



**Dorothy Pelanda**  
**State Representative, 86<sup>th</sup> House District**

**House Aging and Long Term Care Committee**  
**Sponsor Testimony – House Bill 732**  
**State Representative Dorothy Pelanda**  
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Members of the House Aging and Long Term Care Committee, it is my pleasure to offer Sponsor Testimony today on House Bill 732.

HB 732 establishes dementia-training requirements for long-term services and support providers. The aim of the legislation is to ensure that all individuals caring for our citizens diagnosed with Alzheimer's and Dementia are properly trained to do so. The issue of training when it comes to treating our fellow Ohioans under these diagnoses were discussed extensively in the House Task Force on Alzheimer's and Dementia.

Together, Representative Arndt and I were proud to serve on this Task Force comprised of experts and elected officials dealing with the issue of Alzheimer's and Dementia issues. The Task Force met over a period of months in 2017 with the goal of implementing legislative recommendations. The Task Force issued a report in July with the bill before you today specified as a priority. I would like to acknowledge the input of the various Task Force members, including Representatives Boggs, Dever, Kelly, LaTourette, and Scherer.

HB 732 establishes needed minimum training requirements for long-term services and support providers. Specifically, the bill states that:

- Supervisors and direct-care staff shall complete set hours of instruction related to long-term services and support provider's mission, values, and expectations of staff; person-centered training and care planning, including cultural awareness; social and physical environment characteristics that trigger or exacerbate behavioral and psychological symptoms of dementia; meaningful and engaging activities for individuals with dementia; pain assessment; medication management; family dynamics; general information about dementia; how to assist an individual with dementia with daily living activities, including evaluating preferences and goals; problem solving challenging behavior, including nonpharmacological intervention; and communication skills.

With the training requirements outlined in the bill, long-term care and service providers would be allowed to properly advertise themselves as memory care units in Ohio. Uniform training requirements for facilities advertising these units is imperative for family members when considering a facility for their loved ones under these circumstances.

Committee Members, I appreciate your attention to our testimony and would be happy to answer any questions you may have at this time. Thank you.