
INTRODUCED BY SENIOR SENATOR BORTEL**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST****SP 1: ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE: PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS.**

UNDER EXISTING LAW, THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT, AN INITIATIVE MEASURE ENACTED BY VOTERS AS PROPOSITION 63, FUNDS SPECIFIED COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH PROGRAMS, INCLUDING PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PREVENT MENTAL ILLNESS FROM BECOMING SEVERE AND DISABLING AND TO PROVIDE ACCESS AND LINKAGE TO MEDICALLY NECESSARY CARE FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS.

THIS MEASURE WOULD MEMORIALIZE THE LEGISLATURE AND THE GOVERNOR TO ENACT LEGISLATION THAT WOULD MAKE FUNDS AVAILABLE, OR CLARIFY THAT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT FUNDS MAY BE USED, FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE EDUCATION, PREVENTION, AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.

VOTE: MAJORITY.

SP 1: RELATING TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE.

WHEREAS, DEMENTIA, OF WHICH ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IS A FORM, IS CLASSIFIED AS A NEUROCOGNITIVE DISORDER IN THE DIAGNOSTIC AND STATISTICAL MANUAL OF MENTAL DISORDERS, FIFTH EDITION. HOWEVER, HEALTH PROFESSIONALS ARE DIVIDED ON WHETHER ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE IS A PHYSICAL OR MENTAL ILLNESS BECAUSE MEDICAL REIMBURSEMENTS ARE GREATER FOR THE TREATMENT OR DIAGNOSIS OF PHYSICAL ILLNESS COMPARED WITH MENTAL ILLNESS; AND

WHEREAS, ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE WILL AFFECT 45 PERCENT OF CALIFORNIANS AT 85 YEARS OF AGE. GIVEN THE DEMOGRAPHICS OF BABY BOOMERS IN OUR STATE, THE FIRST OF WHICH WILL TURN 70 IN 2015, AND THE INCREASE IN LIFE EXPECTANCY, WITHOUT A CURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, THE STATE'S RESOURCES WILL BE OVERWHELMED BY THE DEMANDS OF CARE; AND

WHEREAS, AGE-RELATED DISEASES AND CONDITIONS, SUCH AS VASCULAR DISEASE, HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE, HEART DISEASE, AND DIABETES MAY INCREASE THE RISK OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; AND

WHEREAS, WHILE HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ARE, AND HAVE BEEN, SPENT ON DISCOVERING A CURE, CURRENTLY THERE IS NO CURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE. RESEARCHERS ACROSS THE WORLD ARE RACING TOWARDS A CURE FOR ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE. BUT AS PREVALENCE RATES CLIMB, THEIR FOCUS HAS BROADENED FROM TREATMENT TO PREVENTION STRATEGIES; AND

WHEREAS, RESEARCHERS HAVE DISCOVERED THAT IT MAY BE POSSIBLE TO PREVENT OR DELAY THE SYMPTOMS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND OTHER DEMENTIA THROUGH A COMBINATION OF HEALTHFUL HABITS. WHILE ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE ACCOUNTS FOR 50 PERCENT OF DEMENTIA CASES, VASCULAR DEMENTIA ACCOUNTS FOR UP TO 40 PERCENT IN OLDER ADULTS, AND THERE IS MUCH AN INDIVIDUAL CAN DO TO PREVENT THIS TYPE OF DEMENTIA; AND

WHEREAS, RESEARCH DEMONSTRATES THAT INDIVIDUALS CAN REDUCE THEIR RISK OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AND OTHER TYPES OF DEMENTIA BY LEADING A BRAIN-HEALTHY LIFESTYLE, WHICH INCLUDES REGULAR EXERCISE, A HEALTHY DIET, MENTAL STIMULATION, QUALITY SLEEP, STRESS MANAGEMENT, AND AN ACTIVE SOCIAL LIFE; AND

WHEREAS, STUDIES CITED BY THE NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH'S NATIONAL INSTITUTE ON AGING, A PART OF THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, REPORT THAT, FOR EXAMPLE, PEOPLE WHO ATE A MEDITERRANEAN DIET HAD A 28 PERCENT LOWER RISK OF DEVELOPING MILD COGNITIVE IMPAIRMENT (MCI), AND A 48 PERCENT LOWER RISK OF PROGRESSING FROM MCI TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; AND

WHEREAS, THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA), AN INITIATIVE MEASURE ENACTED BY VOTERS AS PROPOSITION 63, ESTABLISHES THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FUND (MHSF), AND IMPOSES A TAX OF 1 PERCENT ON INCOMES ABOVE \$1,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING NEW OR EXPANDED MENTAL

HEALTH SERVICES BY COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS. UNDER THE MHSA, THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES IS REQUIRED TO ESTABLISH PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO PREVENT MENTAL ILLNESS FROM BECOMING SEVERE AND DISABLING AND PROVIDE ACCESS AND LINKAGE TO MEDICALLY NECESSARY CARE FOR ADULTS AND SENIORS WITH SEVERE MENTAL ILLNESS. TO DATE, THOSE DEPARTMENTS HAVE NEGLECTED PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS ON MENTAL HEALTH FOR SENIORS; AND

WHEREAS, SINCE THE 2004-05 FISCAL YEAR, \$9,700,000,000 HAVE BEEN PLACED INTO THE MHSF. UNDER THE MHSA, 5 PERCENT OF MHSF MONEYS ARE REQUIRED TO BE DEVOTED TO INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS, WHILE 20 PERCENT OF MHSF MONEYS ARE REQUIRED TO BE SPENT ON PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS. ASSUMING \$50,000,000 (5 PERCENT OF \$1,000,000,000) OR \$100,000,000 (10 PERCENT OF \$1,000,000,000), A MODEST AMOUNT FROM THESE MHSF MONEYS COULD BE DEVOTED TO PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; AND

WHEREAS, IN ORDER TO RECTIFY THE PROBLEM OF MHSF MONEYS NOT BEING TARGETED AT EDUCATION AND PROGRAMS THAT ARE DESIGNED TOWARDS DETERRING OR PREVENTING ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE, THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR SHOULD CLARIFY THAT MHSF MONEYS MAY BE USED FOR THIS PURPOSE AND THAT SUCH A PROGRAM IS AUTHORIZED UNDER THE MHSA; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, BY THE SENIOR SENATE AND THE SENIOR ASSEMBLY, 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 FUNDS BE MADE AVAILABLE, OR THAT THE LEGISLATURE AND GOVERNOR CLARIFY THAT MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FUND MONEYS MAY BE USED, FOR PROGRAMS THAT PROVIDE EDUCATION, PREVENTION, AND EARLY INTERVENTION SERVICES WITH RESPECT TO ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE; 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 PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE, THE SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY, AND THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA.