

Unofficial Draft Copy

As of: June 8, 2016 (4:38pm)

LCCF5a

**** Bill No. ****

Introduced By *****

By Request of the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services
Interim Committee

A Bill for an Act entitled: "An Act establishing the Alzheimer's disease and related dementias caregiver respite grant program; providing an appropriation; and providing effective dates."

WHEREAS, in 2015, there were 49,000 family caregivers of Montanans with Alzheimer's disease or related dementias who provided unpaid care at a value of \$679 million; and

WHEREAS, Montana ranks 49th in the nation for support of family caregivers; and

WHEREAS, 85% of family caregivers in Montana say respite care would help them be better caregivers; and

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of trained respite caregivers.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Montana:

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Alzheimer's disease and related dementias caregiver respite grant program. (1) There is a grant program in the department of public health and human services to support the use of volunteers to provide respite care to individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia.

(2) The department shall award grants to organizations to be used for:

(i) training individuals on how to care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other dementias; and

(ii) coordinating and overseeing volunteer respite care activities.

(3)(a) The department shall establish a grant application process and criteria for awarding of grants.

(b) The department shall award a minimum of three grants per year to organizations that meet the criteria for grant awards. At least two of the grants must be awarded to organizations in different regions of the state.

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Appropriation.** (1) There is appropriated \$240,000 from the general fund to the department of public health and human services for the biennium beginning July 1, 2017, to fund the volunteer respite caregiver grant program established in [section 1].

(2) The appropriation may be used only for direct grants to organizations as provided in [section 1].

(3) The legislature intends that the appropriation be considered as part of the ongoing base for the next legislative session.

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. {standard} Codification instruction.** [Section 1] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 52, chapter 3, and the provisions of Title 52, chapter 3, apply to [section 1].

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NEW SECTION. **Section 4. {standard} Effective dates. (1)**

Except as provided in subsection (2), [this act] is effective on passage and approval.

(2) [Section 2] is effective July 1, 2017.

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