AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 29 OF THE DELAWARE CODE RELATING TO POWERS, DUTIES, AND FUNCTIONS OF THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE (Two-thirds of all members elected to each house thereof concurring therein):

Section 1. Amend § 7903(10), Title 29 of the Delaware Code by adding a new paragraph to § 7903(10) to read:

"a. The Secretary shall, in cooperation with the appropriate division directors and office heads, adopt regulations which require dementia specific training each year for persons who are certified, licensed, or registered by the State, and/or who are partially or fully funded by the State, to provide direct healthcare services to persons diagnosed as having Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia. The mandatory training must include the following topics:

(i) communicating with persons diagnosed as having Alzheimer’s disease or other forms of dementia;

(ii) the psychological, social, and physical needs of those persons; and

(iii) safety measures which need to be taken with those persons.

The mandatory training required under this paragraph applies only to those healthcare providers who must participate in continuing education programs;

b. The provisions of paragraph a. of this subsection do not apply to persons certified to practice medicine under the Medical Practice Act, Chapter 17 of Title 24 or first responders including policemen, firemen and emergency medical technicians.”.

Approved April 27, 2010