

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

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Alzheimer's disease;
3 creating s. 400.4178, F.S.; providing standards
4 for facilities that provide special care for
5 persons with Alzheimer's disease and other
6 related disorders; providing employee training
7 requirements; providing continuing education
8 requirements; providing for approval of
9 education courses and providers; providing for
10 fees; providing for rules; amending s. 400.452,
11 F.S.; including education on Alzheimer's
12 disease and related disorders in the core
13 educational requirement for facility
14 administrators and staff; providing an
15 effective date.

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

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19 Section 1. Section 400.4178, Florida Statutes, is
20 created to read:

21 400.4178 Special care for persons with Alzheimer's
22 disease or other related disorders.--

23 (1) A facility which advertises that it provides
24 special care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other
25 related disorders must meet the following standards of
26 operation:

27 (a)1. If the facility has 17 or more residents, have
28 an awake staff member on duty at all hours of the day and
29 night; or

30 2. If the facility has fewer than 17 residents, have
31 an awake staff member on duty at all hours of the day and

1 night or have mechanisms in place to monitor and ensure the
2 safety of the facility's residents.

3 (b) Offer activities specifically designed for persons
4 who are cognitively impaired.

5 (c) Have a physical environment that provides for the
6 safety and welfare of the facility's residents.

7 (d) Employ staff who have completed the training and
8 continuing education required in subsection (2).

9 (2)(a) An individual who is employed by a facility
10 that provides special care for residents with Alzheimer's
11 disease or other related disorders, and who has regular
12 contact with such residents, must complete up to 4 hours of
13 initial dementia-specific training developed or approved by
14 the department. The training shall be completed within 3
15 months after beginning employment and shall satisfy the core
16 training requirements of s. 400.452(2)(g).

17 (b) A direct caregiver who is employed by a facility
18 that provides special care for residents with Alzheimer's
19 disease or other related disorders, and who provides direct
20 care to such residents, must complete the required initial
21 training and 4 additional hours of training developed or
22 approved by the department. The training shall be completed
23 within 9 months after beginning employment and shall satisfy
24 the core training requirements of s. 400.452(2)(g).

25 (c) An individual who is employed by a facility that
26 provides special care for residents with Alzheimer's disease
27 or other related disorders, but who only has incidental
28 contact with such residents, must be given, at a minimum,
29 general information on interacting with individuals with
30 Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders, within 3
31 months after beginning employment.

1 (3) In addition to the training required under
2 subsection (2), a direct caregiver must participate in a
3 minimum of 4 contact hours of continuing education each
4 calendar year. The continuing education must include one or
5 more topics included in the dementia-specific training
6 developed or approved by the department, in which the
7 caregiver has not received previous training.

8 (4) Upon completing any training listed in subsection
9 (2), the employee or direct caregiver shall be issued a
10 certificate that includes the name of the training provider,
11 the topic covered, and the date and signature of the training
12 provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of
13 training in the identified topic, and the employee or direct
14 caregiver is not required to repeat training in that topic if
15 the employee or direct caregiver changes employment to a
16 different facility. The employee or direct caregiver must
17 comply with other applicable continuing education
18 requirements.

19 (5) The department, or its designee, shall approve the
20 initial and continuing education courses and providers.

21 (6) The department shall keep a current list of
22 providers who are approved to provide initial and continuing
23 education for staff of facilities that provide special care
24 for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other related
25 disorders.

26 (7) Any facility more than 90 percent of whose
27 residents receive monthly optional supplementation payments is
28 not required to pay for the training and education programs
29 required under this section. A facility that has one or more
30 such residents shall pay a reduced fee that is proportional to
31 the percentage of such residents in the facility. A facility

1 that does not have any residents who receive monthly optional
2 supplementation payments must pay a reasonable fee, as
3 established by the department, for such training and education
4 programs.

5 (8) The department shall adopt rules to establish
6 standards for trainers and training and to implement this
7 section.

8 Section 2. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (2) of
9 section 400.452, Florida Statutes, to read:

10 400.452 Staff training and educational programs; core
11 educational requirement.--

12 (2) The department shall also establish a core
13 educational requirement to be used in these programs.
14 Successful completion of the core educational requirement must
15 include successful completion of a competency test. Programs
16 must be provided by the department or by a provider approved
17 by the department at least quarterly. The core educational
18 requirement must cover at least the following topics:

19 (g) Alzheimer's disease and other related disorders.

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