

CHAPTER 632

(Senate Bill 133)

AN ACT concerning

Alzheimer's Disease - Demographic Study

FOR the purpose of requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to conduct a demographic study concerning Alzheimer's disease and related disorders in this State; providing for the basis for the study under this Act; requiring the Department to report the results of the study; and generally relating to a demographic study of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

Preamble

WHEREAS, The Governor's Task Force on Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders studied the problems associated with these debilitating disorders and issued its final report on June 30, 1985; and

WHEREAS, This study provides a fresh and timely review of the effects of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders, along with suggesting legislative and administrative proposals that may alleviate some of the drastic effects of these debilitating disorders; and

WHEREAS, In order to assure wise use of its resources, the State must promote demographic, epidemiologic, and health services data development on Alzheimer's disease and related disorders; and

WHEREAS, ~~A technique for obtaining the needed data has been preeminently demonstrated on a limited geographic basis by investigators of the Johns Hopkins University in the East Baltimore study; and~~

WHEREAS, ~~The State must arrange for extensions of these studies to gather data representative of various populations, including minority groups, age and sex categories, and rural and urban communities, as well as to develop statewide projections; and~~

WHEREAS, ~~The State also must conduct in-depth, focused studies to follow up leads that will be opened by the basic demographic, epidemiologic, and health services data; now, therefore,~~

WHEREAS, The National Institute of Mental Health, in cooperation with Johns Hopkins University, has conducted a study of mental disorders at seven sites throughout the country including East Baltimore, and this study has provided a data base