

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

As Engrossed: H1/30/25

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1055

By: Representatives J. Mayberry, Rye, Breaux, Springer

By: Senators C. Penzo, F. Love

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH COVERAGE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT TO SLOW THE PROGRESSION OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR OTHER DEMENTIA-RELATED DISEASE UNDER THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH COVERAGE DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT TO SLOW THE PROGRESSION OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE OR OTHER DEMENTIA-RELATED DISEASE UNDER THE STATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOL LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 21, Chapter 5, Subchapter 4, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

21-5-425. Coverage for diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease – Legislative findings and intent – Rules.

(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Alzheimer's disease is the seventh leading cause of death in Arkansas according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention;

(2) The cost of managing the complications of late-stage Alzheimer's disease, largely due to delayed diagnosis and access to treatment, outweighs the cost of expeditious and effective treatment;

(3) The diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease or other



dementia-related disease should be a clinical decision made by a physician based on evidence-based guidelines; and

(4) The United States Food and Drug Administration has granted approval for treatments of patients in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to provide coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease.

(c) Each state employee's and public school employee's health benefit plan under the State and Public School Life and Health Insurance Program that is offered, issued, or renewed on or after January 1, 2026, shall offer coverage for the diagnosis and treatment of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease as determined by a physician licensed to practice medicine in this state and according to the standards or guidance established by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

(d) The coverage and treatment of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease offered under subsection (c) of this section shall:

(1) Be a treatment or medication that has been approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to treat or slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease;

(2) Include without limitation:

(A) Any diagnostic testing that is necessary for a physician to determine the appropriate use of treatments and medications under subdivision (d)(1) of this section; and

(B) All treatments or medications prescribed to slow the progression of Alzheimer's disease or other dementia-related disease; and

(3) Not be subject to step therapy protocols.

(e) The State Board of Finance may promulgate rules to implement this section.

/s/J. Mayberry