

**As Reported By The Senate Health And Human Services Committee**

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**Am. S. B. No. 245**

**Senator Manning**

**Cosponsors: Senators Bacon, Brown, Burke, Cafaro, Gardner, Hite, Hughes,  
Patton, Skindell, Yuko, Tavares, Beagle**

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**A BILL**

To create the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to 1  
study malnutrition among older adults. 2

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** (A) As used in this act, "older adult" means a 3  
person sixty years of age or older. 4

(B) There is hereby created the Malnutrition Prevention 5  
Commission, consisting of the following members: 6

(1) The Director of Health or the Director's designee; 7

(2) The Director of Aging or the Director's designee; 8

(3) The Director of Job and Family Services or the 9  
Director's designee; 10

(4) The Director of Agriculture or the Director's 11  
designee; 12

(5) The Executive Director of the Commission on Minority 13  
Health or the Executive Director's designee; 14

(6) The chairpersons of the standing committees of the 15

House of Representatives and Senate with primary responsibility	16
for health legislation;	17
(7) The following individuals appointed by the Governor:	18
(a) A physician authorized by Chapter 4731. of the Revised	19
Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine	20
and surgery;	21
(b) A university researcher with expertise in the field of	22
gerontology, nutrition, or both;	23
(c) A dietitian licensed under Chapter 4759. of the	24
Revised Code who is actively involved with a program funded	25
under the "Older Americans Act of 1965," 42 U.S.C. 3001;	26
(d) An individual who represents hospitals or integrated	27
health systems;	28
(e) Two registered nurses licensed under Chapter 4723. of	29
the Revised Code who actively provide home health care;	30
(f) A dietitian licensed under Chapter 4759. of the	31
Revised Code who actively practices in a nursing home, as	32
defined in section 3721.01 of the Revised Code;	33
(g) A dietitian licensed under Chapter 4759. of the	34
Revised Code who represents the Ohio Academy of Nutrition and	35
Dietetics;	36
(h) An individual who represents the Ohio Association of	37
Area Agencies on Aging.	38
(C) The Commission members described in division (B) (7) of	39
this section shall be appointed not later than thirty days after	40
the effective date of this section. An appointed member shall	41
hold office until the Commission ceases to exist. A vacancy	42
shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.	43
The Director of Health or the Director's designee shall	44
serve as chairperson of the Commission.	45

A member shall serve without compensation except to the extent that serving on the Commission is considered part of the member's regular duties of employment.

**Section 2.** (A) The Malnutrition Prevention Commission created under Section 1 of this act shall do all of the following:

(1) Study the impact of malnutrition on older adults in all health care settings in this state;

(2) Investigate effective strategies for reducing the incidence of malnutrition among older adults;

(3) Monitor the influence of malnutrition on older adults' health care costs and outcomes, quality indicators, and quality of life measures;

(4) Develop strategies for improving data collection and analysis regarding malnutrition risks, health care costs, and protective factors for older adults;

(5) Develop strategies for maximizing the dissemination of proven, effective malnutrition prevention intervention models, including community nutrition programs, medical nutrition therapy, and oral nutrition supplements;

(6) Identify evidence-based strategies that raise public awareness of malnutrition among older adults, such as educational materials, social marketing, and statewide campaigns;

(7) Identify evidence-based malnutrition prevention intervention models, including community nutrition programs, that reduce the rate of malnutrition among older adults and reduce the rate of rehospitalizations due to conditions caused by malnutrition, and identify barriers to those intervention models;

(8) Identify models for integrating the value of	76
malnutrition care into health care quality evaluations across	77
health care payment models;	78
(9) Examine the components and key elements of	79
malnutrition prevention intervention initiatives, consider their	80
applicability in this state, and develop strategies for testing,	81
implementation, and evaluation of the initiatives.	82
(B) The Commission shall prepare a report of its findings	83
and recommendations. Not later than twelve months after the	84
effective date of this section, the Commission shall submit a	85
copy of the report to the Governor and, in accordance with	86
section 101.68 of the Revised Code, the General Assembly. The	87
Commission shall cease to exist upon the submission of the	88
report.	89