

Committee on Children, Families, and Elder Affairs

CS/CS/HB 21 — Substance Abuse Services

by Health and Human Services Committee; Children, Families and Seniors Subcommittee; and Reps. Hager, Harrell, and others (CS/CS/SB 326 by Appropriations Committee; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee; and Senators Clemens and Sachs)

The bill establishes a process for the voluntary certification of recovery residences and recovery residence administrators. Recovery residences, also called sober homes, provide a living environment free from substance abuse to assist in recovery from addiction.

The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is required to approve at least one credentialing entity by December 1, 2015, for the development and administration of the certification programs.

The credentialing entity or entities must establish procedures for the certification of recovery residences and recovery residence administrators. The bill also provides for application, examination and certification fees for the recovery residence administrator.

The DCF is required to publish a list of all certified recovery residences and recovery residence administrators on its website but the bill allows for a recovery residence or recovery residence administrator to be excluded from the list under certain circumstances.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2015.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 113-2