

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to care for elderly persons; providing a popular name; providing legislative findings; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Elderly Affairs to assist a private, not-for-profit organization within specified counties in providing services under a federal program known as the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly; specifying the number of enrollees; requiring the agency to contract with the private organization, subject to federal approval; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly.--

(1) This section may be referred to by the popular name "Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly Act."

(2) The Legislature finds that:

(a) The establishment of additional sites for the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, as established in Pub. L. No. 105-33, should be encouraged in this state as one method to enhance the ability of frail and elderly persons who are certified as needing placement in a residential nursing home to delay the necessity of such placement as long as possible.

(b) The Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly offers a means to help control state Medicaid costs for long-term care placements by using Medicare funding to help finance services that help to delay the need for long-term care.

HB 1621

2004

30 (c) Lee and Martin Counties and the surrounding counties
31 represent large and growing regions wherein, due to demographic
32 characteristics, a significant opportunity exists to assist
33 elderly persons in maintaining independence outside nursing
34 homes and wherein the state may reduce Medicaid expenditures for
35 providing long term care.

36 (d) Due to the relative newness and comprehensiveness of
37 the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly, the Agency
38 for Health Care Administration and the Department of Elderly
39 Affairs shall cooperate with private organizations interested in
40 providing services under the program.

41 (e) There exists a need to develop a model for hospice
42 providers to offer nursing home diversion services as part of
43 the array of end-of-life care and services available to frail
44 and elderly persons.

45 (3) The Agency for Health Care Administration and the
46 Department of Elderly Affairs shall assist one private, not-for-
47 profit organization located in Lee County and one such
48 organization located in Martin County, which provide
49 comprehensive services including hospice care for frail and
50 elderly persons, to gain approval for providing services under
51 the Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly.

52 (4) By September 30, 2005, the Agency for Health Care
53 Administration shall approve 50 initial enrollees in the Program
54 of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly within Lee and Martin
55 Counties and the surrounding counties and up to 200 enrollees
56 within 2 years, subject to the ability of a private organization
57 to sufficiently expand capacity for additional enrollees.

HB 1621

2004

58 Authorization for enrollment levels greater than 200 is subject
59 to documentation of each program's effectiveness.

60 (5) By July 1, 2005, and subject to an appropriation, the
61 Agency for Health Care Administration shall contract with
62 private, not-for-profit organizations in Lee and Martin
63 Counties, as specified in subsection (3), to provide services
64 under the Programs of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly in Lee
65 and Martin Counties and the surrounding counties, subject to
66 federal approval of the provider application.

67 Section 2. A provider entity of a Program of All-inclusive
68 Care for the Elderly is exempt from the requirements of chapter
69 641, Florida Statutes, if such entity is a private, nonprofit
70 hospice as defined in part IV, chapter 400, s. 400.601(3), and
71 chapter 617, Florida Statutes.

72 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.