

Vulnerable Adult System Study Committee

PURPOSE: To 1) develop and implement a coordinated vulnerable adult delivery system that ensures the health and safety of vulnerable adults; 2) recommend best practices relating to responding to and investigating complaints; 3) research best practices related to adult protective services at the State, municipality and community levels; 4) research and make recommendations on how the vulnerable adult system can ensure that vulnerable adults receive services they require after the vulnerable adult system completes its investigatory duties, including assigning a specific agency with the responsibility to provide or coordinate case management; 5) research and identify common statewide outcomes; 6) identify best practices for data collection and data sharing by various entities involved in providing vulnerable adult services; and 7) review and recommend changes to the statutes and rules that govern vulnerable adult services. On or before December 31, 2024, the Study Committee shall provide a status update of its progress, including any recommended statutory changes, to the members of the Health and Human Services Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, or their successor Committees. On or before October 1, 2025, the Study Committee shall submit a report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and shall provide a copy of this report to the Secretary of State.

MEMBERSHIP:

House Two members of the House of Representatives from different political parties and one designated as Co-Chair, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Patricia Contreras, Timothy M Dunn (Co-Chair)

Senate Two members of the Senate from different political parties and one designated as Co-Chair, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Sally Ann Gonzales, Janae Shamp (Co-Chair)

Other Two members who represent assisted living facilities, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. Karen Barno, ALFA, CEO (12/31/2025)

Jon Scott Williams, Fellowship Square, Executive Director (12/31/2025)

One health care professional who is licensed pursuant to Title 32, ARS, who provides health care services to elderly vulnerable adults, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Ms. Misti Beaver, Haven Health (12/31/2025)

One member who currently serves as a public fiduciary, appointed by the Governor:

Ms. Kathryn Blair (12/31/2025)

Vulnerable Adult System Study Committee

One member who is on the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging, appointed by the Governor:

Mr. Brendon Blake

One member who represents the Attorney General's Office, appointed by the Attorney General:

Mr. Joe Branco, Attorney General's Office, Chief, Civil Division

Two members who are employed by a local law enforcement agency or who are employed by a statewide organization that represents law enforcement, appointed by the Governor:

Ms. Toni Brown (12/31/2025)

Ericka Stropka (12/31/2025)

One member who represents a statewide association that advocates on behalf of persons who provide services to persons with developmental disabilities, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives:

Dr. Liz Carr, Sr. Director, Clinical and Program Services, I/DD, Copa Health

The Director of the Department of Health Services or the Director's designee:

Ms. Jennifer Cunico, Director, Arizona Department of Health Services (12/31/2025)

The Executive Director of the Intertribal Council of Arizona or the Executive Director's designee:

Ms. Maria Dadgar, Executive Director, Intertribal Council of Arizona (12/31/2025)

One member who represents a statewide organization that advocates for elderly vulnerable adults, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Dr. Lorrie Henderson, President and CEO, Jewish Family & Children's Services (12/31/2025)

The Director of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System or the Director's designee:

Ms. Jakenna Lebsock, Assistant Director, AHCCCS

The Director of the Department of Economic Security or the Director's designee:

Ms. Molly McCarthy, Arizona Department of Economic Security

One member who represents the Governor's office, appointed by the Governor:

Ms. Zaida Dedolph Picoro (12/31/2025)

Vulnerable Adult System Study Committee

One member who currently serves as the Department of Economic Security's Long-Term Care Ombudsman, or the Ombudsman's designee:

Ms. Lisa Pollock, Arizona Department of Economic Security (12/31/2025)

One member who represents a statewide organization that advocates on behalf of persons affected by Alzheimer's disease, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Ms. Tory Roberg, Government Affairs Director, Alzheimer's Association (12/31/2025)

Two members who represent nursing care institutions, appointed by the Governor:

Ms. Jaime Roberts (12/31/2025)

Dave Voepel

One member who represents a statewide association representing firefighters in this State, appointed by the President of the Senate:

Mr. Steve Wagner, President, The RightCare Foundation (12/31/2025)

The Executive Director of the Navajo Area Agency on Aging or the Executive Director's designee:

Vacant (12/31/2025)

CONTACT: Michael Madden, Senate Research Staff, Ahjahna Graham, House Research Staff

REPORT DATE: 12/31/24, 10/01/25

EXPIRATION DATE: 12/31/2025

STATUTORY CITE: Laws 2024, Chapter 100