

By the Committee on Elder Affairs & Long Term Care and
Representative Dennis

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to elderly affairs; creating s.
3 430.071, F.S.; providing definitions;
4 establishing the "Respite for Elders Living in
5 Everyday Families" (RELIEF) program to be
6 administered by the Office of Volunteer and
7 Community Services in the Department of Elderly
8 Affairs; providing for the screening,
9 selection, and training of volunteers;
10 providing other duties for the office; amending
11 s. 430.502, F.S.; providing for a memory
12 disorder clinic at Orlando Regional Healthcare
13 System, Inc.; providing an effective date.
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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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17 Section 1. Section 430.071, Florida Statutes, is
18 created to read:

19 430.071 Respite for elders living in everyday
20 families.--

21 (1) As used in this section, the term:

22 (a) "Family unit" means one or more individuals whose
23 primary residence is with a homebound elderly individual
24 specifically for the purpose of providing care for that
25 homebound elderly individual. The family does not necessarily
26 need to be related by blood or marriage to the homebound
27 elderly individual.

28 (b) "Respite" means in-home assistance for a homebound
29 elderly individual from someone who is not a member of the
30 family unit, which allows the family unit the ability to leave
31 the homebound elderly individual for a period of time.

1 (c) "Stipend" means an allotment of funds to enable a
2 diverse population of volunteers to provide services. The
3 allotment of funds is for a period of service and is not an
4 hourly wage.

5 (d) "Volunteer service system" means an organized
6 network of volunteers and agencies engaged in supporting
7 volunteers to assist a family unit that requires respite.

8 (2) The "Respite for Elders Living in Everyday
9 Families" (RELIEF) program will provide in-home respite that
10 is an expansion of respite that is currently available through
11 other programs, specifically including evening and weekend
12 respite. The purpose of this service is to increase the
13 ability of a family unit to continue to care for a homebound
14 elderly individual by providing in-home respite beyond the
15 basic provisions of current public programs.

16 (3) Respite services shall be provided through a
17 multigenerational corps of volunteers, volunteers who receive
18 a stipend, and any other appropriate personnel as determined
19 by the department.

20 (a) Volunteers shall be screened, selected, trained,
21 and registered according to standards developed by the Office
22 of Volunteer and Community Services in the Department of
23 Elderly Affairs. These standards must be developed to ensure,
24 at a minimum, the safety of a homebound elderly individual who
25 will receive the respite service.

26 (b) Volunteers may be recruited from a variety of
27 sources, including, but not limited to, volunteer centers,
28 religious organizations, college campuses, corporations,
29 families, Retired Senior Volunteer Programs, Senior Companion
30 Programs, and AmeriCorps Programs.

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1 (4) To receive assistance from the RELIEF program, the
2 family unit must be assessed according to the following
3 guidelines developed by the department to determine the need
4 for respite services. This assessment must determine, at a
5 minimum, that:

6 (a) The family unit is unable to pay for respite
7 without jeopardizing other basic needs, including, but not
8 limited to, food, shelter, and medications.

9 (b) The homebound elderly individual for whom the
10 family unit is caring is 60 years of age or older, requires
11 assistance to remain in the home, and, without this
12 assistance, would need to move to an assisted living facility
13 or a nursing facility.

14 (5) A family unit that receives respite services from
15 the RELIEF program is not excluded from receiving assistance
16 from other governmental programs.

17 (6) The Office of Volunteer and Community Services
18 shall:

19 (a) Systematically develop a volunteer service system
20 in order to provide respite services under the RELIEF program.
21 The office shall also implement, monitor, and evaluate the
22 delivery of respite services under this program.

23 (b) Work collaboratively with local, state, and
24 national organizations, including, but not limited to, the
25 Florida Commission on Community Service, to promote the use of
26 volunteers offering respite under this program.

27 (c) Encourage contributions and grants through public
28 and private sources to promote the delivery of respite to
29 assist family units providing care for homebound elderly
30 individuals.

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1 Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 430.502, Florida
2 Statutes, is amended to read;

3 430.502 Alzheimer's disease; memory disorder clinics
4 and day care and respite care programs.--

5 (1) There is established ~~The Legislature shall fund:~~

6 (a) A memory disorder clinic at each of the three
7 medical schools in this state;

8 (b) A memory disorder clinic at a major private
9 nonprofit research-oriented teaching hospital, and may fund a
10 memory disorder clinic at any of the other affiliated teaching
11 hospitals;

12 (c) A memory disorder clinic at the Mayo Clinic in
13 Jacksonville;

14 (d) A memory disorder clinic at the West Florida
15 Regional Medical Center;

16 (e) The East Central Florida Memory Disorder Clinic at
17 the Joint Center for Advanced Therapeutics and Biomedical
18 Research of the Florida Institute of Technology and Holmes
19 Regional Medical Center, Inc.; ~~and~~

20 (f) A memory disorder clinic at the Orlando Regional
21 Healthcare System, Inc.; and

22 (g)~~(f)~~ A memory disorder center located in a public
23 hospital that is operated by an independent special hospital
24 taxing district that governs multiple hospitals and is located
25 in a county with a population greater than 800,000 persons,

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27 for the purpose of conducting research and training in a
28 diagnostic and therapeutic setting for persons suffering from
29 Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders. However,
30 memory disorder clinics funded as of June 30, 1995, shall not
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1 receive decreased funding due solely to subsequent additions
2 of memory disorder clinics in this subsection.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
4 law.

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