

By: Representative Hale

To: Judiciary B

HOUSE BILL NO. 1040

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 45-6-25, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO REQUIRE LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE
3 TRAINING ON INTERACTING EFFECTIVELY WITH PEOPLE WITH ALZHEIMER'S
4 OR OTHER DEMENTIAS AS PART OF THEIR INITIAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM
5 AND CONTINUING EDUCATION; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

7 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
8 45-6-25, Mississippi Code of 1972:

9 45-6-25. (1) The purpose of this section is to set minimum
10 training requirements for law enforcement officers in Mississippi
11 on interacting effectively with people with Alzheimer's or other
12 dementias.

13 (2) Each law enforcement officer must successfully complete
14 training on identifying and interacting with people with
15 Alzheimer's or other dementias as part of basic police training
16 and continuing law enforcement education.

17 (3) The board shall develop and promulgate a dementia
18 training program in cooperation with the Department of Human
19 Services, the State Department of Health or the MIND Center at the



20 University of Mississippi Medical Center. The dementia training
21 program must include instruction on the identification of people
22 with Alzheimer's and other dementias, risks such as wandering and
23 elder abuse, and the best practices for interacting with persons
24 exhibiting symptoms of Alzheimer's or other dementias.

25 (4) The initial training required under this section must
26 consist of no less than four (4) hours in the initial law
27 enforcement officer certification program on the following:

28 (a) Dementia, psychiatric and behavioral symptoms;

29 (b) Techniques for understanding and approaching
30 behavioral symptoms and identifying alternatives to physical
31 restraints;

32 (c) Identifying and reporting incidents of abuse,
33 neglect and exploitation to the local law enforcement agency
34 having jurisdiction;

35 (d) Protocols for contacting caregivers when a person
36 with dementia is found wandering or during emergency or crisis
37 situations; and

38 (e) Local caregiving resources that are available for
39 people living with dementia.

40 (5) Continuing education in dementia training must include
41 no less than two (2) hours of training on those subjects described
42 in subsection (4) of this section.

43 (6) A law enforcement officer who does not successfully
44 complete the required dementia training must be placed on inactive



45 status until the employing agency or department notifies the board
46 that the officer has successfully completed the training.

47 (7) If an employing agency or department has adopted law
48 enforcement officer training requirements on identifying and
49 interacting with people with Alzheimer's or other dementias which
50 are more rigorous than the requirements of this section, those
51 more rigorous requirements must be followed. If there is overlap
52 between the requirements of this section and those adopted by an
53 employing agency or department, the board must consult with the
54 Department of Human Services, the State Department of Health or
55 the MIND Center at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in
56 order to avoid duplication of the requirements while ensuring that
57 the minimum requirements prescribed in this section are met.

58 **SECTION 2.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
59 and after July 1, 2023.

