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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
03/11/2014	.	
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The Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs  
(Thompson) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Between lines 608 and 609

insert:

Section 9. Children with Medically Complex Conditions Task Force.—

(1) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall convene a Children with Medically Complex Conditions Task Force for the purpose of developing a plan to ensure that children with medically complex conditions grow up with the emotional security



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11 and continuity of a parental relationship and a stable living  
12 arrangement and to reinforce that skilled nursing facilities are  
13 temporary placements.

14 (2) The plan developed by the task force must include the  
15 following:

16 (a) Uniform procedures applicable to each of the state  
17 agencies on the task force to ensure that an individualized  
18 permanency plan is developed for each child who resides in a  
19 skilled nursing facility which focuses on facilitating a  
20 permanent living arrangement with an enduring and nurturing  
21 family. These uniform procedures must include:

22 1. Developing a family comprehensive plan to bring the  
23 child home or to place the child with an alternative family that  
24 will meet the goals of the plan;

25 2. Retaining with the parents the right to decide whether  
26 the child is placed in or remains in a skilled nursing facility;  
27 and

28 3. Coordinating the programs and services of each of the  
29 state agencies on the task force to create an integrated system  
30 of services for children with medically complex conditions.

31 (b) A family-based alternative system in which a child with  
32 medically complex conditions who cannot reside with his or her  
33 birth family may receive necessary services in a family-based  
34 alternative setting instead of a skilled nursing facility. This  
35 system shall include licensing, monitoring, ensuring quality of  
36 care, recruiting and training of families, and involving the  
37 birth family with the alternate family selected and in decisions  
38 regarding the child's daily life.

39 (c) Establishment of a facilitation of services responsible



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40 for:

41 1. Developing and overseeing implementation of a child's  
42 individualized permanency plan for the successful transition of  
43 a child from a skilled nursing facility to a permanent family;  
44 and

45 2. Identifying and determining how funds and resources from  
46 all available sources can be blended and used to provide  
47 customized services and training and supports to implement a  
48 child's individualized permanency plan.

49 (d) A Medicaid waiver mechanism that can be used to provide  
50 Medicaid waiver services to prevent the placement of children  
51 with medically complex conditions in skilled nursing facilities.

52 (3) The task force shall consist of representatives  
53 appointed from the following:

54 (a) The Agency for Health Care Administration.

55 (b) The Agency for Persons with Disabilities.

56 (c) The Department of Children and Families.

57 (d) The Department of Health.

58 (e) The Florida Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc.

59 (f) The Arc of Florida.

60 (g) The Florida Association of Rehabilitation Facilities.

61 (h) A pediatric skilled nursing facility.

62 (i) The family of a child with medically complex  
63 conditions.

64 (4) Task force members shall serve without compensation but  
65 are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses  
66 as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes. The Florida  
67 Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., shall reimburse task  
68 force members for travel expenses and shall provide



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69 administrative support for the task force.

70 (5) The task force shall submit a report to the President  
71 of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
72 January 1, 2015. The report must identify legislative and state  
73 agency actions needed to implement the plan developed under  
74 subsection (2).

75

76 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

77 And the title is amended as follows:

78 Delete line 31

79 and insert:

80 provider service network; requiring the Agency for  
81 Health Care Administration to convene a Children with  
82 Medically Complex Conditions Task Force; requiring the  
83 task force to develop a specified plan; providing for  
84 membership on the task force; requiring the Florida  
85 Developmental Disabilities Council, Inc., to provide  
86 travel reimbursement for task force members; requiring  
87 the task force to submit a report to the Legislature  
88 by a specified date; amending ss. 39.302, 39.524,