

By Representative Bitner

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to nursing home facilities;
amending s. 400.235, F.S.; providing a
limitation on the recovery of certain costs and
fees in civil actions against a nursing
facility designated as a Gold Seal facility;
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (9) is added to section 400.235,
Florida Statutes, to read:

400.235 Nursing home quality and licensure status;
Gold Seal Program.--

(9) Any attorney's fees awarded in a civil action
under s. 400.023, and any costs awarded for expert witness
fees in such an action, against a nursing facility that was,
at the time the action was brought, designated as a Gold Seal
facility pursuant to this section shall not exceed in the
aggregate a total of \$50,000.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.

HOUSE SUMMARY

Limits award of attorney's fees and expert witness costs
in a civil enforcement action against a Gold Seal nursing
facility to an aggregate total of \$50,000.