

**AB 528 (MULLIN), CHAPTER 383, STATUTES OF 2003**

**Affects:** Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly

**Subject:** Sundowning

**Summary:** This legislation amends Section 1569.2 of the Health and Safety Code to add ~~the~~ term “sundowning” to the list of definitions. It is now defined as a condition in which persons with cognitive impairment experience recurring confusion, disorientation, and increasing levels of agitation that coincide with the onset of late afternoon and early evening.

This legislation also adds Section 1569.7 ~~was also added~~ to “encourage” residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) that serve residents with Alzheimer’s Disease and other forms of dementia to include information on “sundowning” as part of the training for direct care staff and to include in the plan of operation a brief narrative description explaining activities available for these residents~~persons~~.

The language of Section 1569.7 is suggestive and has no enforcement authority. Licensees are not required to provide training on “sundowning” or to include information on specific activities for individuals with “sundowning”.