A bill to be entitled

An act relating to nursing home facilities; amending s.

400.118, F.S.; revising provisions relating to frequency

of quality-of-care monitoring of specified facilities;

amending s. 400.141, F.S.; authorizing facilities with a

of quality-of-care monitoring of specified facilities; amending s. 400.141, F.S.; authorizing facilities with a standard license to provide certified nursing assistant training; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to adopt rules for the training program; amending s. 400.147, F.S.; revising a definition; revising reporting requirements under facility internal risk management and quality assurance programs; amending s.

400.19, F.S.; providing conditions for scheduling surveys when certain deficiencies are overturned; amending s.

400.195, F.S.; correcting a cross-reference; amending s.

400.23, F.S.; revising conditions for documentation of compliance with staffing standards; providing an effective

date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 400.118, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.118 Quality assurance; early warning system; monitoring; rapid response teams.--

(2)(a) The agency shall establish within each district office one or more quality-of-care monitors, based on the number of nursing facilities in the district, to monitor all nursing facilities in the district on a regular, unannounced, aperiodic

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29 basis, including nights, evenings, weekends, and holidays. 30 Quality-of-care monitors shall visit each nursing facility annually, shall visit each conditionally licensed nursing 31 facility at least quarterly, and shall visit other nursing 32 facilities as directed by the agency. However, upon request, the 33 agency shall conduct quarterly visits at a nursing facility that 34 is not conditionally licensed. The request shall be valid 35 through the current licensure period, and an extension may be 36 37 requested by the facility at the time of licensure renewal. Priority for additional monitoring visits shall be given to 38 nursing facilities with a history of resident care deficiencies. 39 Quality-of-care monitors shall be registered nurses who are 40 trained and experienced in nursing facility regulation, 41 standards of practice in long-term care, and evaluation of 42 43 patient care. Individuals in these positions shall not be 44 deployed by the agency as a part of the district survey team in the conduct of routine, scheduled surveys, but shall function 45 solely and independently as quality-of-care monitors. Quality-46 47 of-care monitors shall assess the overall quality of life in the nursing facility and shall assess specific conditions in the 48 49 facility directly related to resident care, including the 50 operations of internal quality improvement and risk management programs and adverse incident reports. The quality-of-care 51 monitor shall include in an assessment visit observation of the 52 care and services rendered to residents and formal and informal 53 54 interviews with residents, family members, facility staff, resident quests, volunteers, other regulatory staff, and 55

representatives of a long-term care ombudsman council or Florida advocacy council.

- Section 2. Section 400.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 400.141 Administration and management of nursing home facilities.--Every licensed facility shall comply with all applicable standards and rules of the agency and shall:
- (1) Be under the administrative direction and charge of a licensed administrator.
- (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.
- (3) Have available the regular, consultative, and emergency services of physicians licensed by the state.
- (4) Provide for resident use of a community pharmacy as specified in s. 400.022(1)(q). Any other law to the contrary 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

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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 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 herein. A pharmacist who repackages and relabels prescription medications, as authorized under this subsection, may charge a reasonable fee for costs resulting from the implementation of this provision.

- (5) Provide for the access of the facility residents to dental and other health-related services, recreational services, 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.
- (6) Be allowed and encouraged by the agency to provide other needed services under certain conditions. If the facility

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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 subsection, but, if the facility is cited for deficiencies in patient care, may require 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 137 nonresidential programs or services shall be excluded from the 138

calculations of Medicaid per diems for nursing home institutional care reimbursement.

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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 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 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 subsection does not restrict the agency's authority under federal or state law to require additional staff if a facility is cited for deficiencies

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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.

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

- (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 subsection, the agency shall be guided by standards recommended by nationally recognized professional groups and associations with knowledge of dietetics.
- (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 open to inspection by the agency.
- (11) Keep such fiscal records of its operations and conditions as may be necessary to provide information pursuant to this part.
- (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.

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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.

- (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.
- (14) Submit to the agency the information specified in s. 400.071(2)(e) for a management company within 30 days after the effective date of the management agreement.
- (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 assistants, licensed nurses, the director of nursing, and the facility administrator. For purposes of this reporting:
- (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) 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) 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) 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 paragraph, any person who was a resident of the facility and was absent from the facility for the purpose of receiving medical 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) A nursing facility which does not have a conditional license may be cited for failure to comply with the standards in

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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) A facility which has a conditional license must be in compliance with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a) at all times.
- Nothing in this 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.
- (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.
- (18) If the facility implements a dining and hospitality 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.

- (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.
- (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 state-designated 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).
- (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.
- (22) Before November 30 of each year, subject to the availability of an adequate supply of the necessary vaccine, 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

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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 subsection. This 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.

(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. Immunization shall not be provided to any resident who provides documentation that he or she has been immunized as required by this subsection. This 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.

(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 subsection.

Every facility with a standard license 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 its their program. The agency may adopt rules regarding the approval, suspension, and termination of a certified nursing assistant training program provided by such facility.

Section 3. Subsections (9) through (15) of section 400.147, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (8) through (14), respectively, and paragraph (e) of subsection (5), subsection (7), and present subsection (8) of that section are amended to read:

400.147 Internal risk management and quality assurance program.--

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(5) For purposes of reporting to the agency under this section, the term "adverse incident" means:

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- (e) An event that is reported to law enforcement $\underline{\text{for}}$ investigation.
- The facility shall initiate an investigation and (7)(a) shall notify the agency within 1 business day after the risk manager or his or her designee has received a report pursuant to paragraph (1)(d). The notification must be made in writing and be provided electronically, by facsimile device or overnight mail delivery. The notification must include information regarding the identity of the affected resident, the type of adverse incident, the initiation of an investigation by the facility, and whether the events causing or resulting in the adverse incident represent a potential risk to any other resident. The notification is confidential as provided by law and is not discoverable or admissible in any civil or administrative action, except in disciplinary proceedings by the agency or the appropriate regulatory board. The agency may investigate, as it deems appropriate, any such incident and prescribe measures that must or may be taken in response to the incident. The agency shall review each incident and determine whether it potentially involved conduct by the health care professional who is subject to disciplinary action, in which case the provisions of s. 456.073 shall apply.
- (b)(8)(a) Each facility shall complete the investigation and submit an adverse incident report to the agency for each adverse incident within 15 calendar days after its occurrence. If, after a complete investigation, the risk manager determines

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that the incident was not an adverse incident as defined in subsection (5), the facility shall include this information in the report. The agency shall develop a form for reporting this information.

- (c) (b) The information reported to the agency pursuant to paragraph (b) that (a) which relates to persons licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 461, or chapter 466 shall be reviewed by the agency. The agency shall determine whether any of the incidents potentially involved conduct by a health care professional who is subject to disciplinary action, in which case the provisions of s. 456.073 shall apply.
- (d)(e) The report submitted to the agency must also contain the name of the risk manager of the facility.
- (e) (d) The adverse incident report is confidential as provided by law and is not discoverable or admissible in any civil or administrative action, except in disciplinary proceedings by the agency or the appropriate regulatory board.
- Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 400.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 400.19 Right of entry and inspection .--
- unannounced inspection to determine compliance by the licensee with statutes, and with rules promulgated under the provisions of those statutes, governing minimum standards of construction, quality and adequacy of care, and rights of residents. The survey shall be conducted every 6 months for the next 2-year period if the facility has been cited for a class I deficiency, has been cited for two or more class II deficiencies arising

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from separate surveys or investigations within a 60-day period, or has had three or more substantiated complaints within a 6month period, each resulting in at least one class I or class II deficiency. In addition to any other fees or fines in this part, the agency shall assess a fine for each facility that is subject to the 6-month survey cycle. The fine for the 2-year period shall be \$6,000, one-half to be paid at the completion of each survey. The agency may adjust this fine by the change in the Consumer Price Index, based on the 12 months immediately preceding the increase, to cover the cost of the additional surveys. In the event such deficiencies are overturned as the result of administrative action but additional surveys have already been conducted pursuant to this section, the most recent survey shall be considered a licensure survey for purposes of future survey scheduling. The agency shall verify through subsequent inspection that any deficiency identified during the annual inspection is corrected. However, the agency may verify the correction of a class III or class IV deficiency unrelated to resident rights or resident care without reinspecting the facility if adequate written documentation has been received from the facility, which provides assurance that the deficiency has been corrected. The giving or causing to be given of advance notice of such unannounced inspections by an employee of the agency to any unauthorized person shall constitute cause for suspension of not fewer than 5 working days according to the provisions of chapter 110. Section 5. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 400.195, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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400.195 Agency reporting requirements.--

- (1) For the period beginning June 30, 2001, and ending June 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(8)(9), relating to litigation.
- Section 6. Paragraph (a) of 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,

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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 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. Compliance with federal posting requirements shall satisfy the posting requirements of this subparagraph.
- 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

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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 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.

Section 7. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.