasons for those claims and to require records of such disclosures to be kept.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-879.2b of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in the Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act:

1. "Alzheimer's disease special care" means care that is provided to persons with a diagnosis of probable Alzheimer's disease or related disorders by an entity that provides such care in a special unit or under a special program designed to prevent or limit access to areas outside the designated unit or program; and

2. "Department" means the State Department of Health.

SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-879.2c of Title 63, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. 1. Pursuant to rules promulgated under the provisions of the Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act, any facility including, but not limited to, a nursing facility, residential care facility, assisted living facility, adult congregate living facility, home health agency, adult day care center, hospice, or a continuing care retirement community that advertises, markets, or

otherwise promotes itself as providing care or treatment to persons with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders in a special unit or under a special program shall disclose the type of care or treatment provided that distinguishes it as being especially applicable to or suitable for such persons.

2. The disclosure shall be made to:

- a. the state licensing agency,
- b. any person seeking placement on behalf of a person with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders within an Alzheimer's disease special care unit, and
- c. the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman.

3. The State Department of Health shall examine all such disclosures in the Department's records as part of the facility's license renewal process to verify accuracy. The disclosure shall be made prior to the facility or entity entering into any agreement to provide care.

B. The information disclosed as required by this section shall include the following areas:

1. A written description of the Alzheimer's disease special care unit's overall philosophy and mission as it relates to the needs of residents with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders;

2. The process and criteria for placement in, or transfer or discharge from, the unit;

3. The process used for assessment, establishment, and implementation of a patient plan of care, including the method by which the plan evolves and is responsive to changes in the condition of the patient;

4. Staff-to-resident ratios, staff training and continuing education commensurate with Alzheimer's disease residents' needs for increased care and supervision;

5. The physical environment and design features appropriate to support the functioning of cognitively impaired adult residents;

6. The types and frequency of resident activities;

7. The involvement of families in care planning and other aspects of care, and the availability of family support programs; and

8. The fees for care and any additional fees.

C. The Department, with equal opportunity for input from consumer and provider representatives, shall develop a standardized disclosure form and shall review the information submitted on the disclosure form by the facility or other entity to verify the accuracy of the information reported. Any significant change in the information initially submitted by the facility or other entity shall be reported to the Department at the time the change is made.

D. The provisions of this section shall not be construed to preclude a nursing facility without an Alzheimer's disease special care unit from admitting a person with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders.

E. The Department, with equal opportunity for input from consumer and provider representatives, shall promulgate rules to effectuate the provisions of the Alzheimer's Disease Special Care Disclosure Act.

SECTION 4. This act shall become effective November 1, 1998.

46-2-2063

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