## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

The Committee on Health Regulation (Gardiner) recommended the following:

# Senate Substitute for Amendment (705470) (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Section 395.0199, Florida Statutes, is repealed. Section 2. Section 395.405, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

395.405 Rulemaking.—The department shall adopt and enforce all rules necessary to administer ss. 395.0199, 395.401, 395.4015, 395.402, 395.4025, 395.403, 395.404, and 395.4045.

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 400.0712, Florida

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Statutes, is amended to read:

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400.0712 Application for inactive license.-

(1) As specified in s. 408.831(4) and this section, the agency may issue an inactive license to a nursing home facility for all or a portion of its beds. Any request by a licensee that a nursing home or portion of a nursing home become inactive must be submitted to the agency in the approved format. The facility may not initiate any suspension of services, notify residents, or initiate inactivity before receiving approval from the agency; and a licensee that violates this provision may not be issued an inactive license.

Section 4. Subsection (2) of section 400.118, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 5. Section 400.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 400.141 Administration and management of nursing home facilities.-
- (1) Every licensed facility shall comply with all applicable standards and rules of the agency and shall:
- (a) (1) Be under the administrative direction and charge of a licensed administrator.
- (b)  $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$  Appoint a medical director licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459. The agency may establish by rule more specific criteria for the appointment of a medical director.
- (c)  $\frac{(3)}{(3)}$  Have available the regular, consultative, and emergency services of physicians licensed by the state.
- (d) (4) Provide for resident use of a community pharmacy as specified in s. 400.022(1)(q). Any other law to the contrary

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notwithstanding, a registered pharmacist licensed in Florida, that is under contract with a facility licensed under this chapter or chapter 429, shall repackage a nursing facility resident's bulk prescription medication which has been packaged by another pharmacist licensed in any state in the United States into a unit dose system compatible with the system used by the nursing facility, if the pharmacist is requested to offer such service. In order to be eligible for the repackaging, a resident or the resident's spouse must receive prescription medication benefits provided through a former employer as part of his or her retirement benefits, a qualified pension plan as specified in s. 4972 of the Internal Revenue Code, a federal retirement program as specified under 5 C.F.R. s. 831, or a long-term care policy as defined in s. 627.9404(1). A pharmacist who correctly repackages and relabels the medication and the nursing facility which correctly administers such repackaged medication under the provisions of this paragraph may subsection shall not be held liable in any civil or administrative action arising from the repackaging. In order to be eligible for the repackaging, a nursing facility resident for whom the medication is to be repackaged shall sign an informed consent form provided by the facility which includes an explanation of the repackaging process and which notifies the resident of the immunities from liability provided in this paragraph herein. A pharmacist who repackages and relabels prescription medications, as authorized under this paragraph subsection, may charge a reasonable fee for costs resulting from the implementation of this provision.

(e) $\frac{(5)}{(5)}$  Provide for the access of the facility residents to dental and other health-related services, recreational services,

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rehabilitative services, and social work services appropriate to their needs and conditions and not directly furnished by the licensee. When a geriatric outpatient nurse clinic is conducted in accordance with rules adopted by the agency, outpatients attending such clinic shall not be counted as part of the general resident population of the nursing home facility, nor shall the nursing staff of the geriatric outpatient clinic be counted as part of the nursing staff of the facility, until the outpatient clinic load exceeds 15 a day.

(f) (6) Be allowed and encouraged by the agency to provide other needed services under certain conditions. If the facility has a standard licensure status, and has had no class I or class II deficiencies during the past 2 years or has been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235, it may be encouraged by the agency to provide services, including, but not limited to, respite and adult day services, which enable individuals to move in and out of the facility. A facility is not subject to any additional licensure requirements for providing these services. Respite care may be offered to persons in need of short-term or temporary nursing home services. Respite care must be provided in accordance with this part and rules adopted by the agency. However, the agency shall, by rule, adopt modified requirements for resident assessment, resident care plans, resident contracts, physician orders, and other provisions, as appropriate, for short-term or temporary nursing home services. The agency shall allow for shared programming and staff in a facility which meets minimum standards and offers services pursuant to this paragraph subsection, but, if the facility is cited for deficiencies in patient care, may require

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additional staff and programs appropriate to the needs of service recipients. A person who receives respite care may not be counted as a resident of the facility for purposes of the facility's licensed capacity unless that person receives 24-hour respite care. A person receiving either respite care for 24 hours or longer or adult day services must be included when calculating minimum staffing for the facility. Any costs and revenues generated by a nursing home facility from nonresidential programs or services shall be excluded from the calculations of Medicaid per diems for nursing home institutional care reimbursement.

(g) (f) If the facility has a standard license or is a Gold Seal facility, exceeds the minimum required hours of licensed nursing and certified nursing assistant direct care per resident per day, and is part of a continuing care facility licensed under chapter 651 or a retirement community that offers other services pursuant to part III of this chapter or part I or part III of chapter 429 on a single campus, be allowed to share programming and staff. At the time of inspection and in the semiannual report required pursuant to paragraph (o) subsection (15), a continuing care facility or retirement community that uses this option must demonstrate through staffing records that minimum staffing requirements for the facility were met. Licensed nurses and certified nursing assistants who work in the nursing home facility may be used to provide services elsewhere on campus if the facility exceeds the minimum number of direct care hours required per resident per day and the total number of residents receiving direct care services from a licensed nurse or a certified nursing assistant does not cause the facility to

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violate the staffing ratios required under s. 400.23(3)(a). Compliance with the minimum staffing ratios shall be based on total number of residents receiving direct care services, regardless of where they reside on campus. If the facility receives a conditional license, it may not share staff until the conditional license status ends. This paragraph subsection does not restrict the agency's authority under federal or state law to require additional staff if a facility is cited for deficiencies in care which are caused by an insufficient number of certified nursing assistants or licensed nurses. The agency may adopt rules for the documentation necessary to determine compliance with this provision.

(h) (8) Maintain the facility premises and equipment and conduct its operations in a safe and sanitary manner.

(i) (9) If the licensee furnishes food service, provide a wholesome and nourishing diet sufficient to meet generally accepted standards of proper nutrition for its residents and provide such therapeutic diets as may be prescribed by attending physicians. In making rules to implement this paragraph subsection, the agency shall be guided by standards recommended by nationally recognized professional groups and associations with knowledge of dietetics.

(j) (10) Keep full records of resident admissions and discharges; medical and general health status, including medical records, personal and social history, and identity and address of next of kin or other persons who may have responsibility for the affairs of the residents; and individual resident care plans including, but not limited to, prescribed services, service frequency and duration, and service goals. The records shall be

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open to inspection by the agency.

(k) (11) Keep such fiscal records of its operations and conditions as may be necessary to provide information pursuant to this part.

(1) (12) Furnish copies of personnel records for employees affiliated with such facility, to any other facility licensed by this state requesting this information pursuant to this part. Such information contained in the records may include, but is not limited to, disciplinary matters and any reason for termination. Any facility releasing such records pursuant to this part shall be considered to be acting in good faith and may not be held liable for information contained in such records, absent a showing that the facility maliciously falsified such records.

(m) (13) Publicly display a poster provided by the agency containing the names, addresses, and telephone numbers for the state's abuse hotline, the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the Agency for Health Care Administration consumer hotline, the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, with a clear description of the assistance to be expected from each.

(n) (14) Submit to the agency the information specified in s. 400.071(1)(b) for a management company within 30 days after the effective date of the management agreement.

(o)1. $\frac{(15)}{}$  Submit semiannually to the agency, or more frequently if requested by the agency, information regarding facility staff-to-resident ratios, staff turnover, and staff stability, including information regarding certified nursing

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assistants, licensed nurses, the director of nursing, and the facility administrator. For purposes of this reporting:

a. (a) Staff-to-resident ratios must be reported in the categories specified in s. 400.23(3)(a) and applicable rules. The ratio must be reported as an average for the most recent calendar quarter.

b. (b) Staff turnover must be reported for the most recent 12-month period ending on the last workday of the most recent calendar quarter prior to the date the information is submitted. The turnover rate must be computed quarterly, with the annual rate being the cumulative sum of the quarterly rates. The turnover rate is the total number of terminations or separations experienced during the quarter, excluding any employee terminated during a probationary period of 3 months or less, divided by the total number of staff employed at the end of the period for which the rate is computed, and expressed as a percentage.

c. (c) The formula for determining staff stability is the total number of employees that have been employed for more than 12 months, divided by the total number of employees employed at the end of the most recent calendar quarter, and expressed as a percentage.

d. (d) A nursing facility that has failed to comply with state minimum-staffing requirements for 2 consecutive days is prohibited from accepting new admissions until the facility has achieved the minimum-staffing requirements for a period of 6 consecutive days. For the purposes of this sub-subparagraph paragraph, any person who was a resident of the facility and was absent from the facility for the purpose of receiving medical

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care at a separate location or was on a leave of absence is not considered a new admission. Failure to impose such an admissions moratorium constitutes a class II deficiency.

- e. (e) A nursing facility which does not have a conditional license may be cited for failure to comply with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a)1.a. only if it has failed to meet those standards on 2 consecutive days or if it has failed to meet at least 97 percent of those standards on any one day.
- f. (f) A facility which has a conditional license must be in compliance with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a) at all times.
- 2. Nothing in This paragraph does not section shall limit the agency's ability to impose a deficiency or take other actions if a facility does not have enough staff to meet the residents' needs.
- (16) Report monthly the number of vacant beds in the facility which are available for resident occupancy on the day the information is reported.
- (p) (17) Notify a licensed physician when a resident exhibits signs of dementia or cognitive impairment or has a change of condition in order to rule out the presence of an underlying physiological condition that may be contributing to such dementia or impairment. The notification must occur within 30 days after the acknowledgment of such signs by facility staff. If an underlying condition is determined to exist, the facility shall arrange, with the appropriate health care provider, the necessary care and services to treat the condition.
  - (q) (18) If the facility implements a dining and hospitality

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attendant program, ensure that the program is developed and implemented under the supervision of the facility director of nursing. A licensed nurse, licensed speech or occupational therapist, or a registered dietitian must conduct training of dining and hospitality attendants. A person employed by a facility as a dining and hospitality attendant must perform tasks under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse.

(r) (19) Report to the agency any filing for bankruptcy protection by the facility or its parent corporation, divestiture or spin-off of its assets, or corporate reorganization within 30 days after the completion of such activity.

(s) (20) Maintain general and professional liability insurance coverage that is in force at all times. In lieu of general and professional liability insurance coverage, a statedesignated teaching nursing home and its affiliated assisted living facilities created under s. 430.80 may demonstrate proof of financial responsibility as provided in s. 430.80(3)(h).

(t) (21) Maintain in the medical record for each resident a daily chart of certified nursing assistant services provided to the resident. The certified nursing assistant who is caring for the resident must complete this record by the end of his or her shift. This record must indicate assistance with activities of daily living, assistance with eating, and assistance with drinking, and must record each offering of nutrition and hydration for those residents whose plan of care or assessment indicates a risk for malnutrition or dehydration.

(u) (22) Before November 30 of each year, subject to the availability of an adequate supply of the necessary vaccine,

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provide for immunizations against influenza viruses to all its consenting residents in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs. Subject to these exemptions, any consenting person who becomes a resident of the facility after November 30 but before March 31 of the following year must be immunized within 5 working days after becoming a resident. Immunization shall not be provided to any resident who provides documentation that he or she has been immunized as required by this paragraph subsection. This paragraph subsection does not prohibit a resident from receiving the immunization from his or her personal physician if he or she so chooses. A resident who chooses to receive the immunization from his or her personal physician shall provide proof of immunization to the facility. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this subsection.

 $(v) \frac{(23)}{(23)}$  Assess all residents for eligibility for pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccination (PPV) and vaccinate residents when indicated within 60 days after the effective date of this act in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs. Residents admitted after the effective date of this act shall be assessed within 5 working days of admission and, when indicated, vaccinated within 60 days in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs.

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Immunization shall not be provided to any resident who provides documentation that he or she has been immunized as required by this paragraph subsection. This paragraph subsection does not prohibit a resident from receiving the immunization from his or her personal physician if he or she so chooses. A resident who chooses to receive the immunization from his or her personal physician shall provide proof of immunization to the facility. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this paragraph subsection.

(w) (24) Annually encourage and promote to its employees the benefits associated with immunizations against influenza viruses in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this paragraph subsection.

(2) Facilities that have been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235 may develop a plan to provide certified nursing assistant training as prescribed by federal regulations and state rules and may apply to the agency for approval of their program.

Section 6. Subsections (5), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), and (15) of section 400.147, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 400.147 Internal risk management and quality assurance program.-
- (5) For purposes of reporting to the agency under this section, the term "adverse incident" means:
- (a) An event over which facility personnel could exercise control and which is associated in whole or in part with the



facility's intervention, rather than the condition for which such intervention occurred, and which results in one of the following:

1. Death:

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- 2. Brain or spinal damage;
- 3. Permanent disfigurement;
- 4. Fracture or dislocation of bones or joints;
- 5. A limitation of neurological, physical, or sensory function;
- 6. Any condition that required medical attention to which the resident has not given his or her informed consent, including failure to honor advanced directives; or
- 7. Any condition that required the transfer of the resident, within or outside the facility, to a unit providing a more acute level of care due to the adverse incident, rather than the resident's condition prior to the adverse incident; or
- 8. An event that is reported to law enforcement or its personnel for investigation; or
- (b) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation as defined in s. 415.102;
  - (c) Abuse, neglect and harm as defined in s. 39.01;
- (b) (d) Resident elopement, if the elopement places the resident at risk of harm or injury.; or
  - (e) An event that is reported to law enforcement.
- (9) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation must be reported to the agency as required by 42 C.F.R. s. 483.13(c) and to the department as required by chapters 39 and 415.
- (10) (9) By the 10th of each month, each facility subject to this section shall report any notice received pursuant to s.

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400.0233(2) and each initial complaint that was filed with the clerk of the court and served on the facility during the previous month by a resident or a resident's family member, quardian, conservator, or personal legal representative. The report must include the name of the resident, the resident's date of birth and social security number, the Medicaid identification number for Medicaid-eligible persons, the date or dates of the incident leading to the claim or dates of residency, if applicable, and the type of injury or violation of rights alleged to have occurred. Each facility shall also submit a copy of the notices received pursuant to s. 400.0233(2) and complaints filed with the clerk of the court. This report is confidential as provided by law and is not discoverable or admissible in any civil or administrative action, except in such actions brought by the agency to enforce the provisions of this part.

(11) <del>(10)</del> The agency shall review, as part of its licensure inspection process, the internal risk management and quality assurance program at each facility regulated by this section to determine whether the program meets standards established in statutory laws and rules, is being conducted in a manner designed to reduce adverse incidents, and is appropriately reporting incidents as required by this section.

(12) (11) There is no monetary liability on the part of, and a cause of action for damages may not arise against, any risk manager for the implementation and oversight of the internal risk management and quality assurance program in a facility licensed under this part as required by this section, or for any act or proceeding undertaken or performed within the scope of

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the functions of such internal risk management and quality assurance program if the risk manager acts without intentional fraud.

- (13) (12) If the agency, through its receipt of the adverse incident reports prescribed in subsection (7), or through any investigation, has a reasonable belief that conduct by a staff member or employee of a facility is grounds for disciplinary action by the appropriate regulatory board, the agency shall report this fact to the regulatory board.
- (14) <del>(13)</del> The agency may adopt rules to administer this section.
- (14) The agency shall annually submit to the Legislature a report on nursing home adverse incidents. The report must include the following information arranged by county:
  - (a) The total number of adverse incidents.
- (b) A listing, by category, of the types of adverse incidents, the number of incidents occurring within each category, and the type of staff involved.
- (c) A listing, by category, of the types of injury caused and the number of injuries occurring within each category.
- (d) Types of liability claims filed based on an adverse incident or reportable injury.
- (e) Disciplinary action taken against staff, categorized by type of staff involved.
- (15) Information gathered by a credentialing organization under a quality assurance program is not discoverable from the credentialing organization. This subsection does not limit discovery of, access to, or use of facility records, including those records from which the credentialing organization gathered



its information.

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Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 400.162, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.162 Property and personal affairs of residents.-

(3) A licensee shall provide for the safekeeping of personal effects, funds, and other property of the resident in the facility. Whenever necessary for the protection of valuables, or in order to avoid unreasonable responsibility therefor, the licensee may require that such valuables be excluded or removed from the facility and kept at some place not subject to the control of the licensee. At the request of a resident, the facility shall mark the resident's personal property with the resident's name or another type of identification, without defacing the property. Any theft or loss of a resident's personal property shall be documented by the facility. The facility shall develop policies and procedures to minimize the risk of theft or loss of the personal property of residents. A copy of the policy shall be provided to every employee and to each resident and the resident's representative if appropriate at admission and when revised. Facility policies must include provisions related to reporting theft or loss of a resident's property to law enforcement and any facility waiver of liability for loss or theft. The facility shall post notice of these policies and procedures, and any revision thereof, in places accessible to residents.

Section 8. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 400.195, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.195 Agency reporting requirements.-

(1) For the period beginning June 30, 2001, and ending June

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30, 2005, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with respect to nursing homes. The first report shall be submitted no later than December 30, 2002, and subsequent reports shall be submitted every 6 months thereafter. The report shall identify facilities based on their ownership characteristics, size, business structure, for-profit or not-for-profit status, and any other characteristics the agency determines useful in analyzing the varied segments of the nursing home industry and shall report:

(d) Information regarding deficiencies cited, including information used to develop the Nursing Home Guide WATCH LIST pursuant to s. 400.191, and applicable rules, a summary of data generated on nursing homes by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Nursing Home Quality Information Project, and information collected pursuant to s. 400.147(10) s. 400.147(9), relating to litigation.

Section 9. Subsection (3) of section 400.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.23 Rules; evaluation and deficiencies; licensure status.-

- (3)(a)1. The agency shall adopt rules providing minimum staffing requirements for nursing homes. These requirements shall include, for each nursing home facility:
- a. A minimum certified nursing assistant staffing of 2.6 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2003, and increasing to 2.7 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2007. Beginning January 1, 2002, no facility shall staff below one certified nursing assistant per

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20 residents, and a minimum licensed nursing staffing of 1.0 hour of direct care per resident per day but never below one licensed nurse per 40 residents.

- b. Beginning January 1, 2007, a minimum weekly average certified nursing assistant staffing of 2.9 hours of direct care per resident per day. For the purpose of this sub-subparagraph, a week is defined as Sunday through Saturday.
- 2. Nursing assistants employed under s. 400.211(2) may be included in computing the staffing ratio for certified nursing assistants only if their job responsibilities include only nursing-assistant-related duties.
- 3. Each nursing home must document compliance with staffing standards as required under this paragraph and post daily the names of staff on duty for the benefit of facility residents and the public.
- 4. The agency shall recognize the use of licensed nurses for compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants, provided that the facility otherwise meets the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses and that the licensed nurses are performing the duties of a certified nursing assistant. Unless otherwise approved by the agency, licensed nurses counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants must exclusively perform the duties of a certified nursing assistant for the entire shift and not also be counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses. If the agency approved a facility's request to use a licensed nurse to perform both licensed nursing and certified nursing assistant duties, the facility must allocate the amount of staff time specifically spent on certified nursing

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assistant duties for the purpose of documenting compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified and licensed nursing staff. In no event may the hours of a licensed nurse with dual job responsibilities be counted twice.

- (b) The agency shall adopt rules to allow properly trained staff of a nursing facility, in addition to certified nursing assistants and licensed nurses, to assist residents with eating. The rules shall specify the minimum training requirements and shall specify the physiological conditions or disorders of residents which would necessitate that the eating assistance be provided by nursing personnel of the facility. Nonnursing staff providing eating assistance to residents under the provisions of this subsection shall not count toward compliance with minimum staffing standards.
- (c) Licensed practical nurses licensed under chapter 464 who are providing nursing services in nursing home facilities under this part may supervise the activities of other licensed practical nurses, certified nursing assistants, and other unlicensed personnel providing services in such facilities in accordance with rules adopted by the Board of Nursing.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (15) of section 400.506, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.506 Licensure of nurse registries; requirements; penalties.-

- (15) (a) The agency may deny, suspend, or revoke the license of a nurse registry and shall impose a fine of \$5,000 against a nurse registry that:
- 1. Provides services to residents in an assisted living facility for which the nurse registry does not receive fair



market value remuneration.

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- 2. Provides staffing to an assisted living facility for which the nurse registry does not receive fair market value remuneration.
- 3. Fails to provide the agency, upon request, with copies of all contracts with assisted living facilities which were executed within the last 5 years.
- 4. Gives remuneration to a case manager, discharge planner, facility-based staff member, or third-party vendor who is involved in the discharge planning process of a facility licensed under chapter 395 or this chapter and from whom the nurse registry receives referrals, except that this subparagraph does not apply to a nurse registry that does not participate in the Medicaid or Medicare program.
- 5. Gives remuneration to a physician, a member of the physician's office staff, or an immediate family member of the physician, and the nurse registry received a patient referral in the last 12 months from that physician or the physician's office staff, except that this subparagraph does not apply to a nurse registry that does not participate in the Medicaid or Medicare program.

Section 11. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 400.9935, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.9935 Clinic responsibilities.

(7) (a) Each clinic engaged in magnetic resonance imaging services must be accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American College of Radiology, or the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, within 1 year after licensure. A clinic that is

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accredited by the American College of Radiology or is within the original 1-year period after licensure and replaces its core magnetic resonance imaging equipment shall be given 1 year after the date on which the equipment is replaced to attain accreditation. However, a clinic may request a single, 6-month extension if it provides evidence to the agency establishing that, for good cause shown, such clinic cannot can not be accredited within 1 year after licensure, and that such accreditation will be completed within the 6-month extension. After obtaining accreditation as required by this subsection, each such clinic must maintain accreditation as a condition of renewal of its license. A clinic that files a change of ownership application must comply with the original accreditation timeframe requirements of the transferor. The agency shall deny a change of ownership application if the clinic is not in compliance with the accreditation requirements. When a clinic adds, replaces, or modifies magnetic resonance imaging equipment and the accreditation agency requires new accreditation, the clinic must be accredited within 1 year after the date of the addition, replacement, or modification but may request a single, 6-month extension if the clinic provides evidence of good cause to the agency.

Section 12. Subsection (6) of section 400.995, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.995 Agency administrative penalties.-

(6) During an inspection, the agency, as an alternative to or in conjunction with an administrative action against a clinic for violations of this part and adopted rules, shall make a reasonable attempt to discuss each violation and recommended

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corrective action with the owner, medical director, or clinic director of the clinic, prior to written notification. The agency, instead of fixing a period within which the clinic shall enter into compliance with standards, may request a plan of corrective action from the clinic which demonstrates a good faith effort to remedy each violation by a specific date, subject to the approval of the agency.

Section 13. Subsections (5) and (9) of section 408.803, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

408.803 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

- (5) "Change of ownership" means:
- (a) An event in which the licensee sells or otherwise transfers its ownership <del>changes</del> to a different individual or legal entity as evidenced by a change in federal employer identification number or taxpayer identification number; or
- (b) An event in which 51 45 percent or more of the ownership, voting shares, membership, or controlling interest of a licensee is in any manner transferred or otherwise assigned. This paragraph does not apply to a licensee that is publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange in a corporation whose shares are not publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange is transferred or assigned, including the final transfer or assignment of multiple transfers or assignments over a 2-year period that cumulatively total 45 percent or greater.

A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.

(9) "Licensee" means an individual, corporation, partnership, firm, association, or governmental entity, or other

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entity that is issued a permit, registration, certificate, or license by the agency. The licensee is legally responsible for all aspects of the provider operation.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (7), and subsection (8) of section 408.806, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

408.806 License application process.-

- (1) An application for licensure must be made to the agency on forms furnished by the agency, submitted under oath, and accompanied by the appropriate fee in order to be accepted and considered timely. The application must contain information required by authorizing statutes and applicable rules and must include:
  - (a) The name, address, and social security number of:
  - 1. The applicant;
- 2. The administrator or a similarly titled person who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the provider;
- 3. The financial officer or similarly titled person who is responsible for the financial operation of the licensee or provider; and
- 4. Each controlling interest if the applicant or controlling interest is an individual.
- (2) (a) The applicant for a renewal license must submit an application that must be received by the agency at least 60 days but no more than 120 days before prior to the expiration of the current license. An application received more than 120 days before the expiration of the current license shall be returned to the applicant. If the renewal application and fee are received prior to the license expiration date, the license shall

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not be deemed to have expired if the license expiration date occurs during the agency's review of the renewal application.

- (b) The applicant for initial licensure due to a change of ownership must submit an application that must be received by the agency at least 60 days prior to the date of change of ownership.
- (c) For any other application or request, the applicant must submit an application or request that must be received by the agency at least 60 days but no more than 120 days before prior to the requested effective date, unless otherwise specified in authorizing statutes or applicable rules. An application received more than 120 days before the requested effective date shall be returned to the applicant.
- (d) The agency shall notify the licensee by mail or electronically at least 90 days before prior to the expiration of a license that a renewal license is necessary to continue operation. The failure to timely submit a renewal application and license fee shall result in a \$50 per day late fee charged to the licensee by the agency; however, the aggregate amount of the late fee may not exceed 50 percent of the licensure fee or \$500, whichever is less. If an application is received after the required filing date and exhibits a hand-canceled postmark obtained from a United States post office dated on or before the required filing date, no fine will be levied.

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(c) If an inspection is required by the authorizing statute for a license application other than an initial application, the inspection must be unannounced. This paragraph does not apply to inspections required pursuant to ss. 383.324, 395.0161(4),



429.67(6), and 483.061(2).

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- (8) The agency may establish procedures for the electronic notification and submission of required information, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Licensure applications.
  - (b) Required signatures.
  - (c) Payment of fees.
  - (d) Notarization of applications.

Requirements for electronic submission of any documents required by this part or authorizing statutes may be established by rule. As an alternative to sending documents as required by authorizing statutes, the agency may provide electronic access to information or documents.

Section 15. Subsection (2) of section 408.808, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.808 License categories.-

(2) PROVISIONAL LICENSE.—A provisional license may be issued to an applicant pursuant to s. 408.809(3). An applicant against whom a proceeding denying or revoking a license is pending at the time of license renewal may be issued a provisional license effective until final action not subject to further appeal. A provisional license may also be issued to an applicant applying for a change of ownership. A provisional license shall be limited in duration to a specific period of time, not to exceed 12 months, as determined by the agency.

Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 408.809, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

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408.809 Background screening; prohibited offenses.-

- (5) Effective October 1, 2009, in addition to the offenses listed in ss. 435.03 and 435.04, all persons required to undergo background screening pursuant to this part or authorizing statutes must not have been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, any of the following offenses or any similar offense of another jurisdiction:
  - (a) Any authorizing statutes, if the offense was a felony.
  - (b) This chapter, if the offense was a felony.
- (c) Section 409.920, relating to Medicaid provider fraud, if the offense was a felony.
- (d) Section 409.9201, relating to Medicaid fraud, if the offense was a felony.
  - (e) Section 741.28, relating to domestic violence.
- (f) Chapter 784, relating to assault, battery, and culpable negligence, if the offense was a felony.
  - (g) Section 810.02, relating to burglary.
- (h) Section 817.034, relating to fraudulent acts through mail, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or photooptical systems.
- (i) Section 817.234, relating to false and fraudulent insurance claims.
  - (j) Section 817.505, relating to patient brokering.
- (k) Section 817.568, relating to criminal use of personal identification information.
- (1) Section 817.60, relating to obtaining a credit card through fraudulent means.
  - (m) Section 817.61, relating to fraudulent use of credit



738 cards, if the offense was a felony. 739 (n) Section 831.01, relating to forgery. 740

(o) Section 831.02, relating to uttering forged instruments.

(p) Section 831.07, relating to forging bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

(q) Section 831.09, relating to uttering forged bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

(r) Section 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining medicinal drugs.

(s) Section 831.31, relating to the sale, manufacture, delivery, or possession with the intent to sell, manufacture, or deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if the offense was a felony.

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A person who serves as a controlling interest of or is employed by a licensee on September 30, 2009, is not required by law to submit to rescreening if that licensee has in its possession written evidence that the person has been screened and qualified according to the standards specified in s. 435.03 or s. 435.04. However, if such person has a disqualifying offense listed in this section, he or she may apply for an exemption from the appropriate licensing agency before September 30, 2009, and if agreed to by the employer, may continue to perform his or her duties until the licensing agency renders a decision on the application for exemption for offenses listed in this section. Exemptions from disqualification may be granted pursuant to s. 435.07. Background screening is not required to obtain a certificate of exemption issued under s. 483.106.

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(6) The attestations required under ss. 435.04(5) and 435.05(3) must be submitted at the time of license renewal, notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 435.04(5) and 435.05(3) which require annual submission of an affidavit of compliance with background screening requirements.

Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 408.810, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.810 Minimum licensure requirements.—In addition to the licensure requirements specified in this part, authorizing statutes, and applicable rules, each applicant and licensee must comply with the requirements of this section in order to obtain and maintain a license.

- (3) Unless otherwise specified in this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules, any information required to be reported to the agency must be submitted within 21 calendar days after the report period or effective date of the information, whichever is earlier, including, but not limited to, any change of:
- (a) Information contained in the most recent application for licensure.
  - (b) Required insurance or bonds.

Section 18. Section 408.811, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.811 Right of inspection; copies; inspection reports; plan for correction of deficiencies.-

(1) An authorized officer or employee of the agency may make or cause to be made any inspection or investigation deemed necessary by the agency to determine the state of compliance with this part, authorizing statutes, and applicable rules. The

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right of inspection extends to any business that the agency has reason to believe is being operated as a provider without a license, but inspection of any business suspected of being operated without the appropriate license may not be made without the permission of the owner or person in charge unless a warrant is first obtained from a circuit court. Any application for a license issued under this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules constitutes permission for an appropriate inspection to verify the information submitted on or in connection with the application.

- (a) All inspections shall be unannounced, except as specified in s. 408.806.
- (b) Inspections for relicensure shall be conducted biennially unless otherwise specified by authorizing statutes or applicable rules.
- (2) Inspections conducted in conjunction with certification, comparable licensure requirements, or a recognized or approved accreditation organization may be accepted in lieu of a complete licensure inspection. However, a licensure inspection may also be conducted to review any licensure requirements that are not also requirements for certification.
- (3) The agency shall have access to and the licensee shall provide, or if requested send, copies of all provider records required during an inspection or other review at no cost to the agency, including records requested during an offsite review.
- (4) A deficiency must be corrected within 30 calendar days after the provider is notified of inspection results unless an alternative timeframe is required or approved by the agency.

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- (5) The agency may require an applicant or licensee to submit a plan of correction for deficiencies. If required, the plan of correction must be filed with the agency within 10 calendar days after notification unless an alternative timeframe is required.
- (6) (a) (4) (a) Each licensee shall maintain as public information, available upon request, records of all inspection reports pertaining to that provider that have been filed by the agency unless those reports are exempt from or contain information that is exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution or is otherwise made confidential by law. Effective October 1, 2006, copies of such reports shall be retained in the records of the provider for at least 3 years following the date the reports are filed and issued, regardless of a change of ownership.
- (b) A licensee shall, upon the request of any person who has completed a written application with intent to be admitted by such provider, any person who is a client of such provider, or any relative, spouse, or quardian of any such person, furnish to the requester a copy of the last inspection report pertaining to the licensed provider that was issued by the agency or by an accrediting organization if such report is used in lieu of a licensure inspection.

Section 19. Section 408.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 408.813 Administrative fines; violations.—As a penalty for any violation of this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules, the agency may impose an administrative fine.
  - (1) Unless the amount or aggregate limitation of the fine

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is prescribed by authorizing statutes or applicable rules, the agency may establish criteria by rule for the amount or aggregate limitation of administrative fines applicable to this part, authorizing statutes, and applicable rules. Each day of violation constitutes a separate violation and is subject to a separate fine. For fines imposed by final order of the agency and not subject to further appeal, the violator shall pay the fine plus interest at the rate specified in s. 55.03 for each day beyond the date set by the agency for payment of the fine.

(2) Violations of this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules shall be classified according to the nature of the violation and the gravity of its probable effect on clients. The scope of a violation may be cited as an isolated, patterned, or widespread deficiency. An isolated deficiency is a deficiency affecting one or a very limited number of clients, or involving one or a very limited number of staff, or a situation that occurred only occasionally or in a very limited number of locations. A patterned deficiency is a deficiency in which more than a very limited number of clients are affected, or more than a very limited number of staff are involved, or the situation has occurred in several locations, or the same client or clients have been affected by repeated occurrences of the same deficient practice but the effect of the deficient practice is not found to be pervasive throughout the provider. A widespread deficiency is a deficiency in which the problems causing the deficiency are pervasive in the provider or represent systemic failure that has affected or has the potential to affect a large portion of the provider's clients. This subsection does not affect the legislative determination of the amount of a fine imposed under

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authorizing statutes. Violations shall be classified on the written notice as follows:

- (a) Class "I" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines present an imminent danger to the clients of the provider or a substantial probability that death or serious physical or emotional harm would result therefrom. The condition or practice constituting a class I violation shall be abated or eliminated within 24 hours, unless a fixed period, as determined by the agency, is required for correction. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class I violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.
- (b) Class "II" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines directly threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of the clients, other than class I violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class II violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.
- (c) Class "III" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines indirectly or potentially threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of clients, other than class I or class II violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided in this section for a cited class III

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violation. A citation for a class III violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class III violation is corrected within the time specified, a fine may not be imposed.

(d) Class "IV" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to required reports, forms, or documents that do not have the potential of negatively affecting clients. These violations are of a type that the agency determines do not threaten the health, safety, or security of clients. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided in this section for a cited class IV violation. A citation for a class IV violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class IV violation is corrected within the time specified, a fine may not be imposed.

Section 20. Subsections (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (16), (17), (18), (19), (20), (21), (22), (23), (24), (25), (26), (27), (28), and (29) of section 408.820, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

408.820 Exemptions.—Except as prescribed in authorizing statutes, the following exemptions shall apply to specified requirements of this part:

(11) Private review agents, as provided under part I of chapter 395, are exempt from ss. 408.806(7), 408.810, and 408.811.

(11) (12) Health care risk managers, as provided under part I of chapter 395, are exempt from ss. 408.806(7), 408.810(4)-(10)  $\frac{408.810}{}$ , and 408.811.

(12) (13) Nursing homes, as provided under part II of

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chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(7).

(13) (14) Assisted living facilities, as provided under part I of chapter 429, are exempt from s. 408.810(10).

(14) <del>(15)</del> Home health agencies, as provided under part III of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(10).

(15) (16) Nurse registries, as provided under part III of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(6) and (10).

(16) <del>(17)</del> Companion services or homemaker services providers, as provided under part III of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(6)-(10).

(17) (18) Adult day care centers, as provided under part III of chapter 429, are exempt from s. 408.810(10).

(18) (19) Adult family-care homes, as provided under part II of chapter 429, are exempt from s. 408.810(7)-(10).

(18) (20) Homes for special services, as provided under part V of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(7)-(10).

(20) (21) Transitional living facilities, as provided under part V of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(10) s. 408.810(7)-(10).

(21) (22) Prescribed pediatric extended care centers, as provided under part VI of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(10).

(22) <del>(23)</del> Home medical equipment providers, as provided under part VII of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(10).

(23) (24) Intermediate care facilities for persons with developmental disabilities, as provided under part VIII of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(7).

(24) <del>(25)</del> Health care services pools, as provided under part IX of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(6)-(10).

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- (25) (26) Health care clinics, as provided under part X of chapter 400, are exempt from s. 408.810(6), (7), (10) ss. 408.809 and 408.810(1), (6), (7), and (10).
- (26) <del>(27)</del> Clinical laboratories, as provided under part I of chapter 483, are exempt from s. 408.810(5)-(10).
- (27) (28) Multiphasic health testing centers, as provided under part II of chapter 483, are exempt from s. 408.810(5)-(10).
- (28) <del>(29)</del> Organ and tissue procurement agencies, as provided under chapter 765, are exempt from s. 408.810(5)-(10).
- Section 21. Section 408.821, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 408.821 Emergency management planning; emergency operations; inactive license.-
- (1) A licensee required by authorizing statutes to have an emergency operations plan must designate a safety liaison to serve as the primary contact for emergency operations.
- (2) An entity subject to this part may temporarily exceed its licensed capacity to act as a receiving provider in accordance with an approved emergency operations plan for up to 15 days. While in an overcapacity status, each provider must furnish or arrange for appropriate care and services to all clients. In addition, the agency may approve requests for overcapacity in excess of 15 days, which approvals may be based upon satisfactory justification and need as provided by the receiving and sending providers.
- (3) (a) An inactive license may be issued to a licensee subject to this section when the provider is located in a geographic area in which a state of emergency was declared by



the Governor if the provider:

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- 1. Suffered damage to its operation during the state of emergency.
  - 2. Is currently licensed.
  - 3. Does not have a provisional license.
- 4. Will be temporarily unable to provide services but is reasonably expected to resume services within 12 months.
- (b) An inactive license may be issued for a period not to exceed 12 months but may be renewed by the agency for up to 12 additional months upon demonstration to the agency of progress toward reopening. A request by a licensee for an inactive license or to extend the previously approved inactive period must be submitted in writing to the agency, accompanied by written justification for the inactive license, which states the beginning and ending dates of inactivity and includes a plan for the transfer of any clients to other providers and appropriate licensure fees. Upon agency approval, the licensee shall notify clients of any necessary discharge or transfer as required by authorizing statutes or applicable rules. The beginning of the inactive licensure period shall be the date the provider ceases operations. The end of the inactive period shall become the license expiration date, and all licensure fees must be current, must be paid in full, and may be prorated. Reactivation of an inactive license requires the prior approval by the agency of a renewal application, including payment of licensure fees and agency inspections indicating compliance with all requirements of this part and applicable rules and statutes.
- (4) The agency may adopt rules relating to emergency management planning, communications, and operations. Licensees

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providing residential or inpatient services must utilize an online database approved by the agency to report information to the agency regarding the provider's emergency status, planning, or operations.

Section 22. Section 408.831, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.831 Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, registration, certificate, or application.

- (1) In addition to any other remedies provided by law, the agency may deny each application or suspend or revoke each license, registration, or certificate of entities regulated or licensed by it:
- (a) If the applicant, licensee, or a licensee subject to this part which shares a common controlling interest with the applicant has failed to pay all outstanding fines, liens, or overpayments assessed by final order of the agency or final order of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, not subject to further appeal, unless a repayment plan is approved by the agency; or
  - (b) For failure to comply with any repayment plan.
- (2) In reviewing any application requesting a change of ownership or change of the licensee, registrant, or certificateholder, the transferor shall, prior to agency approval of the change, repay or make arrangements to repay any amounts owed to the agency. Should the transferor fail to repay or make arrangements to repay the amounts owed to the agency, the issuance of a license, registration, or certificate to the transferee shall be delayed until repayment or until arrangements for repayment are made.

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(3) An entity subject to this section may exceed its licensed capacity to act as a receiving facility in accordance with an emergency operations plan for clients of evacuating providers from a geographic area where an evacuation order has been issued by a local authority having jurisdiction. While in an overcapacity status, each provider must furnish or arrange for appropriate care and services to all clients. In addition, the agency may approve requests for overcapacity beyond 15 days, which approvals may be based upon satisfactory justification and need as provided by the receiving and sending facilities.

(4) (a) An inactive license may be issued to a licensee subject to this section when the provider is located in a geographic area where a state of emergency was declared by the Covernor if the provider:

1. Suffered damage to its operation during that state of emergency.

- 2. Is currently licensed.
- 3. Does not have a provisional license.
- 4. Will be temporarily unable to provide services but is reasonably expected to resume services within 12 months.

(b) An inactive license may be issued for a period not to exceed 12 months but may be renewed by the agency for up to 12 additional months upon demonstration to the agency of progress toward reopening. A request by a licensee for an inactive license or to extend the previously approved inactive period must be submitted in writing to the agency, accompanied by written justification for the inactive license, which states the beginning and ending dates of inactivity and includes a plan for the transfer of any clients to other providers and appropriate

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licensure fees. Upon agency approval, the licensee shall notify clients of any necessary discharge or transfer as required by authorizing statutes or applicable rules. The beginning of the inactive licensure period shall be the date the provider ceases operations. The end of the inactive period shall become the licensee expiration date, and all licensure fees must be current, paid in full, and may be prorated. Reactivation of an inactive license requires the prior approval by the agency of a renewal application, including payment of licensure fees and agency inspections indicating compliance with all requirements of this part and applicable rules and statutes.

(3) (3) (5) This section provides standards of enforcement applicable to all entities licensed or regulated by the Agency for Health Care Administration. This section controls over any conflicting provisions of chapters 39, 383, 390, 391, 394, 395, 400, 408, 429, 468, 483, and 765 or rules adopted pursuant to those chapters.

Section 23. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 409.221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.221 Consumer-directed care program.
- (4) CONSUMER-DIRECTED CARE.
- (e) Services.—Consumers shall use the budget allowance only to pay for home and community-based services that meet the consumer's long-term care needs and are a cost-efficient use of funds. Such services may include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. Personal care.
- 2. Homemaking and chores, including housework, meals, shopping, and transportation.

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- 3. Home modifications and assistive devices which may increase the consumer's independence or make it possible to avoid institutional placement.
  - 4. Assistance in taking self-administered medication.
- 5. Day care and respite care services, including those provided by nursing home facilities pursuant to s. 400.141(1)(f) s. 400.141(6) or by adult day care facilities licensed pursuant to s. 429.907.
- 6. Personal care and support services provided in an assisted living facility.

Section 24. Subsection (5) of section 409.901, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.901 Definitions; ss. 409.901-409.920.—As used in ss. 409.901-409.920, except as otherwise specifically provided, the term:

- (5) "Change of ownership" means:
- (a) An event in which the provider ownership changes to a different individual <del>legal</del> entity as evidenced by a change in federal employer identification number or taxpayer identification number; or
- (b) An event in which 51 45 percent or more of the ownership, voting shares, membership, or controlling interest of a provider is in any manner transferred or otherwise assigned. This paragraph does not apply to a licensee that is publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange; or
- (c) When the provider is licensed or registered by the agency, an event considered a change of ownership for licensure as defined in s. 408.803 in a corporation whose shares are not publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange is transferred or



assigned, including the final transfer or assignment of multiple transfers or assignments over a 2-year period that cumulatively total 45 percent or more.

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A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.

1150 Section 25. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed. 1151 Section 26. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 429.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to 1152 1153 read:

429.08 Unlicensed facilities; referral of person for residency to unlicensed facility; penalties; verification of licensure status.-

(1)

- (e) The agency shall publish provide to the department's elder information and referral providers a list, by county, of licensed assisted living facilities, to assist persons who are considering an assisted living facility placement in locating a licensed facility. This information may be provided electronically or through the agency's Internet site.
- (2) Each field office of the Agency for Health Care Administration shall establish a local coordinating workgroup which includes representatives of local law enforcement agencies, state attorneys, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Department of Legal Affairs, local fire authorities, the Department of Children and Family Services, the district longterm care ombudsman council, and the district human rights advocacy committee to assist in identifying the operation of unlicensed facilities and to develop and implement a plan to

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ensure effective enforcement of state laws relating to such facilities. The workgroup shall report its findings, actions, and recommendations semiannually to the Director of Health Quality Assurance of the agency.

(2) (3) It is unlawful to knowingly refer a person for residency to an unlicensed assisted living facility; to an assisted living facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to an assisted living facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408. Any person who violates this subsection commits a noncriminal violation, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 as provided in s. 775.083.

- (a) Any health care practitioner, as defined in s. 456.001, who is aware of the operation of an unlicensed facility shall report that facility to the agency. Failure to report a facility that the practitioner knows or has reasonable cause to suspect is unlicensed shall be reported to the practitioner's licensing board.
- (b) Any provider as defined in s. 408.803 hospital or community mental health center licensed under chapter 395 or chapter 394 which knowingly discharges a patient or client to an unlicensed facility is subject to sanction by the agency.
- (c) Any employee of the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, who knowingly refers a person for residency to an unlicensed facility; to a facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to a facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408 is subject to disciplinary action by the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family



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- (d) The employer of any person who is under contract with the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, and who knowingly refers a person for residency to an unlicensed facility; to a facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to a facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408 shall be fined and required to prepare a corrective action plan designed to prevent such referrals.
- (e) The agency shall provide the department and the Department of Children and Family Services with a list of licensed facilities within each county and shall update the list at least quarterly.
- (f) At least annually, the agency shall notify, in appropriate trade publications, physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, hospitals licensed under chapter 395, nursing home facilities licensed under part II of chapter 400, and employees of the agency or the department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, who are responsible for referring persons for residency, that it is unlawful to knowingly refer a person for residency to an unlicensed assisted living facility and shall notify them of the penalty for violating such prohibition. The department and the Department of Children and Family Services shall, in turn, notify service providers under contract to the respective departments who have responsibility for resident referrals to facilities. Further, the notice must direct each noticed facility and individual to contact the appropriate agency office in order to verify the licensure status of any facility prior to referring any person

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for residency. Each notice must include the name, telephone number, and mailing address of the appropriate office to contact.

Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 429.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.14 Administrative penalties.-

- (1) In addition to the requirements of part II of chapter 408, the agency may deny, revoke, and suspend any license issued under this part and impose an administrative fine in the manner provided in chapter 120 against a licensee of an assisted living facility for a violation of any provision of this part, part II of chapter 408, or applicable rules, or for any of the following actions by a licensee of an assisted living facility, for the actions of any person subject to level 2 background screening under s. 408.809, or for the actions of any facility employee:
- (e) A citation of any of the following deficiencies as specified defined in s. 429.19:
  - 1. One or more cited class I deficiencies.
  - 2. Three or more cited class II deficiencies.
- 3. Five or more cited class III deficiencies that have been cited on a single survey and have not been corrected within the times specified.
- Section 28. Section 429.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 429.19 Violations; imposition of administrative fines; grounds.-
- 1257 (1) In addition to the requirements of part II of chapter 1258 408, the agency shall impose an administrative fine in the 1259 manner provided in chapter 120 for the violation of any

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provision of this part, part II of chapter 408, and applicable rules by an assisted living facility, for the actions of any person subject to level 2 background screening under s. 408.809, for the actions of any facility employee, or for an intentional or negligent act seriously affecting the health, safety, or welfare of a resident of the facility.

- (2) Each violation of this part and adopted rules shall be classified according to the nature of the violation and the gravity of its probable effect on facility residents. The agency shall indicate the classification on the written notice of the violation as follows:
- (a) Class "I" violations are defined in s. 408.813 those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines present an imminent danger to the residents or quests of the facility or a substantial probability that death or serious physical or emotional harm would result therefrom. The condition or practice constituting a class I violation shall be abated or eliminated within 24 hours, unless a fixed period, as determined by the agency, is required for correction. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class I violation in an amount not less than \$5,000 and not exceeding \$10,000 for each violation. A fine may be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.
- (b) Class "II" violations are defined in s. 408.813 those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines directly threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of the facility residents,

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other than class I violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class II violation in an amount not less than \$1,000 and not exceeding \$5,000 for each violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.

- (c) Class "III" violations are defined in s. 408.813 those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines indirectly or potentially threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of facility residents, other than class I or class II violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class III violation in an amount not less than \$500 and not exceeding \$1,000 for each violation. A citation for a class III violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class III violation is corrected within the time specified, no fine may be imposed, unless it is a repeated offense.
- (d) Class "IV" violations are defined in s. 408.813 those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a building or to required reports, forms, or documents that do not have the potential of negatively affecting residents. These violations are of a type that the agency determines do not threaten the health, safety, or security of residents of the facility. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class IV violation in an amount not less than \$100 and not exceeding \$200 for each violation. A citation for a class IV violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class IV

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violation is corrected within the time specified, no fine shall be imposed. Any class IV violation that is corrected during the time an agency survey is being conducted will be identified as an agency finding and not as a violation.

- (3) For purposes of this section, in determining if a penalty is to be imposed and in fixing the amount of the fine, the agency shall consider the following factors:
- (a) The gravity of the violation, including the probability that death or serious physical or emotional harm to a resident will result or has resulted, the severity of the action or potential harm, and the extent to which the provisions of the applicable laws or rules were violated.
- (b) Actions taken by the owner or administrator to correct violations.
  - (c) Any previous violations.
- (d) The financial benefit to the facility of committing or continuing the violation.
  - (e) The licensed capacity of the facility.
- (4) Each day of continuing violation after the date fixed for termination of the violation, as ordered by the agency, constitutes an additional, separate, and distinct violation.
- (5) During an inspection, any action taken to correct a violation shall be documented in writing by the owner or administrator of the facility and verified through followup visits by agency personnel. The agency may impose a fine and, in the case of an owner-operated facility, revoke or deny a facility's license when a facility administrator fraudulently misrepresents action taken to correct a violation.
  - (6) Any facility whose owner fails to apply for a change-

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of-ownership license in accordance with part II of chapter 408 and operates the facility under the new ownership is subject to a fine of \$5,000.

- (7) In addition to any administrative fines imposed, the agency may assess a survey fee, equal to the lesser of one half of the facility's biennial license and bed fee or \$500, to cover the cost of conducting initial complaint investigations that result in the finding of a violation that was the subject of the complaint or monitoring visits conducted under s. 429.28(3)(c) to verify the correction of the violations.
- (8) The agency, as an alternative to or in conjunction with an administrative action against a facility for violations of this part and adopted rules, shall make a reasonable attempt to discuss each violation and recommended corrective action with the owner or administrator of the facility, prior to written notification. The agency, instead of fixing a period within which the facility shall enter into compliance with standards, may request a plan of corrective action from the facility which demonstrates a good faith effort to remedy each violation by a specific date, subject to the approval of the agency.
- (9) The agency shall develop and disseminate an annual list of all facilities sanctioned or fined \$5,000 or more for violations of state standards, the number and class of violations involved, the penalties imposed, and the current status of cases. The list shall be disseminated, at no charge, to the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the area agencies on aging, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and the state and local

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ombudsman councils. The Department of Children and Family Services shall disseminate the list to service providers under contract to the department who are responsible for referring persons to a facility for residency. The agency may charge a fee commensurate with the cost of printing and postage to other interested parties requesting a copy of this list. This information may be provided electronically or through the agency's Internet site.

Section 29. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 429.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 429.23 Internal risk management and quality assurance program; adverse incidents and reporting requirements.-
- (2) Every facility licensed under this part is required to maintain adverse incident reports. For purposes of this section, the term, "adverse incident" means:
- (a) An event over which facility personnel could exercise control rather than as a result of the resident's condition and results in:
  - 1. Death;
  - 2. Brain or spinal damage;
  - 3. Permanent disfigurement;
  - 4. Fracture or dislocation of bones or joints;
- 5. Any condition that required medical attention to which the resident has not given his or her consent, including failure to honor advanced directives;
- 6. Any condition that requires the transfer of the resident from the facility to a unit providing more acute care due to the incident rather than the resident's condition before the incident; or-



1405 7. An event that is reported to law enforcement or its personnel for investigation; or 1406 1407 (b) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation as defined in s. 1408 415.102; 1409 (c) Events reported to law enforcement; or 1410 (b) (d) Resident elopement, if the elopement places the 1411 resident at risk of harm or injury. 1412 (6) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation must be reported to the 1413 Department of Children and Family Services as required under 1414 chapter 415 The agency shall annually submit to the Legislature 1415 a report on assisted living facility adverse incident reports. 1416 The report must include the following information arranged by 1417 county: 1418 (a) A total number of adverse incidents; 1419 (b) A listing, by category, of the type of adverse 1420 incidents occurring within each category and the type of staff involved; 1421 (c) A listing, by category, of the types of injuries, if 1422 1423 any, and the number of injuries occurring within each category; 1424 (d) Types of liability claims filed based on an adverse 1425 incident report or reportable injury; and 1426 (e) Disciplinary action taken against staff, categorized by 1427 the type of staff involved. Section 30. Subsection (9) of section 429.26, Florida 1428 1429 Statutes, is repealed. Section 31. Subsection (3) of section 430.80, Florida 1430 1431 Statutes, is amended to read: 430.80 Implementation of a teaching nursing home pilot 1432

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- (3) To be designated as a teaching nursing home, a nursing home licensee must, at a minimum:
  - (a) Provide a comprehensive program of integrated senior services that include institutional services and community-based services;
  - (b) Participate in a nationally recognized accreditation program and hold a valid accreditation, such as the accreditation awarded by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations;
  - (c) Have been in business in this state for a minimum of 10 consecutive years;
  - (d) Demonstrate an active program in multidisciplinary education and research that relates to gerontology;
  - (e) Have a formalized contractual relationship with at least one accredited health profession education program located in this state;
  - (f) Have a formalized contractual relationship with an accredited hospital that is designated by law as a teaching hospital; and
  - (g) Have senior staff members who hold formal faculty appointments at universities, which must include at least one accredited health profession education program.
  - (h) Maintain insurance coverage pursuant to s. 400.141(1)(s) s. 400.141(20) or proof of financial responsibility in a minimum amount of \$750,000. Such proof of financial responsibility may include:
  - 1. Maintaining an escrow account consisting of cash or assets eligible for deposit in accordance with s. 625.52; or
    - 2. Obtaining and maintaining pursuant to chapter 675 an

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unexpired, irrevocable, nontransferable and nonassignable letter of credit issued by any bank or savings association organized and existing under the laws of this state or any bank or savings association organized under the laws of the United States that has its principal place of business in this state or has a branch office which is authorized to receive deposits in this state. The letter of credit shall be used to satisfy the obligation of the facility to the claimant upon presentment of a final judgment indicating liability and awarding damages to be paid by the facility or upon presentment of a settlement agreement signed by all parties to the agreement when such final judgment or settlement is a result of a liability claim against the facility.

Section 32. Subsection (5) of section 435.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

435.04 Level 2 screening standards.-

(5) Under penalty of perjury, all employees in such positions of trust or responsibility shall attest to meeting the requirements for qualifying for employment and agreeing to inform the employer immediately if convicted of any of the disqualifying offenses while employed by the employer. Each employer of employees in such positions of trust or responsibilities which is licensed or registered by a state agency shall submit to the licensing agency annually or at the time of license renewal, under penalty of perjury, an affidavit of compliance with the provisions of this section.

Section 33. Subsection (3) of section 435.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

435.05 Requirements for covered employees.—Except as

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otherwise provided by law, the following requirements shall apply to covered employees:

(3) Each employer required to conduct level 2 background screening must sign an affidavit annually or at the time of license renewal, under penalty of perjury, stating that all covered employees have been screened or are newly hired and are awaiting the results of the required screening checks.

Section 34. Subsection (2) of section 483.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

483.031 Application of part; exemptions.—This part applies to all clinical laboratories within this state, except:

(2) A clinical laboratory that performs only waived tests and has received a certificate of exemption from the agency under s. 483.106.

Section 35. Subsection (10) of section 483.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

483.041 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

(10) "Waived test" means a test that the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Health Care Financing Administration has determined qualifies for a certificate of waiver under the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments of 1988, and the federal rules adopted thereunder.

Section 36. Section 483.106, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 37. Subsection (3) of section 483.172, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

483.172 License fees.-

(3) The agency shall assess a biennial fee of \$100 for a certificate of exemption and a \$100 biennial license fee under this section for facilities surveyed by an approved accrediting



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Section 38. Subsection (13) of section 651.118, Florida 1522 1523 Statutes, is amended to read:

651.118 Agency for Health Care Administration; certificates of need; sheltered beds; community beds.-

(13) Residents, as defined in this chapter, are not considered new admissions for the purpose of s. 400.141 (1) (0) 1.d. s. 400.141(15)(d).

Section 39. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Agency for Health Care Administration; repealing s. 395.0199, F.S., relating to private utilization review of health care services; amending ss. 395.405 and 400.0712, F.S.; conforming cross-references; repealing s. 400.118(2), F.S.; removing provisions requiring quality-of-care monitors for nursing facilities in agency district offices; amending s. 400.141, F.S.; deleting a requirement that licensed nursing home facilities provide the agency with a monthly report on the number of vacant beds in the facility; amending s. 400.147, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "adverse incident" for reporting purposes; requiring abuse, neglect, and exploitation to be reported to the agency and the

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Department of Children and Family Services; deleting a requirement that the agency submit an annual report on nursing home adverse incidents to the Legislature; amending s. 400.162, F.S.; revising requirements for policies and procedures regarding the safekeeping of a resident's personal effects and property; amending s. 400.195, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 400.23, F.S.; deleting the requirement of the agency to adopt rules regarding the eating assistance provided to residents; amending s. 400.506, F.S.; providing an exception for the agency to deny, suspend, or revoke the license of a nurse registry; amending s. 400.9935, F.S.; revising accreditation requirements for clinics providing magnetic resonance imaging services; amending s. 400.995, F.S.; revising agency responsibilities with respect to agency administrative penalties; amending s. 408.803, F.S.; revising definitions applicable to part II of ch. 408, F.S., the "Health Care Licensing Procedures Act"; amending s. 408.806, F.S.; revising contents of and procedures relating to health care provider applications for licensure; providing an exception from certain licensure inspections for adult familycare homes; authorizing the agency to provide electronic access to certain information and documents; amending s. 408.808, F.S.; providing for a provisional license to be issued to applicants applying for a change of ownership; providing a time limit on provisional licenses; amending s. 408.809,

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F.S.; revising provisions relating to background screening of specified employees; requiring health care providers to submit to the agency an affidavit of compliance with background screening requirements at the time of license renewal; deleting a provision to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 408.810, F.S.; revising provisions relating to information required for licensure; amending s. 408.811, F.S.; providing for certain inspections to be accepted in lieu of complete licensure inspections; granting agency access to records requested during an offsite review; providing timeframes for correction of certain deficiencies and submission of plans to correct the deficiencies; amending s. 408.813, F.S.; providing classifications of violations of part II of ch. 408, F.S.; providing for fines; amending s. 408.820, F.S.; revising applicability of certain exemptions from specified requirements of part II of ch. 408, F.S.; creating s. 408.821, F.S.; requiring entities regulated or licensed by the agency to designate a liaison officer for emergency operations; authorizing entities regulated or licensed by the agency to temporarily exceed their licensed capacity to act as receiving providers under specified circumstances; providing requirements that apply while such entities are in an overcapacity status; providing for issuance of an inactive license to such licensees under specified conditions; providing requirements and procedures with respect to the issuance and

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reactivation of an inactive license; authorizing the agency to adopt rules; amending s. 408.831, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to the authorization for entities regulated or licensed by the agency to exceed their licensed capacity to act as receiving facilities and issuance and reactivation of inactive licenses; amending s. 409.221, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 409.901, F.S.; redefining the term "change of ownership" as it relates to Medicaid providers; repealing s. 429.071, F.S., relating to the intergenerational respite care assisted living facility pilot program; amending s. 429.08, F.S.; authorizing the agency to provide information regarding licensed assisted living facilities on its Internet website; abolishing local coordinating workgroups established by agency field offices; amending s. 429.14, F.S.; conforming a reference; amending s. 429.19, F.S.; revising agency procedures for imposition of fines for violations of part I of ch. 429, F.S., the "Assisted Living Facilities Act"; amending s. 429.23, F.S.; redefining the term "adverse incident" for reporting purposes; requiring abuse, neglect, and exploitation to be reported to the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services; deleting a requirement that the agency submit an annual report on assisted living facility adverse incidents to the Legislature; repealing s. 429.26(9), F.S., relating to the removal of the requirement for a resident of an assisted living facility to undergo

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examinations and evaluations under certain circumstances; amending s. 430.80, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending ss. 435.04 and 435.05, F.S.; requiring employers of certain employees to submit an affidavit of compliance with level 2 screening requirements at the time of license renewal; amending s. 483.031, F.S.; revising a provision relating to the exemption of certain clinical laboratories, to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 483.041, F.S.; redefining the term "waived test" as it is used in part I of ch. 483, F.S., the "Florida Clinical Laboratory Law"; repealing s. 483.106, F.S., relating to applications for certificates of exemption by clinical laboratories that perform certain tests; amending ss. 483.172 and 651.118, F.S.; conforming provisions and a cross-reference; providing an effective date.