

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1536

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to training on dementia and Alzheimer's disease for
3 certain guardians.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 155.204(a), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (a) In adopting rules under Section 155.203, the supreme
8 court shall:

9 (1) subject to Subdivision (3) [~~(2)~~], ensure that
10 before a person is appointed guardian, the person completes a
11 training course:

12 (A) designed by the commission to educate
13 proposed guardians about their responsibilities as guardians,
14 alternatives to guardianships, supports and services available to
15 the proposed ward, and a ward's bill of rights under Section
16 1151.351, Estates Code; and

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

20 (2) subject to Subdivision (3), ensure that not later
21 than the sixth month after the date a guardian is appointed and at
22 least once a year, the guardian completes a three-hour training
23 course:

24 (A) designed by the commission to educate

1 guardians on dementia and Alzheimer's disease, including providing
2 information about:

3 (i) common aspects of aging;

4 (ii) warning signs of dementia and
5 Alzheimer's disease;

6 (iii) effective strategies for
7 communicating with a person who is diagnosed with dementia or
8 Alzheimer's disease; and

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

12 (B) made available for free to guardians by the
13 commission online via the commission's Internet website; and

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

16 SECTION 2. (a) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Texas
17 Supreme Court shall adopt the rules necessary to provide the
18 training required under Section 155.204(a)(2), Government Code, as
19 amended by this Act.

20 (b) Not later than July 1, 2026, the Judicial Branch
21 Certification Commission shall make available on the commission's
22 Internet website the course required by Section 155.204(a)(2),
23 Government Code, as amended by this Act.

24 (c) Notwithstanding Section 155.204(a), Government Code, as
25 amended by this Act, a guardian appointed before July 1, 2026,
26 shall complete the initial training required by Section
27 155.204(a)(2), Government Code, as amended by this Act, not later

1 than September 1, 2026.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.