1

31

An act relating to persons with disabilities; creating s. 413.402, F.S.; directing the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living to develop a personal care attendant pilot program to serve persons with spinal cord injuries; providing for memorandums of understanding with specified entities; providing eligibility for pilot program participation; providing for selection and training of participants and personal care attendants; providing for use of a licensed nurse registry to recruit and screen participants and act as a fiscal intermediary; providing for assessment of participants for work-related training programs; providing for development of a plan for program implementation; requiring a report to the Legislature; providing for implementation on a specified date; directing the Department of Revenue to develop and implement a tax collection enforcement diversion program; providing for coordination with the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living, the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, and the state attorneys' offices; providing for deposit and use of funds collected; directing the Revenue Estimating Conference to make certain annual projections; providing an appropriation; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 1 2 3 Section 1. Section 413.402, Florida Statutes, is 4 created to read: 5 413.402 Personal care attendant pilot program. -- The 6 Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living shall 7 develop a pilot program to provide personal care attendants to 8 persons who are eligible pursuant to subsection (1). The 9 association shall develop memorandums of understanding with the Department of Revenue, the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury 10 Program in the Department of Health, the Florida Medicaid 11 12 program in the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, 13 14 and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the 15 Department of Education. (1) Persons eligible to participate in the pilot 16 17 program must: 18 (a) Be at least 18 years of age and be significantly 19 disabled due to a traumatic spinal cord injury; 20 (b) Have been determined eligible for training 21 services from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the 22 Department of Education; and 23 (c) Either: 1. Live in a nursing home; or 24 2. Have moved out of a nursing home within the 25 26 preceding 180 days due to participation in a Medicaid home and 27 community-based waiver program targeted to persons with brain 28 or spinal cord injuries. 29 The association shall develop a training program 30 for training persons selected to participate in the pilot 31

program that will prepare each person to manage his or her own
personal care attendant.

- (3)(a) The association, in cooperation with the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, shall develop a program to recruit, screen, and select candidates to be trained as personal care attendants.
- (b) The services of a nurse registry licensed pursuant to s. 400.506 may be utilized to recruit and screen candidates and to operate as a fiscal intermediary through which payments are made to individuals performing services as personal care attendants under the pilot program. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall seek any federal waivers necessary to implement this provision.
- (4) The association, in cooperation with the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, shall develop a training program for personal care attendants.
- (5) The association, in cooperation with the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, shall establish procedures for selecting persons eligible under subsection (1) to participate in the pilot program.
- (6) The association, in cooperation with the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education, shall assess the selected participants and make recommendations for their placement into appropriate work-related training programs.
- (7) The association, in cooperation with the

  Department of Revenue, the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury

  Program in the Department of Health, the Florida Medicaid

  program in the Agency for Health Care Administration, a

  representative from the state attorney's office in each of the

  counties participating in the pilot program, the Florida

Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of the Department of Education, shall develop a plan for implementation of the pilot program.

(8) No later than March 1, 2003, the association shall present to the President of the Senate and to the Speaker of the House of Representatives the implementation plan for the pilot program, a timeline for implementation, estimates of the number of participants to be served, and cost projections for each component of the pilot program. The pilot program shall be implemented beginning July 1, 2003, unless there is specific legislative action to the contrary.

Section 2. The Department of Revenue, in coordination with the the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living and the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys Association, shall select four counties in which to operate the pilot program. The association and the state attorneys' offices in Duval County and the four pilot program counties shall develop and implement a tax collection enforcement diversion program, which shall collect revenue due from persons who have not remitted their collected sales tax. The criteria for referral to the tax collection enforcement diversion program shall be determined cooperatively between the state attorneys' offices in those counties and the Department of Revenue.

(1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 212.20,
Florida Statutes, 25 percent of the revenues collected from
the tax collection enforcement diversion program shall be
deposited into the operating account of the Florida Endowment
Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, to be used to
implement the personal care attendant pilot program.

(2) The pilot program shall operate only from funds
deposited into the operating account of the Florida Endowment
Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation.
(3) The Revenue Estimating Conference shall annually
project the amount of funds expected to be generated from the
tax collection enforcement diversion program.
Section 3. There is appropriated from the Brain and
Spinal Cord Injury Program Trust Fund to the Florida Endowment
Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation the sum of \$250,000
in nonrecurring funds for fiscal year 2002-2003 for
development of the personal care attendant pilot program under
s. 413.402, Florida Statutes. The initial \$50,000 from each of
the pilot program counties and Duval County deposited with the
Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation
shall be used to repay the \$250,000 to the Brain and Spinal
Cord Injury Program Trust Fund.
Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.