HB 787 2014

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Nursing Home Guide Watch List; amending s. 400.191, F.S.; requiring a nursing home facility on the watch list to post signs containing certain information for a specified period; specifying contents and location of signs; providing sanctions for failure to comply; requiring a facility on the watch list to provide notice containing certain information to the resident's primary familial contact; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 400.191, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.191 Availability, distribution, and posting of reports and records.—

(3) Each nursing home facility licensee shall maintain as public information, available upon request, records of all cost and inspection reports pertaining to that facility that have been filed with, or issued by, any governmental agency. Copies of the reports shall be retained in the records for not less than 5 years following the date the reports are filed or issued.

(a) The agency shall publish in the Nursing Home Guide a "Nursing Home Guide Watch List" to assist consumers in evaluating the quality of nursing home care in Florida. The

Page 1 of 3

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HB 787 2014

watch list must identify each facility that met the criteria for a conditional licensure status and each facility that is operating under bankruptcy protection. The watch list must include, but is not limited to, the facility's name, address, and ownership; the county in which the facility operates; the license expiration date; the number of licensed beds; a description of the deficiency causing the facility to be placed on the list; any corrective action taken; and the cumulative number of days and percentage of days the facility had a conditional license in the past 30 months. The watch list must include a brief description regarding how to choose a nursing home, the categories of licensure, the agency's inspection process, an explanation of terms used in the watch list, and the addresses and phone numbers of the agency's health quality assurance field offices.

- (b) Upon publication of each Nursing Home Guide, the agency must post a copy on its website by the 15th calendar day of the second month following the end of the calendar quarter. Each nursing home licensee must retrieve the most recent version of the Nursing Home Guide from the agency's website.
- (c) A facility placed on the watch list must clearly and conspicuously post a sign on every facility entrance that reads:
  "NOTICE: THIS FACILITY IS CURRENTLY ON FLORIDA'S NURSING HOME
  GUIDE WATCH LIST." The sign must remain posted while the facility remains on the watch list. If the agency determines that a facility has violated this paragraph, the agency shall

Page 2 of 3

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HB 787 2014

cite the facility for a class I deficiency and place the facility on a 6-month inspection visit cycle.

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(d) A facility placed on the watch list must provide written or electronic notice to the primary familial contact of each of that facility's residents informing them of the facility's placement on the watch list. Notice must include a description of the deficiency causing the facility to be placed on the watch list, any corrective action taken, and the cumulative number of days and percentage of days that the facility had a conditional license in the past 30 months.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.