

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1536  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 21, 2025; March 6, 2025,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Jurisprudence;  
1-4 March 31, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; March 31, 2025,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
Hughes	X			
Johnson	X			
Creighton	X			
Hinojosa of Hidalgo			X	
Middleton	X			

1-14 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1536 By: Johnson

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to training on Alzheimer's disease, dementia, and related  
1-18 disorders for certain guardians.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Section 155.203(b), Government Code, is amended  
1-21 to read as follows:

1-22 (b) In adopting rules under this section, the supreme court  
1-23 shall ensure that:

1-24 (1) the commission is required to provide confirmation  
1-25 of a person's completion of the training required by Section  
1-26 155.204(a)(1) and a copy of the person's criminal history  
1-27 background check to the probate court not later than the 10th day  
1-28 before the date of the hearing to appoint a guardian; and

1-29 (2) a probate court is required to ensure a guardian's  
1-30 timely completion of the training required by Section  
1-31 155.204(a)(2), unless the training is waived by the probate court  
1-32 as provided by Section 155.204(a)(3).

1-33 SECTION 2. Section 155.204, Government Code, is amended by  
1-34 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as  
1-35 follows:

1-36 (a) In adopting rules under Section 155.203, the supreme  
1-37 court shall:

1-38 (1) subject to Subdivision (3) [~~(2)~~], ensure that  
1-39 before a person is appointed guardian, the person completes a  
1-40 training course:

1-41 (A) designed by the commission to educate  
1-42 proposed guardians about their responsibilities as guardians,  
1-43 alternatives to guardianships, supports and services available to  
1-44 the proposed ward, and a ward's bill of rights under Section  
1-45 1151.351, Estates Code; and

1-46 (B) made available for free to proposed guardians  
1-47 by the commission online via the commission's Internet website and,  
1-48 on request, in a written format; [~~and~~]

1-49 (2) subject to Subdivision (3) and Subsection (a-1),  
1-50 ensure that not later than the sixth month after the date a guardian  
1-51 is appointed and at least once a year after the initial training  
1-52 under this subdivision, the guardian completes a one-hour training  
1-53 course:

1-54 (A) designed to educate guardians on Alzheimer's  
1-55 disease, dementia, and related disorders, including providing  
1-56 information about:

1-57 (i) common aspects of aging;  
1-58 (ii) warning signs of dementia and  
1-59 Alzheimer's disease;  
1-60 (iii) effective strategies for

2-1 communicating with a person who is diagnosed with dementia or  
2-2 Alzheimer's disease; and

2-3 (iv) effective strategies for supporting a  
2-4 person who is diagnosed with dementia or Alzheimer's disease in  
2-5 exercising the person's rights; and

2-6 (B) from a list of one or more training courses  
2-7 approved by the commission and made available for free to guardians  
2-8 online via the commission's Internet website; and

2-9 (3) identify the circumstances under which a court may  
2-10 waive the training required under this section.

2-11 (a-1) Subsection (a)(2) applies only to a guardian of the  
2-12 person or the estate, or both, of a ward who is:

2-13 (1) 60 years of age or older; or

2-14 (2) younger than 60 years of age if the ward has been  
2-15 diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or a related  
2-16 disorder.

2-17 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Texas  
2-18 Supreme Court shall adopt the rules required under Sections 155.203  
2-19 and 155.204, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

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

2-24 (c) Notwithstanding Section 155.204(a), Government Code, as  
2-25 amended by this Act, a guardian appointed before July 1, 2026, who  
2-26 is required to complete the training required by Section  
2-27 155.204(a)(2), Government Code, as amended by this Act, shall  
2-28 complete the initial training required by that section not later  
2-29 than January 1, 2027.

2-30 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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