

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2022 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Enrolled - Revised**

Senate Bill 27  
 Finance

(Senator Augustine)

Health and Government Operations

**Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia - Council and Coordination of Services**  
**(Dementia Services Act of 2022)**

This bill establishes a Director of Dementia Services and Brain Health position in the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) to coordinate and facilitate communication relating to dementia services in the State. The bill renames the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related Disorders Council as the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer’s Disease and Related *Dementias* Council. Beginning in fiscal 2023, the Governor must include specified appropriations in the annual budget to fund the director position and the council. By September 1, 2022, and each September 1 every five years thereafter, the council must issue and publish an update to the State Plan on Alzheimer’s Disease and Related *Dementias*. By September 1, 2023, and each September 1 every five years thereafter, the director must report to the Governor and specified committees of the General Assembly on the activities and recommendations of the director. The bill also removes the council’s termination date.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** MDH general fund expenditures increase by \$71,400 in FY 2023 to hire a Director of Dementia Services and Brain Health. Future year expenditures reflect annualization and ongoing costs. Revenues are not affected. **This bill establishes a mandated appropriation beginning in FY 2024.**

(in dollars)	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	71,400	83,000	85,300	87,600	89,900
Net Effect	(\$71,400)	(\$83,000)	(\$85,300)	(\$87,600)	(\$89,900)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** None.

**Small Business Effect:** None.

## Analysis

**Bill Summary:** The director must (1) coordinate MDH's approach to addressing Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia and brain health, including through public awareness, prevention, and early detection and diagnosis; (2) staff the council and oversee implementation of the State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related *Dementias*; (3) assess, analyze, and conduct outreach to share cognitive health and dementia-related data; (4) develop and monitor implementation milestones and measurable outcomes to assess progress in achieving the goals laid out in the State Plan; (5) identify efficiencies across State agencies that aid individuals with dementia and their caregivers, and coordinate public and private stakeholder partnerships; (6) apply for grants to enable the implementation of the State Plan goals to reduce the risk of dementia, and to improve the quality of care for individuals with dementia and their caregivers; and (7) carry out other duties relevant to the support of individuals with dementia as may be assigned by MDH. The director must report to the Secretary of Health. The director position is full-time and permanent.

### *Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Council*

The director, with the assistance from the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA), must provide staff support for the council. The director may request staffing assistance from public health entities with an interest in the duties of the council.

The term of an appointed member of the council is three years. At the end of a term, an appointed member continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies. A member who is appointed after a term has begun serves only for the rest of the term and until a successor is appointed and qualifies. Uncodified language requires the terms of members appointed as of October 1, 2022, to expire as follows: five members in 2024, five members in 2025, five members in 2026, and any other member appointed by the Governor in 2027.

### *Mandated Appropriations*

The Governor must include in the annual budget bill an appropriation to fund the director position and the council, as follows: (1) for fiscal 2023, at least \$71,400; (2) for fiscal 2024, at least \$83,000; (3) for fiscal 2025, at least \$85,300; (4) for fiscal 2026, at least \$87,600; and (5) for fiscal 2027 and each fiscal year thereafter, at least \$89,900.

**Current Law:** Maryland's Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders *Commission* was established by executive order in 2011 and tasked with making recommendations for a State plan to address the needs of individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders (as well as their families and caregivers). In its December 2012 report, the

commission identified five goals: support prevention and early identification, enhance quality of care, enhance supports for individuals and families, enhance public awareness, and improve data capacity to track progress. The report also indicated that the commission would pursue the establishment of a *permanent* council through the legislative process.

Chapters 305 and 306 of 2013 established the Virginia I. Jones Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders *Council* in 2013 for a three-year period. The council released an annual report in 2014, updating the status of the 2012 State plan and reiterating the council's commitment to the goals expressed in the commission's previous report. Chapters 74 and 75 of 2016 subsequently altered the council's membership and extended its termination date to September 30, 2019. Chapters 410 and 411 of 2019 further altered the membership and duties of the council, required the council to submit an [annual report](#), and extended the council's termination date to September 30, 2024.

Chapters 349 and 350 of 2021 require MDH, in partnership with MDOA, the council, and the Greater Maryland Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association, to incorporate specified information regarding cognitive impairment, Alzheimer's disease, and other types of dementia into relevant public health outreach programs to educate health care providers and increase public understanding and awareness.

The council must (1) update the State Plan on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders and advocate for the State Plan; (2) examine the needs for individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their caregivers and identify methods through which the State can most effectively and efficiently assist in meeting those needs; (3) advise the Governor and the General Assembly on policy, funding, regulatory, and other issues related to individuals with Alzheimer's disease and related disorders and their caregivers; and (4) develop and promote strategies to encourage brain health and reduce cognitive decline.

The council consists of one member of the Senate of Maryland; one member of the House of Delegates; the Secretary of Health; the Secretary of Aging; the Executive Director of the Alzheimer's Association, Greater Maryland Chapter (or designee); the President of the Alzheimer's Association, National Chapter (or designee); and 15 members appointed by the Governor. MDH, with assistance from MDOA, must provide staff support for the council and may request staffing assistance from public health entities with an interest in the council.

**State Expenditures:** MDH general fund expenditures increase by \$71,353 in fiscal 2023, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 2022 effective date. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one Director of Dementia Services and Brain Health to coordinate and facilitate communication relating to dementia services in the State and to submit the required report. It includes a salary, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Position	1.0
Salary and Fringe Benefits	\$62,124
Operating Expenses	<u>9,229</u>
<b>Total FY 2023 State Expenditures</b>	<b>\$71,353</b>

Future year expenditures reflect a full salary with annual increases and employee turnover as well as annual increases in ongoing operating expenses.

MDOA can provide staff to the council with existing budgeted resources.

Although the bill specifies that, beginning in fiscal 2023, the Governor must include an appropriation of at least \$71,400 in the State budget to fund the director position and the council, a mandated appropriation cannot begin until fiscal 2024; thus, any funding provided in fiscal 2023 is discretionary.

### Additional Information

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Designated Cross File:** HB 166 (Delegate Sample-Hughes, *et al.*) - Health and Government Operations.

**Information Source(s):** Maryland Department of Aging; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Legislative Services

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