

SCS SB 530 -- ALZHEIMER'S DEMONSTRATION PROJECT

SPONSOR: Gibbons (Dempsey)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 6 to 0.

This substitute specifies that the provisions allowing a separate licensure category for health care facilities approved by the Department of Health and Senior Services for the Alzheimer's Demonstration Project will expire August 28, 2007. Demonstration projects authorized before August 28, 2007, will continue to be exempt from the certificate of need process.

Demonstration projects which are neither constructed nor admitting residents as of August 28, 2007, are not exempt from the certificate of need process and must declare, in writing, their intent to begin construction and start providing dementia-related care for Alzheimer's residents before August 28, 2008.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that it is time to move on with the project. The 30-bed units want to expand, but because of the demonstration project they can't. A separate licensure category is not needed for Alzheimer's units, and the department is ready for the project to expire.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Gibbons; and Department of Health and Senior Services.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.