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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

1           SECTION 1. The legislature finds that Alzheimer's disease  
2 is a large and growing epidemic that has a huge impact in  
3 Hawaii. More than six million Americans are currently living  
4 with Alzheimer's disease, a figure expected to reach 12.7  
5 million in 2050. In 2019, Alzheimer's disease was the sixth  
6 leading cause of death in the United States, with deaths from  
7 the disease having risen by one hundred forty-five per cent  
8 between 2000 and 2019.

9           The legislature further finds that in 2020, family members  
10 and friends of individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and  
11 other forms of dementia provided 15.3 billion hours of care at  
12 an economic value of nearly \$244,000,000,000. More than forty  
13 per cent of seniors in assisted living facilities have  
14 Alzheimer's disease.

15           The legislature additionally finds that one-third of  
16 recipients of home health care and adult day care have  
17 Alzheimer's disease. The average per-person medicaid spending



1 for seniors with Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia  
2 is twenty-three times greater than the average per-person  
3 medicaid spending across all seniors without dementia. In  
4 total, caring for people with Alzheimer's disease generated an  
5 estimated medicaid cost of \$59,000,000,000 in 2021. Between  
6 2020 and 2025, thirty states will see medicaid spending on  
7 people with Alzheimer's disease increase by at least twenty per  
8 cent, before adjusting for inflation. By 2050, medicaid  
9 spending on those with Alzheimer's disease will total an  
10 estimated \$199,000,000,000, based on current dollars.

11 The purpose of this Act is to establish and appropriate  
12 funds for a working group to plan and implement a public health  
13 campaign for Alzheimer's awareness.

14 SECTION 2. (a) There is established the Alzheimer's  
15 working group within the department of health for administrative  
16 purposes. The working group shall plan and implement a public  
17 health campaign for awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other  
18 related dementia.

19 (b) The Alzheimer's working group shall be comprised of  
20 the following members:

21 (1) The director of health, or the director's designee;



- 1           (2)    The executive director of the executive office on
- 2                   aging, or the executive director's designee;
- 3           (3)    The executive director of the Alzheimer's Association,
- 4                   or the executive director's designee; and
- 5           (4)    The executive director of AARP, or the executive
- 6                   director's designee.

7           (c)    In planning for the public health campaign for  
8 Alzheimer's awareness and other related dementia, the  
9 Alzheimer's working group shall include material to educate the  
10 public on:

- 11           (1)    The early signs of cognitive impairment;
- 12           (2)    The value of early detection and diagnosis; and
- 13           (3)    Discussing with health care professionals any changes
- 14                   in memory and thinking.

15           (d)    The Alzheimer's working group shall submit a report of  
16 its findings and recommendations, including any proposed  
17 legislation, to the legislature no later than January 1, 2024.  
18 The report shall include a media campaign with deliverables from  
19 member organizations of the working group, a proposed budget for  
20 each deliverable, and a proposed timeline to execute the planned  
21 activities of the media campaign.



1 (e) The Alzheimer's working group shall dissolve on  
2 December 31, 2025.

3 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general  
4 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,000,000 or so much  
5 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 for the  
6 purposes of the Alzheimer's working group established by this  
7 Act.

8 The sum appropriated shall be expended by the department of  
9 health for the purposes of this Act.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

  
JAN 19 2023



# H.B. NO. 322

**Report Title:**

Alzheimer's Disease; Working Group; Appropriation

**Description:**

Establishes the Alzheimer's working group to create a public health campaign for awareness of Alzheimer's disease and other related dementia. Appropriates funds.

*The summary description of legislation appearing on this page is for informational purposes only and is not legislation or evidence of legislative intent.*

