

REFERENCE TITLE: Alzheimer's disease state plan; appropriation

State of Arizona
Senate
Fifty-seventh Legislature
Second Regular Session
2026

SB 1249

Introduced by
Senator Shope

AN ACT

AMENDING TITLE 36, CHAPTER 1, ARTICLE 1, ARIZONA REVISED STATUTES, BY
ADDING SECTION 36-123.05; APPROPRIATING MONIES; RELATING TO THE DEPARTMENT
OF HEALTH SERVICES.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Arizona:

2 Section 1. Title 36, chapter 1, article 1, Arizona Revised
3 Statutes, is amended by adding section 36-123.05, to read:

4 36-123.05. Dementia services program; department duties;
5 Alzheimer's disease state plan; posting;
6 reporting requirement; advisory council;
7 definition

8 A. THE DEPARTMENT IS DESIGNATED AS THE LEAD AGENCY IN THIS STATE TO
9 ADDRESS ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED FORMS OF DEMENTIA.

10 B. THE DIRECTOR SHALL ESTABLISH A DEMENTIA SERVICES PROGRAM WITHIN
11 THE DEPARTMENT THAT DOES ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

12 1. FACILITATES THE COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS THAT RELATE TO
13 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED FORMS OF DEMENTIA IN ALL STATE AGENCIES.

14 2. FACILITATES THE COORDINATION, REVIEW, PUBLICATION AND
15 IMPLEMENTATION OF AND UPDATES TO THE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE STATE PLAN
16 DEVELOPED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION.

17 3. APPLIES FOR PUBLIC HEALTH FUNDING AND GRANTS RELATED TO
18 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED FORMS OF DEMENTIA.

19 4. INCORPORATES EVIDENCE-BASED BRAIN HEALTH STRATEGIES INTO
20 RELEVANT DEPARTMENT-LED PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAMS.

21 C. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL DEVELOP AN ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE STATE PLAN
22 THAT ASSESSES THE CURRENT AND FUTURE IMPACT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND
23 RELATED FORMS OF DEMENTIA ON THIS STATE AND THAT:

24 1. ASSESSES AND IDENTIFIES RELEVANT GAPS IN ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

25 (a) EXISTING STATE SERVICES AND RESOURCES THAT ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF
26 PERSONS LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED FORM OF DEMENTIA AND
27 THEIR CAREGIVERS.

28 (b) THE NEEDS OF PERSONS WHO HAVE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED
29 FORM OF DEMENTIA AND HOW THEIR LIVES ARE AFFECTED THROUGHOUT THE
30 PROGRESSION OF THE DISEASE.

31 (c) THIS STATE'S PUBLIC AND PRIVATE HEALTH SYSTEMS, WORKFORCE AND
32 CLINICAL CAPACITY AND CAPABILITY TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE DETECTION, DIAGNOSIS
33 AND TREATMENT OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND RELATED FORMS OF DEMENTIA.

34 (d) THIS STATE'S PUBLIC AND PRIVATE NONMEDICAL CARE AND SUPPORT
35 SERVICES FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED FORM OF
36 DEMENTIA AND THEIR CAREGIVERS.

37 2. PROVIDES STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS WITH MEASURABLE GOALS FOR
38 STATE ACTION TO DO ALL OF THE FOLLOWING FOR PERSONS LIVING WITH
39 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED FORM OF DEMENTIA:

40 (a) IMPROVE ACCESS TO CARE, SUPPORT, DIAGNOSTICS AND TREATMENT.

41 (b) IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF DEMENTIA CARE, INCLUDING CRISIS
42 RESPONSE, HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS, LONG-TERM CARE AND IN-HOME CARE.

43 (c) ADVANCE RISK REDUCTION AND EARLY DETECTION AWARENESS AND BRAIN
44 HEALTH.

1 (d) IMPROVE CAREGIVER SUPPORT, CARE PLANNING AND CARE COORDINATION.

2 (e) IMPROVE THE COLLECTION, AVAILABILITY AND USE OF
3 DEMENTIA-RELATED DATA BY STATE AGENCIES.

4 D. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONVENE OR DESIGNATE AN ADVISORY COUNCIL OR
5 WORKING GROUP TO ASSIST IN PLANNING, CONDUCTING AND EVALUATING STAKEHOLDER
6 ENGAGEMENT AND STATE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION, REVIEW AND UPDATES. MEMBERSHIP
7 OF THE ADVISORY COUNCIL OR WORKING GROUP SHALL REFLECT THE DIVERSITY OF
8 STAKEHOLDERS IDENTIFIED IN SUBSECTION E, PARAGRAPH 1 OF THIS SECTION.

9 E. THE DEPARTMENT SHALL CONDUCT STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT SESSIONS AT
10 LEAST ONCE EACH CALENDAR YEAR TO SOLICIT INPUT ON THE STATE PLAN. THE
11 DEPARTMENT SHALL:

12 1. SEEK FEEDBACK FROM AND COLLABORATE WITH PERSONS WHO HAVE
13 ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED FORM OF DEMENTIA, DIRECT CAREGIVERS AND
14 PUBLIC, PRIVATE AND NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOCUSED ON ALZHEIMER'S CARE
15 SERVICES, RESEARCH, ADVOCACY, HEALTH SERVICES AND CAREGIVER SUPPORT.

16 2. AT LEAST THIRTY DAYS BEFORE EACH ENGAGEMENT SESSION, PROVIDE
17 PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE SESSION, INCLUDING THE DATE, TIME, LOCATION OR
18 VIRTUAL ACCESS INFORMATION, A SUMMARY AGENDA AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR
19 SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS.

20 3. ENSURE MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION BY STAKEHOLDERS STATEWIDE,
21 INCLUDING RURAL AND UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES, AND PROVIDE REASONABLE
22 ACCOMMODATIONS AND LANGUAGE ACCESS.

23 4. ACCEPT WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR AT LEAST FOURTEEN DAYS FOLLOWING
24 EACH ENGAGEMENT SESSION.

25 F. ON OR BEFORE SEPTEMBER 30, 2027 AND AT LEAST EVERY THIRD YEAR
26 THEREAFTER, THE DEPARTMENT SHALL UPDATE AND SUBMIT THE STATE PLAN TO THE
27 GOVERNOR, THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
28 REPRESENTATIVES AND SHALL PROVIDE A COPY TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE
29 DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH THE PLAN ON THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC WEBSITE.

30 G. FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS SECTION, "CAREGIVER" MEANS AN UNPAID
31 PERSON WHO PROVIDES REGULAR ASSISTANCE IN ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING FOR A
32 PERSON LIVING WITH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR A RELATED FORM OF DEMENTIA.

33 Sec. 2. Appropriation; department of health services;
34 dementia services program; Alzheimer's disease
35 state plan

36 The sum of \$600,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in
37 fiscal year 2026-2027 to the department of health services for the
38 dementia services program established pursuant to section 36-123.05,
39 Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act, and the implementation of
40 the Alzheimer's disease state plan.