HOUSE BILL 614

O1, O2


Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2023
Assigned to: Health and Government Operations and Appropriations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

Department of Aging – Dementia Care Navigation Programs

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Aging to oversee dementia care navigation programs; requiring each area agency to establish a dementia care navigation program; requiring the Department to publish a certain report on its website; and generally relating to dementia care and the Department of Aging.

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Human Services
Section 10–101(a) and (b)
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

BY adding to
Article – Human Services
Section 10–1301 through 10–1303 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 13. Dementia Care Navigation Programs”
Annotated Code of Maryland
(2019 Replacement Volume and 2022 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Human Services


(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.
[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.
(b) “Area agency” means the local agency that the Department designates in accordance with the Older Americans Act of 1965 to administer the delivery of a comprehensive and coordinated plan of social and other services and activities for seniors in a planning and service area.

SUBTITLE 13. DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAMS.

10–1301.

(A) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL:

(1) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, OVERSEE AND TRAIN THE STAFF OF DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAMS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE; AND

(2) DISSEMINATE BEST PRACTICES AND COLLECT INTERACTION DATA TO ENSURE STATEWIDE PROGRAM INTEGRITY.

(B) THE WORK OF THE DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAMS UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE GUIDED BY THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF:

(1) THE STATE PLAN ON AGING; AND

(2) THE VIRGINIA I. JONES ALZHEIMER’S DISEASE AND RELATED DEMENTIAS COUNCIL UNDER TITLE 13, SUBTITLE 32 OF THE HEALTH – GENERAL ARTICLE.


(2) THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION SHALL INCLUDE:

(I) THE NUMBER OF DIRECT CONTACTS EACH DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAM HAS WITH STATE RESIDENTS; AND

(II) THE RESULT OF EACH DIRECT CONTACT, INCLUDING:

1. THE PERCENTAGE OF INDIVIDUALS REFERRED TO SERVICE PROVIDERS;
2. THE NUMBER OF COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS CONDUCTED;

3. THE NUMBER OF OUTREACH EVENTS CONDUCTED; AND

4. THE NUMBER OF STATE RESIDENTS CONTACTED THROUGH OUTREACH EVENTS.

(3) THE DEPARTMENT SHALL PUBLISH THE REPORT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION ON THE DEPARTMENT'S WEBSITE.

10–1302.

(A) (1) SUBJECT TO PARAGRAPH (2) OF THIS SUBSECTION, EACH AREA AGENCY SHALL ESTABLISH A DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAM.

(2) AN AREA AGENCY MAY STAFF THE PROGRAM FROM EXISTING RESOURCES OR HIRE AN INDIVIDUAL FOR THE PROGRAM.

(B) SUBJECT TO SUBSECTION (C) OF THIS SECTION, THE DUTIES OF THE DEMENTIA CARE NAVIGATION PROGRAM INCLUDE:

(1) PROVIDING COGNITIVE ASSESSMENTS FOR INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED WITH THEIR COGNITION;

(2) PROVIDING PROGRAMS THAT ENGAGE INDIVIDUALS WHO DEMONSTRATE SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA THAT INTERFERE WITH ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING, REGULAR EXERCISE, AND SOCIAL ACTIVITIES;

(3) PROVIDING SUPPORT FOR CAREGIVERS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO DEMONSTRATE SYMPTOMS OF DEMENTIA THAT INTERFERE WITH ACTIVITIES OF DAILY LIVING;

(4) CONSULTING WITH AND PROVIDING TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO AREA AGENCY STAFF WHO INTERACT WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH:

(I) DEMENTIA DIAGNOSES; OR

(II) COGNITIVE CHANGES THAT MAY BE ASSOCIATED WITH DEMENTIA;
(5) Establishing relationships with health care providers to facilitate contact between health care providers and:

(I) Individuals who demonstrate symptoms of dementia that interfere with activities of daily living; and

(II) Caregivers of individuals who demonstrate symptoms of dementia that interfere with activities of daily living; and

(6) Providing any other appropriate service.

(C) The services provided under subsection (B) of this section shall be provided along with the services described in §§ 10–307 and 10–309 of this title.

10–1303.

(A) For fiscal year 2025 and each fiscal year thereafter, the Governor shall include in the annual budget bill an appropriation of $2,400,000 to manage the dementia care navigation programs statewide and to fund the programs locally.

(B) The funds appropriated under this section shall be distributed proportionally to each area agency based on a formula determined by the Department that considers the needs of each jurisdiction.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 2023.