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H.869

Introduced by Representatives Noyes of Wolcott and Troiano of Stannard

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Human services; cognitive impairments; Alzheimer's disease; State
plan; continuing medical education; training

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to: (1) require
the Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders to produce an
assessment and State plan to overcome Alzheimer's Disease; (2) allow
physician disclosure of diagnosis and treatment plan with patient's family with
patient's consent; (3) require hospitals to adopt an operational plan for the
recognition and management of patients with dementia or delirium in acute
care settings; (4) require the completion of a course on the diagnosis,
treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments, including
Alzheimer's disease and dementia for physicians, physician assistants,
advanced practice registered nurses, registered nurses, licensed practical
nurses, and nursing assistants; and (5) require training on cognitive
impairments for adult protective services caseworkers.

19 An act relating to planning for the care and treatment of patients with
20 cognitive impairments

1 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

2 * * * Assessment and State Plan * * *

3 Sec. 1. ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; ASSESSMENT AND STATE PLAN

4 (a) The Commission on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders,
5 established pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 3085b, shall develop and carry out an
6 assessment of all State programs that address Alzheimer's disease. The
7 Commission shall create and maintain an integrated State plan to overcome
8 Alzheimer's disease, which shall include implementation steps and
9 recommendations for priority actions based on the assessment. The purposes
10 of the State plan shall include to:

11 (1) accelerate the development of treatments that would prevent, halt, or
12 reverse the course of Alzheimer's disease;

13 (2) help coordinate the health care and treatment of individuals with
14 Alzheimer's disease;

15 (3) ensure the inclusion of ethnic and racial populations who have a
16 higher risk for Alzheimer's disease or are least likely to receive care in clinical,
17 research, and service settings, with the purpose of decreasing health disparities
18 in Alzheimer's disease;

19 (4) coordinate with federal government entities to integrate and inform
20 the fight against Alzheimer's disease;

1 nonmedical options for treatment, services, and supports; and information
2 regarding how to obtain treatment, services, and supports.

3 § 9202. HOSPITAL OPERATION PLAN

4 A hospital licensed pursuant to chapter 43 of this title shall implement an
5 operational plan for the recognition and management of patients with dementia
6 or delirium in acute care settings. The operational plan shall consider
7 applicable recommendations made by the Commission on Alzheimer's Disease
8 and Related Disorders, established pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 3085b. Each
9 hospital's operational plan shall be completed by January 1, 2022 and shall
10 remain on file at the hospital and made available to the Department of Health
11 upon request.

12 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Physicians;

13 Effective Until July 1, 2022 * * *

14 Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. § 1400 is amended to read:

15 § 1400. RENEWAL OF LICENSE; CONTINUING MEDICAL

16 EDUCATION

17 * * *

18 (b)(1) A licensee for renewal of an active license to practice medicine shall
19 have completed continuing medical education that shall meet minimum criteria
20 as established by rule, by the Board, by August 31, 2012 and that shall be in
21 effect for the renewal of licenses to practice medicine expiring after August 31,

1 2014. The Board shall require a minimum of 10 hours of continuing medical
2 education by rule. The training provided by the continuing medical education
3 shall be designed to ~~assure~~ ensure that the licensee has updated his or her
4 knowledge and skills in his or her own specialties and also has kept abreast of
5 advances in other fields for which patient referrals may be appropriate. The
6 Board shall require evidence of current professional competence in recognizing
7 the need for timely appropriate consultations and referrals to assure fully
8 informed patient choice of treatment options, including treatments such as
9 those offered by hospice, palliative care, and pain management services. For
10 physicians serving adult populations, the Board shall require further evidence
11 of the completion of a one-time Board-approved course of training and
12 education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive
13 impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, within a physician's
14 first four years of licensure or by July 1, 2024, whichever is later occurring.

15 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this section, a physician serving
16 adult populations who completes two hours of continuing medical education
17 on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments,
18 including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, shall only be required to
19 complete a total of eight hours of continuing medication education by the
20 Board rather than ten hours.

21 * * *

1 education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive
2 impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and dementia within a physician's
3 first four years of licensure or by July 1 2024, whichever is later occurring.

4 ~~(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this section, a physician serving~~
5 ~~adult populations who completes two hours of continuing medical education~~
6 ~~on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments,~~
7 ~~including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, shall only be required to~~
8 ~~complete a total of eight hours of continuing medication education by the~~
9 ~~Board rather than ten hours.~~

10 * * *

11 * * * Continuing Medical Education for APRNs * * *

12 Sec. 5. 26 V.S.A. § 1614 is amended to read:

13 § 1614. APRN RENEWAL

14 An APRN license renewal application shall include:

15 (1) documentation of completion of the APRN practice requirement;

16 (2) possession of a current certification by a national APRN specialty
17 certifying organization; ~~and~~

18 (3) a current collaborative provider agreement if required for transition
19 to practice; and

20 (4) for APRNs serving adult populations in any population focus,
21 evidence of the completion of a one-time Board-approved course of training

1 and education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive
2 impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, within an APRN's
3 first four years of licensure or by July 1, 2024, whichever is later occurring.

4 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Registered Nurses * * *

5 Sec. 6. 26 V.S.A. § 1624 is amended to read:

6 § 1624. REGISTERED NURSE LICENSE RENEWAL

7 To renew a license, a registered nurse shall meet active practice
8 requirements set by the Board by rule and for registered nurses serving adult
9 populations, submit evidence of the completion of a one-time Board-approved
10 course of training and education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of
11 patients with cognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and
12 dementia, within a registered nurse's first four years of licensure or by July 1,
13 2024, whichever is later occurring.

14 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Licensed Practical Nurses * * *

15 Sec. 7. 26 V.S.A. § 1628 is amended to read:

16 § 1628. PRACTICAL NURSE LICENSE RENEWAL

17 To renew a license, a practical nurse shall meet active practice requirements
18 set by the Board by rule and for practical nurses serving adult populations,
19 submit evidence of the completion of a one-time Board-approved course of
20 training and education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with
21 cognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, within a

1 practical nurse's first four years of licensure or by July 1, 2024, whichever is
2 later occurring.

3 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Nursing Assistants * * *

4 Sec. 8. 26 V.S.A. § 1645 is amended to read:

5 § 1645. RENEWAL

6 (a) To renew a license, a nursing assistant shall meet active practice
7 requirements set by the Board by rule and, for nursing assistants serving adult
8 populations, submit evidence of the completion of a one-time Board-approved
9 course of training and education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of
10 patients with cognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and
11 dementia, within a nursing assistant's first four years of licensure or by July 1,
12 2024, whichever is later occurring.

13 (b) The Board shall credit as active practice those activities, regardless of
14 title or obligation to hold a license, that reasonably tend to reinforce the
15 training and skills of a licensee.

16 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Physician Assistants* * *

17 Sec. 9. 26 V.S.A. § 1734b is amended to read:

18 § 1734b. RENEWAL OF LICENSE

19 * * *

20 (b) A licensee shall demonstrate that the requirements for licensure are met,
21 including, for physician assistants serving adult populations, evidence of the

1 completion of a one-time Board-approved course of training and education on
2 the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments,
3 including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, within a physician assistant's first
4 four years of licensure or by July 1, 2024, whichever is later occurring.

5 * * *

6 * * * Continuing Medical Education for Osteopathic Physicians * * *

7 Sec. 10. 26 V.S.A. § 1836 is amended to read:

8 § 1836. BIENNIAL RENEWAL OF LICENSE; CONTINUING
9 EDUCATION

10 (a) Licenses shall be renewed every two years.

11 (b) Biennially, the Board shall forward a renewal form to each licensee.

12 Upon receipt of the completed form, evidence of compliance with the
13 provisions of subsection (c) of this section, and the renewal fee, the Board shall
14 issue a new license.

15 (c)(1) As a condition of renewal a licensee shall complete a minimum of
16 30 hours of continuing medical education, approved by the Board by rule,
17 during the preceding two-year period. At least 40 percent of these hours must
18 be osteopathic medical education. For licensees serving adult populations, the
19 Board shall require further evidence of the completion of a one-time Board-
20 approved course of training and education on the diagnosis, treatment, and care
21 of patients with cognitive impairments, including Alzheimer's disease and

1 dementia, within a physician's first four years of licensure or by July 1, 2024,
2 whichever is later occurring.

3 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this section, a physician serving
4 adult populations who completes two hours of continuing medical education
5 on the diagnosis, treatment, and care of patients with cognitive impairments,
6 including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, shall only be required to
7 complete a total of 28 hours of continuing medication education by the Board
8 rather than 30 hours.

9 (d) [Repealed.]

10 * * * Protective Service Workforce Training * * *

11 Sec. 11. 33 V.S.A. chapter 69, subchapter 5 is added to read:

12 Subchapter 5. Protective Service Workforce

13 § 6971. TRAINING; IDENTIFICATION OF COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENTS

14 The Department shall provide training to adult protective services
15 caseworkers to recognize the signs and symptoms of cognitive impairments,
16 including Alzheimer's disease and dementia, and understand how cognitive
17 impairment may affect screening, investigation, and service planning.

18 * * * Effective Dates and Transitional Rulemaking Provision * * *

19 Sec. 12. EFFECTIVE DATES

20 Sec. 4 (renewal of license; continuing medical education) shall take effect
21 on July 1, 2022. All other sections shall take effect on January 1, 2021, except

- 1 that the licensing boards within the Office of Professional Regulation and the
- 2 Board of Medical Practice shall adopt any rules necessary prior to that date in
- 3 order to perform their duties under this act.