

By Senator Margolis

35-812-03

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to adult protection teams;
amending s. 415.1102, F.S.; requiring the
Department of Children and Family Services to
develop, maintain, and coordinate the services
of multidisciplinary adult protection teams in
each district; defining the term
"multidisciplinary adult protection team";
providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 415.1102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.1102 Adult protection teams.--

~~(1) Subject to an appropriation,~~The department shall
~~may~~ develop, maintain, and coordinate the services of one or
more multidisciplinary adult protection teams in each of the
districts of the department. As used in this section, the term
"multidisciplinary adult protection team" means a team of two
or more persons who are trained in the prevention,
identification, and treatment of abuse of elderly persons, as
defined in s. 430.602, or of dependent persons and who are
qualified to provide a broad range of services related to
abuse of elderly or dependent persons.

(2) Such teams may be composed of, but need not be limited to:

(a) Psychiatrists, psychologists, or other trained counseling personnel;

(b) Police officers or other law enforcement officers;

1 (c) Medical personnel who have sufficient training to
2 provide health services;

3 (d) Social workers who have experience or training in
4 preventing the abuse of elderly or dependent persons; and

5 (e) Public guardians as described in part IX of
6 chapter 744., representatives of appropriate health, mental
7 health, social service, legal service, and law enforcement
8 agencies.

9 (3) The department shall utilize and convene the teams
10 to supplement the protective services activities of the
11 protective services program of the department.

12 (4) This section does not prevent a person from
13 reporting under s. 415.1034 all suspected or known cases of
14 abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult. The
15 role of the teams is to support activities of the protective
16 services program and to provide services deemed by the teams
17 to be necessary and appropriate to abused, neglected, and
18 exploited vulnerable adults upon referral. Services must be
19 provided with the consent of the vulnerable adult or that
20 person's guardian, or through court order.

21 (5) ~~If in all instances in which~~ an adult protection
22 team is providing certain services to abused, neglected, o/
23 exploited vulnerable adults, other offices and units of the
24 department shall avoid duplicating ~~the provisions of those~~
25 services.

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

Requires, rather than allows, the Department of Children and Family Services to develop, maintain, and coordinate the services of multidisciplinary adult protection teams in each district of the department. Defines the term "multidisciplinary adult protection team."