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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to community care for the elderly; amending s. 430.205, F.S.; providing guidelines for prioritizing services; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (5) of section 430.205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.205 Community care service system.--

Any person who has been classified as a functionally impaired elderly person is eligible to receive community-carefor-the-elderly core services. Those elderly persons who are determined by protective investigations to be vulnerable adults in need of services, pursuant to s. 415.104(3)(b), or to be victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation who are in need of immediate services to prevent further harm and are referred by the adult protective services program, shall be given primary consideration for receiving community-care-for-the-elderly services. As used in this subsection, "primary consideration" means that an assessment and services must commence within 72 hours after referral to the department or as established in accordance with department contracts by local protocols developed between department service providers and the adult protective services program. Another factor that must be considered in prioritizing these services is the potential recipient's ability to pay. Those who are less able must receive higher priority than those who are better able to pay.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.