

SENATE STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based only on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Date: February 25, 1998 Revised: 3/12/98 _____

Subject: Alzheimer's Disease

	<u>Analyst</u>	<u>Staff Director</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Action</u>
1.	Crosby	Whiddon	CF	Fav/1 amendment
2.	_____	_____	WM	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____

I. Summary:

Senate Bill 756 provides for the establishment of the tenth memory disorder clinic at St. Mary's Medical Center in Palm Beach County. This bill also authorizes, rather than requires, the Department of Elderly Affairs to contract for the provision of specialized model day care programs in conjunction with memory disorder clinics. This bill will take effect July 1 of the year in which it is enacted.

This bill substantially amends section 430.502, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

Originally enacted at section 2 of Chapter 85-145, Laws of Florida, the Alzheimer's disease memory disorder clinics facilities were to be established at each of the three medical schools in Florida, a major private nonprofit research-oriented teaching hospital, and/or any of the other affiliated teaching hospitals. The purpose of the memory disorder clinics was to "conduct research and training in a diagnostic and therapeutic setting for persons suffering from Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders."

Currently, s. 430.502(1)(a), F.S. (1997), continues to provide for the establishment of a memory disorder clinic at each of the three medical schools in Florida, the major private nonprofit research-oriented teaching hospital, and any of the other affiliated teaching hospitals. Subsequent amendments to law have resulted in an additional five memory disorder clinics for a current total of nine memory disorder clinics.

Section 430.502(2), F.S., states that it is the legislative intent that research conducted by a memory disorder clinic be applied research, service-related, and selected in conjunction with the

department. The Department of Elderly Affairs interprets these three components to include: research - both basic and applied; service - to include evaluation and diagnosis; and the training of providers, medical students, staff, and family care givers.

Section 430.502(3), F.S., states that the Alzheimer's Disease Advisory Committee must evaluate the need for additional memory disorder clinics with the first report due by December 31, 1995. The Department of Elderly Affairs reports that this evaluation never materialized and that there are no written recommendations regarding the need for additional memory disorder clinics.

Section 430.502(4), F.S., directs the Department of Elderly Affairs to contract for the provision of three specialized model day care programs in conjunction with each memory disorder clinic. Thus far, three model day care programs are established -- one in Dade County, one in Alachua County, and the third in Hillsborough. The former two programs are affiliated with medical schools while the Hillsborough location is not.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Senate Bill 756 provides for the establishment of a memory disorder clinic at St. Mary's Medical Center in Palm Beach County. Additionally, this bill deletes the specific number of model day care programs from the statute, thereby authorizing, rather than requiring, the Department of Elderly Affairs to contract for the provision of specialized model day care programs in conjunction with memory disorder clinics.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Section 430.502(1)(g), F.S., provides that memory disorder clinics, funded as of June 30, 1995, will not receive decreased funding due to the subsequent additions of memory disorder clinics. In the present case, the estimated recurring effects of the establishment of the Palm Beach County Memory Disorder Clinic is \$189,000 per year for each fiscal year through Fiscal Year 1999-2000 if the Legislature chooses to fund it. The Department of Elderly Affairs has submitted a supplemental legislative budget request (LBR) to include this funding. (The Governor's budget did not pick up this supplemental LBR.)

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

It is estimated that there are more than 33,000 cases of probable Alzheimer's disease in Palm Beach County. If a memory disorder clinic is established and funded in Palm Beach County, it will provide evaluation and diagnosis to numerous cognitively impaired persons as well as provide training to family caregivers and area service providers.

The goal in deleting the specific number of model day care programs from statute is intended to eliminate a perceived ambiguity in s. 430.502(4), F.S. For example, some have read the current law to require a total of 24 to 27 such programs, while the Department of Elderly Affairs has consistently interpreted and applied this provision to require a total of three memory disorder programs. In changing the specific number, the Department of Elderly Affairs will be allowed increased flexibility in contracting for the provision of model day care programs.

VIII. Amendments:

#1 by Children, Families and Seniors:

Establishes a memory disorder clinic at the Tallahassee Memorial Regional Medical Center.