

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Human Services to which was referred Senate Bill No.
3 302 entitled “An act relating to public health outreach programs regarding
4 dementia risk” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and
5 recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be amended by
6 striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the
7 following:

8 Sec. 1. 33 V.S.A. § 6221 is amended to read:

9 § 6221. PUBLIC EDUCATION RESOURCES

10 (a) The Departments of Health and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent
11 Living shall jointly develop and maintain easily accessible electronic, print,
12 and in-person public education materials and programs on Alzheimer’s disease
13 and related disorders that shall serve as a resource for patients, families,
14 caregivers, and health care providers. The Departments shall include
15 information about the State Plan on Aging as well as resources and programs
16 for prevention, care, and support for individuals, families, and communities.

17 (b)(1) To the extent funds exist, the Departments of Health, of Mental
18 Health, and of Disabilities, Aging, and Independent Living, in consultation
19 with the Commission on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders and other
20 relevant workgroups and community organizations, shall, as part of existing
21 and relevant public health outreach programs:

1 (A) educate health care providers regarding:

2 (i) the value of early detection and timely diagnosis of

3 Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia;

4 (ii) validated assessment tools for the detection and diagnosis of

5 Alzheimer’s disease, younger-onset Alzheimer’s disease, and other types of

6 dementia;

7 (iii) the benefits of a Medicare annual wellness visit or other

8 annual physical for an adult 65 years of age or older to screen for Alzheimer’s

9 disease and other types of dementia;

10 (iv) the significance of recognizing the family care partner as part

11 of the health care team;

12 (v) the Medicare care planning billing codes for individuals with

13 Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia; and

14 (vi) the necessity of ensuring that patients have access to language

15 access services, when appropriate; and

16 (B) increase public understanding and awareness of:

17 (i) the early warning signs of Alzheimer’s disease and other types

18 of dementia; and

19 (ii) the benefits of early detection and timely diagnosis of

20 Alzheimer’s disease and other types of dementia.

1 (2) In their public health outreach programs and any programming and
2 information developed for providers pertaining to Alzheimer’s disease and
3 other types of dementia, the Departments shall provide uniform, consistent
4 guidance in nonclinical terms with an emphasis on cultural competency as
5 defined in 18 V.S.A. § 251 and health literacy, specifically targeting
6 populations at higher risk for developing dementia.

7 **Sec. 2. PRESENTATION; ADDRESSING RARE DISEASES**

8 On or after January 15, 2025, the Department of Health shall provide a
9 presentation to the House Committee on Human Services and to the Senate
10 Committee on Health and Welfare describing the public health impact of rare
11 diseases in Vermont and the Department’s role in addressing rare diseases
12 statewide.

13 **Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE**

14 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2024.

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1 (Committee vote: _____)

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Representative _____

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FOR THE COMMITTEE