

By: Zaffirini, Menéndez

S.B. No. 1536

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to training on Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and related
3 disorders for certain guardians.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 155.203(b), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

18 SECTION 2. Section 155.204, Government Code, is amended by
19 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
20 follows:

21 (a) In adopting rules under Section 155.203, the supreme
22 court shall:

23 (1) subject to Subdivision (3) [~~(2)~~], ensure that
24 before a person is appointed guardian, the person completes a

1 training course:

2 (A) designed by the commission to educate
3 proposed guardians about their responsibilities as guardians,
4 alternatives to guardianships, supports and services available to
5 the proposed ward, and a ward's bill of rights under Section
6 [1151.351](#), Estates Code; and

7 (B) made available for free to proposed guardians
8 by the commission online via the commission's Internet website and,
9 on request, in a written format; [and]

10 (2) subject to Subdivision (3) and Subsection (a-1),
11 ensure that not later than the sixth month after the date a guardian
12 is appointed and at least once a year after the initial training
13 under this subdivision, the guardian completes a one-hour training
14 course:

15 (A) designed to educate guardians on Alzheimer's
16 disease, dementia, and related disorders, including providing
17 information about:

18 (i) common aspects of aging;
19 (ii) warning signs of dementia and
20 Alzheimer's disease;
21 (iii) effective strategies for
22 communicating with a person who is diagnosed with dementia or
23 Alzheimer's disease; and

24 (iv) effective strategies for supporting a
25 person who is diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease in
26 exercising the person's rights; and

27 (B) from a list of one or more training courses

1 approved by the commission and made available for free to guardians
2 online via the commission's Internet website; and

3 (3) identify the circumstances under which a court may
4 waive the training required under this section.

5 (a-1) Subsection (a)(2) applies only to a guardian of the
6 person or the estate, or both, of a ward who is:

7 (1) 60 years of age or older; or
8 (2) younger than 60 years of age if the ward has been
9 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or a related
10 disorder.

11 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Texas
12 Supreme Court shall adopt the rules required under Sections [155.203](#)
13 and [155.204](#), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

14 (b) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Judicial Branch
15 Certification Commission shall approve and make available on the
16 commission's Internet website the list of training courses required
17 by Section [155.204\(a\)\(2\)](#), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

18 (c) Notwithstanding Section [155.204\(a\)](#), Government Code, as
19 amended by this Act, a guardian appointed before July 1, 2026, who
20 is required to complete the training required by Section
21 [155.204\(a\)\(2\)](#), Government Code, as amended by this Act, shall
22 complete the initial training required by that section not later
23 than January 1, 2027.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.