

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

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

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

BILL: SB 202

INTRODUCER: Senator Bean

SUBJECT: Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living

DATE: September 24, 2015 REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	<u>Hendon</u>	<u>Hendon</u>	<u>CF</u>	<u>Pre-meeting</u>
2.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>AED</u>	<u> </u>
3.	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u>FP</u>	<u> </u>

I. Summary:

SB 202 renames the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant Services Program as the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant Services and Employment Assistance Program. The bill revises the existing oversight group to an advisory committee. The Florida Association for Independent Living will provide administrative support. Finally, the bill allows volunteers to provide assistance on an intermittent basis for less than 10 hours per month at centers for independent living under certain conditions.

The bill has no fiscal impact on state funds.

The bill has an effective date of July 1, 2016.

II. Present Situation:

Sections 413.402 and 413.4021, F.S., establish and provide a specific funding source for a personal care attendant program to provide personal care attendants to eligible persons with severe and chronic disabilities. The program was established as a pilot in 2002¹ and made permanent and statewide in 2005.² Currently, there are 16 Centers for Independent Living operating in Florida.³ The most recent data show that the centers provided independent living services to 21,938 people from October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014.⁴

¹ Chapter 2002-286, L.O.F.

² Chapter 2005-172, L.O.F.

³ See http://rehabworks.org/indep_living.shtml (last visited on September 24, 2015).

⁴ See E-mail from Tonya Cooper, Legislative Affairs Director, Florida Department of Education (September 24, 2015) (on file with the Senate Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs).

Pursuant to s. 413.402, F.S., the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation (also known as the Able Trust) is required to enter into an agreement with the Florida Association for Centers for Independent Living to administer the program. The administrative expenses of the association are paid from funds deposited with the Able Trust pursuant to the Tax Collection Enforcement Diversion Program⁵ and the Motorcycle Specialty License Plate program.⁶

Persons eligible to participate in the program must:

- Be at least 18 years of age, a legal resident of this state and significantly and chronically disabled;
- Require a personal care attendant for assistance with or support for at least two activities of daily living such as bathing and dressing and as defined in s. 429.02, F.S.;
- Require a personal care attendant in order to maintain substantial gainful employment; and
- Be able to acquire and direct a personal care attendant.

Training for program participants on hiring and managing a personal care attendant shall be provided by Florida Association for Centers for Independent Living. Additionally, the association coordinates with the Department of Revenue and the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association to select the judicial circuits in which to operate the program.

There are two funding sources for the Personal Care Attendant program:

- Tax Collection Enforcement Diversion Program; and
- Fees from the Motorcycle Specialty License Plate.⁷

Tax Collection Enforcement Diversion Program

In conjunction with the establishment of the Personal Care Attendant program, the Department of Revenue was directed, in cooperation with Association for Centers for Independent Living and state attorneys, to select judicial circuits in which to operate a tax collection enforcement diversion program (“tax diversion program”) to collect unpaid sales taxes from delinquent business owners.⁸ Fifty percent of the collections from the tax diversion program are deposited into the operating account of the Able Trust to be used to operate the Personal Care Attendant program and to contract with the state attorneys participating in the tax diversion program.⁹ Sixteen centers in all 20 circuits participate in the tax diversion program.¹⁰

Motorcycle Specialty (Bikers Care) License Plate Fees

The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) offers a specialty tax to any owner or lessee of a motorcycle who chooses to pay the additional cost.¹¹ DHSMV collects an annual use fee of \$20 from the sale of each motorcycle specialty license plate and distributes the

⁵ Section 413.4021(1), F.S.

⁶ Section 320.08068(4)(d), F.S.

⁷ Sections 413.4021(1) and 320.08068(4)(d), F.S.

⁸ Section 413.4021, F.S.

⁹ Section 413.4021(1), F.S. The contract amount for each state attorney cannot exceed \$50,000.

¹⁰ See http://rehabworks.org/cil_map.shtml (last visited on September 24, 2015).

¹¹ Section 320.08068(2), F.S.

fees to the Able Trust. The Able Trust is permitted to retain a maximum of 10 percent of the funds for administrative costs and distribute the remaining funds as follows:

- Twenty percent to the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program Trust Fund;
- Twenty percent to Prevent Blindness Florida;
- Twenty percent to the Blind Services Foundation of Florida;
- Twenty percent to the Able Trust to support the Personal Care Attendant program; and
- Twenty percent to Florida Association for Centers for Independent Living.¹²

Background Screening Requirements for Service Providers

Service providers are persons or entities who provide employment services, supported employment services, independent living services, self-employment services, personal assistance services, vocational evaluation or tutorial services, or rehabilitation technology services on a contractual or fee-for-service basis to vulnerable persons.¹³ Service providers must register with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation. As a condition of registration, level 2 background screening pursuant to s. 435, F.S., must be conducted by the division on certain individuals and rescreening of these individuals must occur every five years following the initial screening.¹⁴

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1 amends s. 413.208, F.S., to allow a volunteer for a center for independent living, who assists on an intermittent basis for less than 10 hours per month to not be subject to the background screening pursuant to ch. 435, F.S., if a provider's employee is present and has the volunteer within line of sight.

Section 2 amends s. 413.402, F.S., to rename the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant Services Program as the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant Services and Employment Assistance Program. In addition to the provision of personal care attendants, other support and services necessary to maintain competitive employment or self-employment are available to eligible persons in the program.

This section establishes eligibility requirements for participation in the program. A person must be:

- At least 18 years of age, a legal resident of this state and significantly and chronically disabled.
- Determined by a physician, psychologist, or psychiatrist, to require a personal care attendant for at least two activities of daily living as defined in s. 429.02, F.S.
- Require a personal care attendant and may require other support and services to accept an offer of imminent employment, commence working or maintain competitive employment.

The Florida Association for Centers for Independent Living must provide training to program participants on the hiring and managing of a personal care attendant and other skills needed to effectively access and manage the support and services provided in the program.

¹² Section 320.08069(4), F.S.

¹³ Section 413.20(20), F.S.

¹⁴ Section 413.208(1), F.S.

Section 3 amends s. 413.4021, F.S., to increase the amount available to contract with the state attorneys participating in the tax collection enforcement diversion program to not more than \$75,000 per state attorney.

Section 4 amends s. 320.08068, F.S., to change the name of the entity receiving 20 percent of the funds distributed by the Able Trust to the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant Services and Employment Assistance Program.

Section 5 provides an effective date of July 1, 2016, for the bill.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

SB 202 expands the scope of services to disabled persons to include employment assistance to eligible program participants. The potential savings from increased employment of individuals with severe and chronic disabilities may be seen in reduced long-term care costs.

The bill also increases the amount of funds available to contract with the state attorneys participating in the tax collection enforcement diversion program from \$50,000 to not more than \$75,000 for each state attorney.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Statutes Affected:

This bill substantially amends the following sections of the Florida Statutes: 413.208, 413.402, 413.4021, and 320.08068.

IX. Additional Information:

A. Committee Substitute – Statement of Changes:

(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

B. Amendments:

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
