

By Senator Argenziano

3-1141A-04

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to regulation of health  
3           professions; amending s. 456.025, F.S.;  
4           providing for voluntary participation by  
5           licensees in an electronic continuing education  
6           tracking system developed by the Department of  
7           Health; providing system requirements;  
8           providing an effective date.

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

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12           Section 1. Subsection (7) of section 456.025, Florida  
13 Statutes, is amended to read:

14           456.025 Fees; receipts; disposition.--

15           (7) Each board, or the department if there is no  
16 board, shall establish, by rule, a fee not to exceed \$250 for  
17 anyone seeking approval to provide continuing education  
18 courses or programs and shall establish by rule a biennial  
19 renewal fee not to exceed \$250 for the renewal of providership  
20 of such courses. The fees collected from continuing education  
21 providers shall be used for the purposes of reviewing course  
22 provider applications, monitoring the integrity of the courses  
23 provided, covering legal expenses incurred as a result of not  
24 granting or renewing a providership, and developing and  
25 maintaining a voluntary ~~an~~ electronic continuing education  
26 tracking system.

27           (a) Each board, or the department where there is no  
28 board, in consultation with the applicable professional  
29 association, may develop an electronic continuing education  
30 tracking system. The board or department may operate the  
31 system, may contract with a private vendor to operate it, or

1 may allow a professional association to offer it as a member  
2 benefit.

3 (b) The system shall be voluntary for licensees and  
4 shall:

5 1. Provide for an initial continuing education  
6 compliance notice to be given to each participating licensee  
7 no later than 6 months before the licensee's license renewal  
8 date.

9 2. Allow participating licensees to input records of  
10 their completed continuing education courses into the system.

11 3. Allow approved continuing education providers to  
12 input completed continuing education course information about  
13 participating licensees into the system.

14 (c) Information regarding such continuing education  
15 courses may not be used by a board or the department as the  
16 sole factor in determining whether to approve or deny a  
17 license renewal application.~~The department shall implement an~~  
18 ~~electronic continuing education tracking system for each new~~  
19 ~~biennial renewal cycle for which electronic renewals are~~  
20 ~~implemented after the effective date of this act and shall~~  
21 ~~integrate such system into the licensure and renewal system.~~  
22 ~~All approved continuing education providers shall provide~~  
23 ~~information on course attendance to the department necessary~~  
24 ~~to implement the electronic tracking system. The department~~  
25 ~~shall, by rule, specify the form and procedures by which the~~  
26 ~~information is to be submitted.~~

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides that participation in an electronic continuing education tracking system operated by the Department of Health is voluntary for licensees. Establishes system requirements. Deletes provisions making such system mandatory for licensees.