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H.B. 265
133rd General Assembly

Bill Analysis

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Version: As Reported by House Health

Primary Sponsor: Reps. Arndt and Howse

Elizabeth Molnar, Attorney

SUMMARY

- Establishes a dementia care certificate issued by the Ohio Department of Aging.
- Prohibits a person from using titles or acronyms indicating dementia care certification unless the person holds the Department's certificate.

DETAILED ANALYSIS

Dementia care certificate

The bill establishes a dementia care certificate to be issued by the Ohio Department of Aging to an individual, likely a health care professional, who meets the bill's requirements.¹ "Dementia" is defined as including Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder.²

Eligibility requirements

To qualify for a dementia care certificate, an individual must do the following:

- Submit a completed application to the Department;
- Complete a course of study in dementia care approved by the Department;
- Pay the Department a fee in the amount specified in Department rules.³

¹ R.C. 173.07 to 173.073.

² R.C. 173.07(A).

³ R.C. 173.07(B).

Education and training programs

Under the bill, the Department of Aging must review and approve training and education programs for dementia care.⁴ The bill specifies that an approved program is one that the Department has identified as providing the requisite education and experience necessary to qualify an individual for a dementia care certificate. Such a program must include the following topics:

- Expectations of health care providers when caring for individuals with dementia;
- Person-centered training and care planning, including cultural awareness;
- Social and physical environment characteristics that trigger or exacerbate behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia;
- Meaningful and engaging activities for individuals with dementia;
- Pain assessment;
- Medication management;
- Family dynamics for families with a member who has dementia;
- General information about dementia;
- How to assist an individual with dementia with daily living activities, including evaluating preferences and goals;
- Problem-solving challenging behavior from an individual with dementia, including nonpharmacological intervention;
- Communication skills relating to individuals with dementia.⁵

It also requires the Department to develop a list of approved dementia care training and education programs. The Department must organize the list by type of health care professional and may require programs to meet different criteria depending on the professional type. The bill provides that a person may contact the Department to seek approval for a training or education program.⁶

Rulemaking

The Department of Aging must adopt rules as necessary to implement the bill's provisions.⁷ The rules must specify all of the following:

⁴ R.C. 173.071.

⁵ R.C. 173.071(C).

⁶ R.C. 173.071(B).

⁷ R.C. 173.073.

- The form and manner by which an individual is to apply for and renew a dementia care certificate;
- Any application and renewal fees for the certificate;
- The duration of the certificate;
- Any provisions for suspension or revocation of the certificate;
- Penalties for knowingly using titles or acronyms indicating certification when an individual does not hold a dementia care certificate issued by the Department.

Use of titles

The bill prohibits a person from knowingly using any of the following unless the person holds a dementia care certificate issued by the Department:

- The title “certified in dementia care,” “dementia practitioner,” “certified Alzheimer’s disease practitioner,” or “certified in Alzheimer’s care”;
- The acronym “CDC,” “DP,” “CADP,” or “CAC” after the person’s name;
- Any other words, letters, signs, cards, or devices that tend to indicate or imply that the person is certified in dementia care.⁸

Delayed effective date

The bill’s provisions do not take effect until six months after its effective date.⁹

HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	05-28-19
Reported, H. Health	11-06-19

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⁸ R.C. 173.072.

⁹ Section 2.