

INTRODUCED BY SENIOR ASSEMBLY MEMBER CAVE**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST****AP 6: HEALTH CARE: DEMENTIA TRAINING.**

UNDER EXISTING LAW, MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS, SUCH AS REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIANS, ARE REQUIRED TO ATTEND A SPECIFIED NUMBER OF HOURS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION TO MAINTAIN THEIR LICENSURE.

THIS MEASURE WOULD MEMORIALIZE THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD REQUIRE PARAMEDICS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS, AND HOSPITAL STAFF TO RECEIVE, AS A PART OF THEIR CONTINUING EDUCATION, DEMENTIA TRAINING FROM SPECIFIED ENTITIES.

VOTE: MAJORITY.

AP 6: RELATING TO HEALTH CARE

WHEREAS, CURRENTLY, BABY BOOMERS, IN RECORD NUMBERS, ARE REACHING THE STATE IN LIFE WHERE MANY OF THEM ARE DEVELOPING DEMENTIA; AND

WHEREAS, HOSPITAL STAFFS, INCLUDING PHYSICIANS, ARE NOT GETTING ADEQUATE DEMENTIA TRAINING SO THAT THEY CAN BETTER SERVE THEIR PATIENTS; AND

WHEREAS, WHEN A RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITY FOR THE ELDERLY OR A SKILLED NURSING FACILITY SENDS A PATIENT TO A HOSPITAL, THE HOSPITAL'S ADMISSION STAFF OFTEN DISCONTINUES THE PATIENT'S MEDICATION TO CONTROL THE PATIENT'S AGITATION BECAUSE THE STAFF DOES NOT HAVE THE PROPER PAPERWORK AND DOES NOT KNOW HOW TO HANDLE A PATIENT WITH DEMENTIA, CAUSING THE HOSPITAL TO CONTACT THE SENDING FACILITY OR THE PATIENT'S RELATIVE, INFORMING THEM OF THE PATIENT'S AGITATION INSTEAD OF TREATING IT APPROPRIATELY; AND

WHEREAS, WHEN STAFFS FROM THE SENDING FACILITIES GO TO THE HOSPITAL TO CHECK ON PATIENTS DUE TO MEDICAL EMERGENCIES, THEY OFTEN FIND FOOD TRAYS SITTING IN FRONT OF THE PATIENTS UNTOUCHED BECAUSE THE PATIENTS CAN NO LONGER FEED THEMSELVES WITHOUT ENCOURAGEMENT OR SUPPORT; AND

WHEREAS, THE STAFFS OF THE SENDING FACILITIES ALSO OFTEN FIND THAT PATIENTS HAVE BEEN PHYSICALLY RESTRAINED BECAUSE THEIR AGITATION HAS LED THEM TO BECOME COMBATIVE AND, FOR A PERSON WITH DEMENTIA, TRAUMA CAUSED BY PHYSICAL RESTRAINTS CAN ACCELERATE DEMENTIA AND THE SITUATIONS ARE TERRIFYING TO THEM; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, BY THE SENIOR ASSEMBLY AND THE SENIOR SENATE, JOINTLY, THAT THE SENIOR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AT ITS 2014 REGULAR SESSION, A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS VOTING THEREFOR, HEREBY PROPOSES THAT PARAMEDICS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS, AND HOSPITAL STAFF, SUCH AS REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIANS BE REQUIRED, AS A PART OF THEIR CONTINUING EDUCATION, TO RECEIVE DEMENTIA TRAINING FROM THE ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION, LONG-TERM CARE OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM, OR OTHER PERSONS TRAINED IN IN-HOME CARE; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT THE SENIOR LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA RESPECTFULLY MEMORIALIZES THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO ENACT APPROPRIATE LEGISLATION THAT WOULD ADDRESS THE CONCERNS SET FORTH IN THIS MEASURE; AND BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, THAT A COPY OF THIS MEASURE BE TRANSMITTED TO THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, THE PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE, AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.