

2013 Legislative Agenda

RAISE STATEWIDE AWARENESS OF ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE

Getting people to understand the magnitude of Alzheimer's and being willing to talk about it is important. The creation of a special Alzheimer's license plate is a means to not only have that discussion, but a portion of the fee for issuance and renewal will be given to the Alzheimer's Association to provide care, support, education and awareness programs.

Please support SB 2224 sponsored by Senator Martin Sandoval to create an Illinois specialty license plate to raise Alzheimer's awareness.

LINK THE ALZHEIMER'S STATE PLAN SURVEY TO YOUR WEBSITE

An initiative we are involved with is the preparation of a State Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Plan which will be reported to the Illinois General Assembly by January 1, 2014. We have placed a survey on our website to obtain feedback from persons with Alzheimer's and related dementias, their caregivers and members of the general public about this important topic. The purpose is to develop a strategy to prepare and implement an Alzheimer's Disease Assistance Plan in cooperation with the Illinois Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee in response to this emerging public health crisis.

A suggested message to include with the link - *"Your Input is Important, Illinois is facing Alzheimer's and must build a dementia capable state. Please use this link and complete a survey to help as Illinois considers how to enhance care and support for those living with Alzheimer's and related dementias and their caregivers and considers how to raise awareness and provide information. Thank you for your input and recommendations."*

Please provide a link on your website to: <http://www.alzheimers-illinois.org/survey>

PROVIDE ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE AND SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH YOUNGER ON-SET ALZHEIMER'S

A new opportunity for Illinois to expand Medicaid is available and will focus on newly eligible individuals under age 65, including those persons living with Alzheimer's and related dementias. For this population in particular, symptoms of the disease - such as challenges with short term memory, impaired judgment and difficulty making decisions - can lead to an inability to work, loss of income and the loss of employer sponsored health benefits. The Medicaid expansion can serve as a safety net while individuals with younger-onset Alzheimer's wait to become eligible Medicare eligible.

Please support SB 26 sponsored by Senator Heather Steans and Representative Sara Feigneholtz to expand Medicaid in Illinois and support the care and support needs of eligible individuals living with younger on-set Alzheimer's.

EXPAND THE ILLINOIS ALZHEIMER'S LEGISLATORS ALLIANCE

We ask all members of the Illinois General Assembly to join the bipartisan alliance of their colleagues to help bring awareness and education to the public health crisis looming from Alzheimer's.

For more information, please contact Alzheimer's Association - Illinois Chapter Network, Public Policy Office; 8430 W. Bryn Mawr, Ste 800, Chicago IL 60631; 847.933.2413; gadvocacy@alz.org
