

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 51st Legislature (2008)

3 HOUSE JOINT  
4 RESOLUTION 1057

By: Wesselhoft

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Joint Resolution establishing Task Force on the  
8 Effect of Alzheimer's Disease on Oklahoma; providing  
9 for appointments; providing for designation of  
10 cochairs; providing for meetings and staffing;  
11 providing for reimbursement for travel; providing for  
12 purpose; and requiring certain report.

13 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is a progressive and fatal brain  
14 disease that destroys brain cells and causes problems with memory,  
15 thinking and behavior; and

16 WHEREAS, more than five million Americans now have Alzheimer's  
17 disease; and

18 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia  
19 and is the seventh-leading cause of death in the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, Alzheimer's disease has no cure but treatments for  
21 symptoms used in conjunction with appropriate services and support  
22 can improve the quality of life for those living with the disease.

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
24 AND THE SENATE OF THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

1 THAT there is hereby created to continue until June 1, 2009, the  
2 Task Force on the Effect of Alzheimer's Disease on Oklahoma.

3 THAT the Task Force shall consist of sixteen (16) members.

4 THAT of the sixteen members:

5 1. Four shall be appointed by the Speaker of the Oklahoma House  
6 of Representatives as follows:

7 a. one shall be a person who has been diagnosed with  
8 Alzheimer's disease,

9 b. one shall be a representative of the health care  
10 provider community,

11 c. one shall be a representative of the adult day  
12 services industry, and

13 d. one shall be a member of the Oklahoma House of  
14 Representatives;

15 2. Four shall be appointed by the President Pro Tempore of the  
16 State Senate as follows:

17 a. one shall be a caregiver of a person with Alzheimer's  
18 disease,

19 b. one shall be a representative of the assisted living  
20 industry,

21 c. one shall be a scientist who specializes in  
22 Alzheimer's research, and

23 d. one shall be a member of the State Senate;

24 3. Three shall be appointed by the Governor as follows:

- a. one shall be a family member of a person living with Alzheimer's disease or other form of dementia,
- b. one shall be a representative of the nursing facility industry, and
- c. one shall be a person active in the state chapter of the Alzheimer's Association; and

4. Five shall be public sector representatives as follows:

- a. the Commissioner of the Oklahoma State Department of Health, or designee,
- b. the Director of the Department of Human Services, or designee,
- c. the Commissioner of the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, or designee,
- d. the Chief Executive Officer of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority, or designee, and
- e. the Executive Director of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, or designee.

THAT members shall serve at the pleasure of their appointing authorities. A vacancy on the Task Force shall be filled by the original appointing authority.

THAT the Speaker of the Oklahoma House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the State Senate shall each designate a cochair from among the members of the Task Force.

1        THAT a majority of the members present at a meeting shall  
2 constitute a quorum to do business.

3        THAT the Department of Human Services shall provide staff  
4 support to the Task Force as necessary to assist the Task Force in  
5 the performance of its duties.

6        THAT members of the Task Force shall receive no compensation for  
7 their service, but shall receive travel reimbursement as follows:

8        1. Legislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed in  
9 accordance with the provisions of Section 456 of Title 74 of the  
10 Oklahoma Statutes; and

11        2. Nonlegislative members of the Task Force shall be reimbursed  
12 by their appointing authorities pursuant to the State Travel  
13 Reimbursement Act.

14        THAT the purpose of the Task Force shall be to assess the  
15 current and future impact of Alzheimer's disease and other types of  
16 dementia on the residents of the State of Oklahoma; to examine the  
17 existing industries, services and resources addressing the needs of  
18 persons living with Alzheimer's disease, their families and  
19 caregivers; and to develop a strategy to mobilize a state response  
20 to this public health crisis.

21        THAT the Task Force shall include an examination of the  
22 following in its assessment and recommendations:

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1           1. State trends in the number of persons living with  
2 Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and the needs of  
3 those persons;

4           2. The state's role in providing long-term care, family  
5 caregiver support, and other forms of assistance to persons with  
6 early-stage and early onset of Alzheimer's;

7           3. State policy regarding persons with Alzheimer's disease and  
8 developmental disabilities;

9           4. Existing services, resources, and capacity, including but  
10 not limited to the:

- 11           a. type, cost and availability of dementia services,
- 12           b. dementia-specific training requirements for long-term  
13           care staff,
- 14           c. quality care measures for residential care facilities,
- 15           d. capacity of public safety and law enforcement to  
16           respond to persons with Alzheimer's disease,
- 17           e. availability of home- and community-based resources  
18           for persons with Alzheimer's disease, including the  
19           availability of respite care for families,
- 20           f. inventory of long-term care dementia care units,
- 21           g. adequacy and appropriateness of geriatric-psychiatric  
22           units for persons with behavior disorders associated  
23           with Alzheimer's and related dementia,
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1 h. assisted living residential options for persons with  
2 dementia, and

3 i. state support of Alzheimer's research; and

4 5. Needed state policies or responses, including but not  
5 limited to directions for the provision of clear and coordinated  
6 services and supports for persons and families living with  
7 Alzheimer's and related disorders and strategies to address  
8 identified gaps in services.

9 THAT the Task Force shall issue a report of its recommendations  
10 to the Legislature and the Governor no later than January 1, 2009.

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12 51-2-8361 MG 12/03/2007  
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