

SENATE BILL NO. 297—COMMITTEE ON
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

(ON BEHALF OF THE LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON SENIOR
CITIZENS, VETERANS AND ADULTS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS)

MARCH 16, 2023

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

SUMMARY—Provides for the establishment of the Nevada
Memory Network. (BDR 40-298)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Contains Appropriation not included
in Executive Budget.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to dementia; providing for the establishment of
the Nevada Memory Network for the diagnosis of
dementia and the care of patients with dementia; making
an appropriation; and providing other matters properly
relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 Existing law creates the Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease within the
 - 2 Department of Health and Human Services and requires the Task Force to develop
 - 3 a state plan to address Alzheimer's disease. (NRS 439.508-439.5085) **Section 1** of
 - 4 this bill authorizes the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine and
 - 5 the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, in collaboration with the
 - 6 Department, to establish the Nevada Memory Network, which is a system for the
 - 7 diagnosis of dementia and the ongoing management of care for patients with
 - 8 dementia. **Section 2** of this bill makes an appropriation to the Nevada System of
 - 9 Higher Education to support the establishment and operation of the Network.
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THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 439 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine and the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine, in collaboration with the Department, may establish the Nevada Memory Network in accordance with this section. If the Nevada Memory Network is established, the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine, the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine and the Department shall:

(a) Establish or contract with clinics that employ or contract with physicians who specialize in neurology, neuropsychology and geriatrics to:

(1) Train providers of primary care in screening for and treating dementia;

(2) Diagnose dementia in patients referred to the clinics by providers of primary care;

(3) Create plans of care for patients with dementia; and

(4) Use telehealth where necessary or convenient to carry out the duties prescribed in subparagraphs (1), (2) and (3).

(b) Employ or contract with community health workers who specialize in dementia care. The community health workers shall:

(1) Coordinate care and provide referrals to community-based services and in-home care for patients diagnosed with dementia pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a); and

(2) Monitor the well-being of and provide support to persons who provide care to patients diagnosed with dementia pursuant to subparagraph (2) of paragraph (a), including, without limitation, providers of respite care to such patients.

2. The University of Nevada, Las Vegas, School of Medicine, the University of Nevada, Reno, School of Medicine and the Department may collaborate or contract with any additional persons or entities as necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

3. As used in this section:

(a) "Community health worker" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 449.0027.

(b) "Telehealth" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 629.515.

Sec. 2. 1. There is hereby appropriated from the State General Fund to the Nevada System of Higher Education the sum of \$684,573 to support the establishment and operation of the Nevada Memory Network pursuant to section 1 of this act, including,



1 without limitation, by employing or contracting with at least four
2 persons to perform the functions described in paragraph (b) of
3 subsection 1 of section 1 of this act.

4 2. Any remaining balance of the appropriation made by
5 subsection 1 must not be committed for expenditure after June 30,
6 2025, by the entity to which the appropriation is made or any entity
7 to which money from the appropriation is granted or otherwise
8 transferred in any manner, and any portion of the appropriated
9 money remaining must not be spent for any purpose after
10 September 19, 2025, by either the entity to which the money was
11 appropriated or the entity to which the money was subsequently
12 granted or transferred, and must be reverted to the State General
13 Fund on or before September 19, 2025.

14 **Sec. 3.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.

