



2025 South Dakota Legislature

House Bill 1098

Introduced by: **Representative** Weisgram

1 **An Act to make an appropriation to the Department of Human Services for**
 2 **reimbursing the cost of respite care services for caregivers of individuals with**
 3 **dementia and to declare an emergency.**

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA:

5 **Section 1.** There is appropriated \$500,000 from the general fund to the Department of
 6 Human Services for reimbursing primary caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease,
 7 dementia, or symptoms in alignment with dementia, for the cost of respite care services.

8 **Section 2.** To be eligible for reimbursement, a primary caregiver must:

- 9 (1) Be at least age eighteen years of age;
 10 (2) Apply on a form provided by the Department of Human Services;
 11 (3) Provide unpaid care to the individual living with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or
 12 symptoms in alignment with dementia; and
 13 (4) Demonstrate a need for respite care services.

14 The department shall prioritize caregivers who have met the maximum amount of
 15 funding for respite care services under the Older Americans Act, 42 U.S.C. § 3001, et seq.
 16 (January 1, 2025).

17 **Section 3.** The Department of Human Services shall report to the Joint Committee on
 18 Appropriations on or before January 1, 2026, and on or before January first of each year
 19 thereafter until the moneys are expended or reverted. The report must include:

- 20 (1) The number of primary caregivers who received reimbursement under the
 21 appropriation provided for in section 1 of this Act;
 22 (2) The amount paid to each caregiver;

1 (3) Of the caregivers who received reimbursement, the number of individuals, for
2 whom they provide care, who have not been placed in independent living, assisted
3 living, or other long-term care facility;

4 (4) The amount of moneys not expended; and

5 (5) The types of respite care services that were reimbursed.

6 **Section 4.** The secretary of the Department of Human Services shall approve vouchers and
7 the state auditor shall draw warrants to pay expenditures authorized in this Act.

8 **Section 5.** Any amounts appropriated in this Act not lawfully expended or obligated shall
9 revert in accordance with the procedures prescribed in chapter 4-8.

10 **Section 6.** Whereas, this Act is necessary for the support of the state government and its
11 existing public institutions, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Act shall be in
12 full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.