CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Appropriations recommends the following:

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Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to services for the elderly; amending s. 400.441, F.S.; requiring facilities to conduct resident elopement drills; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; allowing contracting for certain CARES program functions; requiring assessment and review of certain nursing home placements; requiring a database to track individuals assessed under the CARES program and diverted from nursing home care; requiring an annual study on individuals diverted from nursing home placement; requiring a report on modifying level of care criteria; amending s. 430.205, F.S.; requiring development of a managed care delivery system for Medicaid services; providing for submission to the Governor and Legislature of a plan to include Medicare in an integrated long-term-care system; providing for integration of Medicare and Medicaid services; creating s. 430.2071, F.S.; requiring integration of certain home and community-based Medicaid waiver programs; requiring a specific funding level after integration; requiring the

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agency to seek waivers or amendments to waivers as necessary; providing that the agency may reimburse providers; requiring rules; requiring the department and agency to study and develop a plan to integrate certain databases; requiring that such plan be submitted to the Governor and Legislature; requiring evaluations of the plan and certain services; amending s. 430.041, F.S.; revising duties to the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy; removing the advisory council of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy; providing for an interagency coordinating team; revising requirements for reports; amending s. 430.203, F.S.; revising requirements for the community care service system; revising requirements for competitive bidding exemptions; requiring all services to be delivered directly by or through lead agencies; amending s. 430.7031, F.S.; requiring CARES program staff to review a percentage of case files; creating s. 430.2053, F.S.; requiring pilot projects for aging resource centers; requiring an implementation plan; requiring that area agencies on aging submit proposals for transition to aging resource centers; requiring a review of the department's process for determining readiness; specifying purposes and duties of an aging resource center; requiring integration of certain functions of other state agencies; specifying criteria for selection of entities to become aging resource centers; specifying the duties and responsibilities of community-care-for-the-elderly providers in an area served by an aging resource center;

specifying programs administered by an aging resource center; requiring rules; allowing capitated payments; requiring reports; amending s. 430.703, F.S.; revising requirements for other qualified providers; amending s. 430.705, F.S.; providing additional requirements for long-term-care community diversion pilot projects; providing legislative findings; requiring a demonstration project; requiring rules; requiring integration of certain managed care programs; amending s. 430.502, F.S.; designating a Memory Disorder Clinic; amending s. 1004.445, F.S.; providing for appointments to the board of the Alzheimer's Center; requiring a report; making contingent on an appropriation; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (1) is added to subsection (1) of section 400.441, Florida Statutes, to read:

400.441 Rules establishing standards.--

(1) It is the intent of the Legislature that rules published and enforced pursuant to this section shall include criteria by which a reasonable and consistent quality of resident care and quality of life may be ensured and the results of such resident care may be demonstrated. Such rules shall also ensure a safe and sanitary environment that is residential and noninstitutional in design or nature. It is further intended that reasonable efforts be made to accommodate the needs and preferences of residents to enhance the quality of life in a

facility. In order to provide safe and sanitary facilities and the highest quality of resident care accommodating the needs and preferences of residents, the department, in consultation with the agency, the Department of Children and Family Services, and the Department of Health, shall adopt rules, policies, and procedures to administer this part, which must include reasonable and fair minimum standards in relation to:

(1) The establishment of specific policies and procedures on resident elopement. Facilities shall conduct a minimum of two resident elopement drills per year. All administrators and direct care staff shall participate in the drills. Facilities shall document the drills.

Section 2. Paragraph (h) of subsection (4) and subsection (15) of section 409.912, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.912 Cost-effective purchasing of health care.--The agency shall purchase goods and services for Medicaid recipients in the most cost-effective manner consistent with the delivery of quality medical care. The agency shall maximize the use of prepaid per capita and prepaid aggregate fixed-sum basis services when appropriate and other alternative service delivery and reimbursement methodologies, including competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, designed to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of a case-managed continuum of care. The agency shall also require providers to minimize the exposure of recipients to the need for acute inpatient, custodial, and other institutional care and the inappropriate or unnecessary use of high-cost services. The agency may establish prior authorization requirements for certain populations of Medicaid beneficiaries,

certain drug classes, or particular drugs to prevent fraud, abuse, overuse, and possible dangerous drug interactions. The Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee shall make recommendations to the agency on drugs for which prior authorization is required. The agency shall inform the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee of its decisions regarding drugs subject to prior authorization.

(4) The agency may contract with:

- (h) An entity authorized in s. <u>430.705(10)</u> <u>430.205</u> to contract with the agency and the Department of Elderly Affairs to provide health care and social services on a prepaid or fixed-sum basis to elderly recipients. Such prepaid health care services entities are exempt from the provisions of part I of chapter 641 for the first 3 years of operation. An entity recognized under this paragraph that demonstrates to the satisfaction of the Office of Insurance Regulation that it is backed by the full faith and credit of one or more counties in which it operates may be exempted from s. 641.225.
- Assessment and Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) nursing facility preadmission screening program to ensure that Medicaid payment for nursing facility care is made only for individuals whose conditions require such care and to ensure that long-term care services are provided in the setting most appropriate to the needs of the person and in the most economical manner possible. The CARES program shall also ensure that individuals participating in Medicaid home and community-

based waiver programs meet criteria for those programs, consistent with approved federal waivers.

- (b) The agency shall operate the CARES program through an interagency agreement with the Department of Elderly Affairs.

 The agency, with agreement from the Department of Elderly

 Affairs, may contract for any function or activity of the CARES

 program, including any function or activity required by 42

 C.F.R. part 483.20, relating to preadmission screening and resident review, if the agency and the department can demonstrate that contracting for such a function will result in a savings to the state and increased efficiency and accountability.
- (c) Prior to making payment for nursing facility services for a Medicaid recipient, the agency must verify that the nursing facility preadmission screening program has determined that the individual requires nursing facility care and that the individual cannot be safely served in community-based programs. The nursing facility preadmission screening program shall refer a Medicaid recipient to a community-based program if the individual could be safely served at a lower cost and the recipient chooses to participate in such program.
- (d) For the purpose of initiating immediate prescreening and diversion assistance for individuals residing in nursing homes and in order to make families aware of alternative long-term-care resources so that they may choose a more cost-effective setting for long-term placement, within existing appropriated staffing, CARES staff shall conduct an assessment and review of a sample of individuals whose nursing home stay is

expected to exceed 20 days, regardless of the initial funding source for the nursing home placement. CARES staff shall provide counseling and referral services to these individuals regarding choosing a facility. This paragraph does not apply to continuing care facilities licensed under chapter 651 or to retirement communities that provide a combination of nursing home, independent living, and other long-term-care services.

(e)(d) By January 15 1 of each year, the agency shall submit a report to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Legislature and the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy describing the operations of the CARES program. The report must describe:

- 1. Rate of diversion to community alternative programs;
- 2. CARES program staffing needs to achieve additional diversions;
- 3. Reasons the program is unable to place individuals in less restrictive settings when such individuals desired such services and could have been served in such settings;
- 4. Barriers to appropriate placement, including barriers due to policies or operations of other agencies or state-funded programs; and
- 5. Statutory changes necessary to ensure that individuals in need of long-term care services receive care in the least restrictive environment.
- (f) Subject to available appropriations, the Department of Elderly Affairs shall develop a database to track individuals over time who are assessed under the CARES program and who are diverted from nursing home placement. By January 15 of each

year, the department shall submit to the President of the

Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the

Office of Long-Term-Care Policy a longitudinal study of the

individuals who are diverted from nursing home placement. The

study must include:

- 1. The demographic characteristics of the individuals assessed and diverted from nursing home placement, including, but not limited to, age, race, gender, frailty, caregiver status, living arrangements, and geographic location.
- 2. A summary of community services provided to individuals for 1 year after assessment and diversion.
- 3. A summary of inpatient hospital admissions for individuals who have been diverted.
- 4. A summary of the length of time between diversion and subsequent entry into a nursing home or death.
- (g) By July 1, 2005, the department and the Agency for
 Health Care Administration shall report to the President of the
 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding
 the impact to the state of modifying level of care criteria to
 eliminate the Intermediate II level of care.
- Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 430.205, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 430.205 Community care service system.--
- (6) Notwithstanding other requirements of this chapter, the department of Elderly Affairs and the Agency for Health Care Administration shall develop a model system to transition all Medicaid state-funded services for elderly individuals in portions of one or more of the department's planning and service

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areas, including both rural and urban areas, to a managed, integrated long-term-care delivery system under the direction of a single entity.

- (a) The duties of <u>each managed care organization</u>, or other <u>qualified provider as defined in s. 430.703</u>, <u>contracted to operate the managed the model</u> system shall include organizing and administering service delivery for the elderly, obtaining contracts for services with providers in the area, monitoring the quality of services provided, <u>determining levels of need and disability for payment purposes</u>, and other activities determined by the department and the agency in order to operate the <u>managed model</u> system.
- (b) The agency and the department shall integrate all funding for Medicaid services to individuals over the age of 60 65 in the managed system model planning and service areas into a single per-person per-month payment rate, except that funds for Medicaid behavioral health care services are exempt from this section. The funds to be integrated shall include:
 - 1. Community-care-for-the-elderly funds;
 - 2. Home-care-for-the-elderly funds;
 - 3. Local services program funds;
 - 4. Contracted services funds;

- 5. Alzheimer's disease initiative funds;
- 1.6. Medicaid home and community-based waiver services funds;
- $\underline{2.7.}$ Funds for all Medicaid services authorized in ss. 409.905 and 409.906, including Medicaid nursing home services; and

3.8. Funds paid for Medicare premiums, coinsurance and deductibles for persons dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare as prescribed in s. 409.908(13).

- The department and the agency shall not make <u>Medicaid</u> payments for services for people age <u>60 or older in the areas in which</u> the managed system operates <u>65 and older</u> except through the managed <u>model delivery</u> system.
- (c) The entities entity selected to administer the managed model system shall develop a comprehensive health and long-term-care service delivery system through contracts with providers of medical, social, and long-term-care services sufficient to meet the needs of the population age 60 or older 65 and older. The entity selected to administer the model system shall not directly provide services other than intake, assessment, and referral services.
- (d) The department and the agency shall contract through competitive procurement with no less than two and no more than three managed care organizations, or other qualified providers as defined in s. 430.703, to administer the project determine which of the department's planning and services areas is to be designated as a model area by means of a request for proposals. The department shall select an area to be designated as a model area and the entity to administer the model system based on demonstration of capacity of each provider the entity to:
- 1. Develop contracts with providers currently under contract with the department, area agencies on aging, or community-care-for-the-elderly lead agencies. \div

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2. Provide a comprehensive system of appropriate medical and long-term-care services that provides high-quality medical and social services to assist older individuals in remaining in the least restrictive setting. \div

- 3. Demonstrate a quality assurance and quality improvement system satisfactory to the department and the agency. \div
- 4. Develop a system to identify participants who have special health care needs such as polypharmacy, mental health and substance abuse problems, falls, chronic pain, nutritional deficits, and cognitive deficits, in order to respond to and meet these needs. \div
- 5. Use a multidisciplinary team approach to participant management which ensures that information is shared among providers responsible for delivering care to a participant \div
- 6. Ensure medical oversight of care plans and service delivery, regular medical evaluation of care plans, and the availability of medical consultation for case managers and service coordinators. \div
- 7. Develop, monitor, and enforce quality-of-care requirements.÷
- (e)8. The selected entities shall secure subcontracts with providers of medical, nursing home, and community-based long-term-care services sufficient to ensure assure access to and choice of providers by project participants. In the absence of a separate contractual relationship between a nursing home provider and a managed care organization, the nursing home shall cooperate with the managed care organization's efforts to determine if a project participant would be more appropriately

served in a community setting, and payments shall be made in accordance with Medicaid nursing home rates as calculated in the state plan.

- (f) To ensure that the contracted providers meet a high quality of care standard, the entity selected to administer the managed care system shall:
- 1. Develop and use a service provider qualification system which describes the quality-of-care standards that a nursing home must meet in order to obtain a contract with the managing entity.
- 2. Contract with all qualified nursing homes located in the area that is served by the project, including those designated as Gold Seal.
- 3. Ensure that as an area is transitioned to managed care, individuals who are residents of nursing homes in the project area prior to plan implementation and who do not choose to move to another setting are allowed to remain in the facility in which they are receiving care.

(g)9. The selected entities shall:

- $\underline{1.}$ Ensure a system of case management and service coordination which includes educational and training standards for case managers and service coordinators.
- 2.10. Develop a business plan that considers the ability of the applicant to organize and operate a risk-bearing entity. \div
- 3.11. Furnish evidence of adequate liability insurance coverage or an adequate plan of self-insurance that is determined adequate by the Department of Financial Services to

respond to claims for injuries arising out of the furnishing of health care. ; and

- $\underline{4.12.}$ Provide, through contract or otherwise, for periodic review of its medical facilities as required by the department and the agency.
- 5. Furnish in a timely manner, in a form determined by the department, requested financial data that has been determined by the department and the agency to be necessary to develop and annually recertify appropriate capitation rates for the project.
- 6. Provide enrollees the ability, to the extent possible, to choose care providers, including nursing home and assisted living service providers affiliated with an individual's religious faith or denomination and nursing home and ALF providers that are part of a retirement community in which an enrollee resides as provided for in s. 641.31(25).

The department shall give preference in selecting an area to be designated as a model area to that in which the administering entity is an existing area agency on aging or community-carefor-the-elderly lead agency demonstrating the ability to perform the functions described in this paragraph.

- (e) The department in consultation with the selected entity shall develop a statewide proposal regarding the long-term use and structure of a program that addresses a risk pool to reduce financial risk.
- (h)(f) The department and the agency shall develop capitation rates based on the historical cost experience of the state in providing acute and long-term-care services to the

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population over 60 65 years of age in the area served. The agency, in consultation with the department, shall contract for an independent entity to study the historical cost experience, adjusted to reflect changes in regulatory requirements, of the state in providing services listed in paragraph (b) to the population age 60 and older residing within the model area and to develop and certify a per-person, per-month capitation rate for the managed system. The agency, in consultation with the department, shall reevaluate and recertify the capitation rate annually. The agency and the department shall give preference in contracting for the managed system to those entities whose proposals create innovative, functional partnerships with existing community-care-for-the-elderly lead agencies.

- 1. Payment rates in the first 2 years of operation shall be set at no more than 100 percent of the costs to the state of providing equivalent services to the population of the model area for the year prior to the year in which the model system is implemented, adjusted forward to account for inflation and population growth. In subsequent years, the rate shall be negotiated based on the cost experience of the model system in providing contracted services, but may not exceed 95 percent of the amount that would have been paid by the state in the model planning and service area absent the model integrated service delivery system.
- 2. The agency and the department may develop innovative risk-sharing agreements that limit the level of custodial nursing home risk that the administering entity assumes, consistent with the intent of the Legislature to reduce the use

and cost of nursing home care. Under risk-sharing arrangements, the agency and the department may reimburse the administering entity for the cost of providing nursing home care for Medicaid-eligible participants who have been permanently placed and remain in nursing home care for more than 1 year.

(i)(g) The department and the Agency for Health Care Administration shall seek federal waivers, or amendments to existing waivers, necessary to implement the requirements of this section.

(h) The Department of Children and Family Services shall develop a streamlined and simplified eligibility system and shall outstation a sufficient number and quality of eligibility-determination staff with the administering entity to assure determination of Medicaid eligibility for the integrated service delivery system in the model planning and service area within 10 days after receipt of a complete application.

shall begin discussions with the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services regarding the inclusion of Medicare in an integrated long-term-care system. By December 31, 2006, the agency shall provide to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a plan for including Medicare in an integrated long-term-care system

The Department of Elderly Affairs shall make arrangements to outstation a sufficient number of nursing home preadmission screening staff with the administering entity to assure timely assessment of level of need for long-term-care services in the model area.

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(k)(j) The Department of Elderly Affairs shall conduct or contract for an evaluation of the managed system pilot project. The department shall submit the evaluation to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2006 2005. The evaluation must address the effects of the managed system in pilot project on the effectiveness of the entity providing a comprehensive system of appropriate and high-quality medical and long-term-care services to elders in the least restrictive setting, provide a comparison of average monthly rate incurred by diverted individuals to those of nursing home residents in a similar geographic area, and make recommendations on a phased-in implementation expansion for the rest of the state. In addition, the department, in consultation with the agency, shall consider whether providers operating in the managed system should be placed at risk for the state-funded community care for the elderly, home care for the elderly, and Alzheimer's disease initiative programs. (1) The agency shall ensure that, to the extent possible,

(1) The agency shall ensure that, to the extent possible, Medicare and Medicaid services are integrated. Where possible, individuals served in the managed system who are eligible for Medicare shall be enrolled in a Medicare managed health care plan operated by the same entity which is placed at risk for long-term care services.

Section 4. Section 430.2071, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

430.2071 Home and community-based waiver services.--

(1) The agency, in consultation with the department, shall integrate the assisted living for the elderly Medicaid waiver

program into the aged and disabled adult Medicaid waiver program

and each program's funds into one fee-for-service Medicaid

waiver program serving the aged and disabled.

- (a) After the programs are integrated, funding to provide care in assisted-living facilities under the new waiver may not be less than the amount appropriated in the 2003-2004 fiscal year for the assisted living for the elderly Medicaid waiver.
- (b) The agency shall seek federal waivers, or amendments to existing waivers, necessary to integrate these waiver programs.
- (c) The agency and the department may reimburse providers for case management services on a capitated basis and shall develop uniform standards for case management in this fee-for-service Medicaid waiver program.
- (d) The agency and the department shall adopt any rules

 necessary to comply with or administer these requirements,

 effect and implement interagency agreements between the

 department and the agency, and comply with federal requirements.
- (2) The department, in consultation with the agency, shall study the integration of the database systems for the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) program and the Client Information and Referral Tracking System (CIRTS) and develop a plan for database integration.
- (3) The department, in consultation with the agency, subject to an appropriation, shall develop a plan to evaluate the newly integrated program over time, from the beginning of the implementation process forward. The department shall

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contract with a research entity through competitive procurement to help develop the evaluation plan and conduct the evaluation. The evaluation shall be ongoing and shall determine whether the newly integrated program is achieving its goals and evaluate the effects the changes have had on consumers. The evaluation plan must include baseline measures for evaluating costeffectiveness, the quality of care, and consumer satisfaction of the program. The department shall submit the plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by December 31, 2004.

- (4) The department, in consultation with the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services, shall develop a plan to improve the interaction among the department's newly integrated assessment database, the Florida Medicaid Management Information System, and the FLORIDA system in order to facilitate enrollment of individuals in capitated and fee-forservice programs, as well as to monitor eligibility requirements.
- (5) Consistent with federal requirements, the agency, in consultation with the department, shall evaluate the Alzheimer's disease waiver program and the adult day health care waiver program to assess whether providing limited intensive services through these waiver programs produces better outcomes for individuals than providing those services through the fee-for-service or capitated programs that provide a larger array of services.
- Section 5. Section 430.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.041 Office of Long-Term-Care Policy.--

- Affairs the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy to evaluate the state's long-term-care service delivery system and make recommendations to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of government-funded long-term-care programs for availability and the use of noninstitutional settings to provide care to the elderly and to ensure coordination among the agencies responsible for setting policies for funding and for administering the long-term-care programs for the elderly continuum.
- (2) The purpose of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy is to:
- (a) Ensure close communication and coordination among state agencies involved in developing and administering a more efficient and coordinated long-term-care service delivery system in this state;
- (b) Identify duplication and unnecessary service provision in the long-term-care system and make recommendations to decrease inappropriate service provision;
- (b)(c) Review current programs providing long-term-care services to determine whether the programs are cost effective, of high quality, and operating efficiently and make recommendations to increase consistency and effectiveness in the state's long-term-care programs;
- $\underline{(c)}$ Develop strategies for promoting and implementing cost-effective home and community-based services as an

alternative to institutional care which coordinate and integrate the continuum of care needs of the elderly; and

- (d) Recommend roles for state agencies that are responsible for administering long-term-care programs for the elderly and an organization framework for the planning, coordination, implementation, and evaluation of long-term-care programs for the elderly.
- (e) Assist the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy Advisory Council as necessary to help implement this section.
- (3) The Director of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Governor. The director shall report to, and be under the general supervision of, the Secretary of Elderly Affairs and shall not be subject to supervision by any other employee of the department.
- (4) The Office of Long-Term-Care Policy shall have an advisory council. The purposes of the advisory council are to provide assistance and direction to the office and to ensure that the appropriate state agencies are properly implementing recommendations from the office.
 - (a) The advisory council shall consist of:
- 1. A member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- 2. A member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives;
 - 3. The Secretary of Health Care Administration;
- 551 4. The Secretary of Elderly Affairs;
 - 5. The Secretary of Children and Family Services;

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553	6. The Secretary of Health;
554	7. The Executive Director of the Department of Veterans'
555	Affairs;
556	8. Three people with broad knowledge and experience in the
557	delivery of long-term-care services, appointed by the Governor
558	from groups representing elderly persons; and
559	9. Two representatives of people using long-term-care
560	services, appointed by the Governor from groups representing
561	elderly persons.
562	(b) The council shall elect a chair from among its
563	membership to serve for a 1-year term. A chair may not serve
564	more than two consecutive terms.
565	(c) Members shall serve without compensation, but are
566	entitled to receive reimbursement for travel and per diem as
567	provided in s. 112.061.
568	(d) The advisory council shall meet at the call of its
569	chair or at the request of a majority of its members. During its
570	first year of existence, the advisory council shall meet at
571	least monthly.
572	(e) Members of the advisory council appointed by the
573	Governor shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor and shall
574	be appointed to 1-year staggered terms in accordance with s.
575	20.052.

- $\underline{(4)(5)}(a)$ The Department of Elderly Affairs shall provide administrative support and services to the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy.
- (b) The office shall call upon appropriate agencies of state government, including the centers on aging in the State

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University System, for assistance needed in discharging its duties.

- (c) Each state agency represented on the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy Advisory Council shall make at least one employee available to work with the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy. All state agencies and universities shall assist the office in carrying out its responsibilities prescribed by this section.
- (d) The Secretary of Health Care Administration, the Secretary of Elderly Affairs, the Secretary of Children and Family Services, the Secretary of Health, and the executive director of the Department of Veterans' Affairs shall each appoint at least one high-level employee with the authority to recommend and implement agency policy and with experience in the area of long-term-care service delivery and financing to work with the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy as part of an interagency coordinating team. The interagency coordinating team shall meet monthly with the director of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy to implement the purposes of the office.
- (e)(d) Each state agency shall pay from its own funds any expenses related to its support of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy and its participation on the advisory council. The Department of Elderly Affairs shall be responsible for expenses related to participation on the advisory council by members appointed by the Governor.
- (5)(6)(a) By December 31 of each year 1, 2002, the office shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a advisory council a

preliminary report of its activities and the progress made in findings and recommendations on improving the long-term-care continuum in this state and make recommendations accordingly. The report shall contain the activities completed by the office during the calendar year, recommendations and implementation proposals for policy changes, and as well as legislative and funding recommendations that will make the system more effective and efficient. The report shall contain a specific implementation strategies, with timelines, plan for accomplishing the recommendations and proposals set out in the report. Thereafter, the office shall revise and update the report annually and resubmit it to the advisory council for review and comments by November 1 of each year.

- (b) The advisory council shall review and recommend any suggested changes to the preliminary report, and each subsequent annual update of the report, within 30 days after the receipt of the preliminary report. Suggested revisions, additions, or deletions shall be made to the Director of the Office of Long-Term-Care Policy.
- (c) The office shall submit its final report, and each subsequent annual update of the report, to the Governor and the Legislature within 30 days after the receipt of any revisions, additions, or deletions suggested by the advisory council, or after the time such comments are due to the office.
- Section 6. Subsection (3) and paragraph (c) of subsection (9) of section 430.203, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
 430.203 Community care for the elderly; definitions.--As used in ss. 430.201-430.207, the term:

(3) "Community care service system" means a service network comprising a variety of home-delivered services, day care services, and other basic services, hereinafter referred to as "core services," for functionally impaired elderly persons which are provided by or through several agencies under the direction of a single lead agency. Its purpose is to provide a continuum of care encompassing a full range of preventive, maintenance, and restorative services for functionally impaired elderly persons.

- (9) "Lead agency" means an agency designated at least once every 3 years by an area agency on aging as the result of a request for proposal process to be in place no later than the state fiscal year 1996-1997.
- (c) In each community care service system the lead agency must be given the authority and responsibility to coordinate some or all of the services, either directly or through subcontracts, for functionally impaired elderly persons. These services must include case management. Other services, such as and may include homemaker and chore services, respite care, adult day care, personal care services, home-delivered meals, counseling, information and referral, and emergency home repair services, may be included subject to competitive bidding. The lead agency must compile community care statistics and monitor, when applicable, subcontracts with agencies providing core services.
- Section 7. Subsection (2) of section 430.7031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.7031 Nursing home transition program. -- The department and the Agency for Health Care Administration:

- stay nursing home residents who are able to move to community placements, and to provide case management and supportive services to such individuals while they are in nursing homes to assist such individuals in moving to less expensive and less restrictive settings. CARES program staff shall annually review at least 20 percent of the case files for nursing home residents who are Medicaid recipients to determine which nursing home residents are able to move to community placements.
- Section 8. Section 430.2053, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

430.2053 Aging resource centers.--

(1) The department, in consultation with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Children and Family Services, shall develop pilot projects for aging resource centers. By October 31, 2004, the department, in consultation with the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services, shall develop an implementation plan for aging resource centers and submit the plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The plan must include qualifications for designation as a center, the functions to be performed by each center, and a process for determining that a current area agency on aging is ready to assume the functions of an aging resource center.

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(2) Each area agency on aging shall develop, in consultation with the existing community care for the elderly lead agencies within their planning and service areas, a proposal that describes the process the area agency on aging intends to undertake to transition to an aging resource center prior to July 1, 2005, and that describes the area agency's compliance with the requirements of this section. The proposals must be submitted to the department prior to December 31, 2004. The department shall evaluate all proposals for readiness and, prior to March 1, 2005, shall select three area agencies on aging which meet the requirements of this section to begin the transition to aging resource centers. Those area agencies on aging which are not selected to begin the transition to aging resource centers shall, in consultation with the department and the existing community care for the elderly lead agencies within their planning and service areas, amend their proposals as necessary and resubmit them to the department prior to July 1, 2005. The department may transition additional area agencies to aging resource centers as it determines that area agencies are in compliance with the requirements of this section.

- (3) The Auditor General and the Office of Program Policy
 Analysis and Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall jointly
 review and assess the department's process for determining an
 area agency's readiness to transition to an aging resource
 center.
- (a) The review must, at a minimum, address the appropriateness of the department's criteria for selection of an area agency to transition to an aging resource center, the

instruments applied, the degree to which the department accurately determined each area agency's compliance with the readiness criteria, the quality of the technical assistance provided by the department to an area agency in correcting any weaknesses identified in the readiness assessment, and the degree to which each area agency overcame any identified weaknesses.

- (b) Reports of these reviews must be submitted to the appropriate substantive and appropriations committees in the Senate and the House of Representatives on March 1 and September 1 of each year until full transition to aging resource centers has been accomplished statewide, except that the first report must be submitted by February 1, 2005, and must address all readiness activities undertaken through December 31, 2004. The perspectives of all participants in this review process must be included in each report.
 - (4) The purposes of an aging resource center shall be:
- (a) To provide Florida's elders and their families with a locally focused, coordinated approach to integrating information and referral for all available services for elders with the eligibility determination entities for state and federally funded long-term-care services.
- (b) To provide for easier access to long-term-care services by Florida's elders and their families by creating multiple access points to the long-term-care network that flow through one established entity with wide community recognition.
 - (5) The duties of an aging resource center are to:

(a) Develop referral agreements with local community service organizations, such as senior centers, existing elder service providers, volunteer associations, and other similar organizations, to better assist clients who do not need or do not wish to enroll in programs funded by the department or the agency. The referral agreements must also include a protocol, developed and approved by the department, which provides specific actions that an aging resource center and local community service organizations must take when an elder or an elder's representative seeking information on long-term-care services contacts a local community service organization prior to contacting the aging resource center. The protocol shall be designed to ensure that elders and their families are able to access information and services in the most efficient and least cumbersome manner possible.

- (b) Provide an initial screening of all clients who request long-term care services to determine whether the person would be most appropriately served through any combination of federally funded programs, state-funded programs, locally funded or community volunteer programs, or private funding for services.
- (c) Determine eligibility for the programs and services listed in subsection (11) for persons residing within the geographic area served by the aging resource center and determine a priority ranking for services which is based upon the potential recipient's frailty level and likelihood of institutional placement without such services.

(d) Manage the availability of financial resources for the programs and services listed in subsection (11) for persons residing within the geographic area served by the aging resource center.

- (e) When financial resources become available, refer a client to the most appropriate entity to begin receiving services. The aging resource center shall make referrals to lead agencies for service provision that ensure that individuals who are vulnerable adults in need of services pursuant to s. 415.104(3)(b), or who are victims of abuse, neglect, or exploitation in need of immediate services to prevent further harm and are referred by the adult protective services program, are given primary consideration for receiving community-carefor-the-elderly services in compliance with the requirements of s. 430.205(5)(a) and that other referrals for services are in compliance with s. 430.205(5)(b).
- (f) Convene a work group to advise in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the aging resource center. The work group shall be comprised of representatives of local service providers, Alzheimer's Association chapters, housing authorities, social service organizations, advocacy groups, representatives of clients receiving services through the aging resource center, and any other persons or groups as determined by the department. The aging resource center, in consultation with the work group, must develop annual program improvement plans that shall be submitted to the department for consideration. The department shall review each annual

improvement plan and make recommendations on how to implement the components of the plan.

- planning and service area by integrating, either physically or virtually, the staff and services of the area agency on aging with the staff of the department's local CARES Medicaid nursing home preadmission screening unit and a sufficient number of staff from the Department of Children and Family Services'

 Economic Self Sufficiency Unit necessary to determine the financial eligibility for all persons age 60 and older residing within the area served by the aging resource center that are seeking Medicaid services, Supplemental Security Income, and food stamps.
- (6) The department shall select the entities to become aging resource centers based on each entity's readiness and ability to perform the duties listed in subsection (5) and the entity's:
- (a) Expertise in the needs of each target population the center proposes to serve and a thorough knowledge of the providers that serve these populations.
- (b) Strong connections to service providers, volunteer agencies, and community institutions.
 - (c) Expertise in information and referral activities.
- (d) Knowledge of long-term-care resources, including resources designed to provide services in the least restrictive setting.
 - (e) Financial solvency and stability.

(f) Ability to collect, monitor, and analyze data in a timely and accurate manner, along with systems that meet the department's standards.

- (g) Commitment to adequate staffing by qualified personnel to effectively perform all functions.
- (h) Ability to meet all performance standards established by the department.
- (7) The aging resource center shall have a governing body which shall be the same entity described in s. 20.41(7), and an executive director who may be the same person as described in s. 20.41(8). The governing body shall annually evaluate the performance of the executive director.
- (8) The aging resource center may not be a provider of direct services other than information and referral services and screening.
- (9) The aging resource center must agree to allow the department to review any financial information the department determines is necessary for monitoring or reporting purposes, including financial relationships.
- (10) The duties and responsibilities of the community care for the elderly lead agencies within each area served by an aging resource center shall be to:
- (a) Develop strong community partnerships to maximize the use of community resources for the purpose of assisting elders to remain in their community settings for as long as it is safely possible.
- (b) Conduct comprehensive assessments of clients that have been determined eligible and develop a care plan consistent with

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established protocols that ensures that the unique needs of each client are met.

- (11) The services to be administered through the aging resource center shall include those funded by the following programs:
 - (a) Community care for the elderly.
 - (b) Home care for the elderly.
 - (c) Contracted services.

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- (d) Alzheimer's disease initiative.
 - (e) Aged and disabled adult Medicaid waiver.
- (f) Assisted living for the frail elderly Medicaid waiver.
- (g) Older Americans Act.
- aging resource center, develop by rule operational and quality assurance standards and outcome measures to ensure that clients receiving services through all long-term-care programs administered through an aging resource center are receiving the appropriate care they require and that contractors and subcontractors are adhering to the terms of their contracts and are acting in the best interests of the clients they are serving, consistent with the intent of the Legislature to reduce the use of and cost of nursing home care. The department shall by rule provide operating procedures for aging resource centers, which shall include:
- (a) Minimum standards for financial operation, including audit procedures.
- 881 (b) Procedures for monitoring and sanctioning of service providers.

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(c) Minimum standards for technology utilized by the aging resource center.

- (d) Minimum staff requirements which shall ensure that the aging resource center employs sufficient quality and quantity of staff to adequately meet the needs of the elders residing within the area served by the aging resource center.
- (e) Minimum accessibility standards, including hours of operation.
- (f) Minimum oversight standards for the governing body of the aging resource center to ensure its continuous involvement in, and accountability for, all matters related to the development, implementation, staffing, administration, and operations of the aging resource center.
- (g) Minimum education and experience requirements for executive directors and other executive staff positions of aging resource centers.
- (h) Minimum requirements regarding any executive staff positions that the aging resource center must employ and minimum requirements that a candidate must meet in order to be eligible for appointment to such positions.
- (13) In an area in which the department has designated an area agency on aging as an aging resource center, the department and the agency shall not make payments for the services listed in subsection (11) and the Long-Term Care Community Diversion Project for such persons who were not screened and enrolled through the aging resource center.
- (14) Each aging resource center shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the department for

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collaboration with the CARES unit staff. The memorandum of understanding shall outline the staff person responsible for each function and shall provide the staffing levels necessary to carry out the functions of the aging resource center.

- (15) Each aging resource center shall enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Department of Children and Family Services for collaboration with the Economic Self-Sufficiency Unit staff. The memorandum of understanding shall outline which staff persons are responsible for which functions and shall provide the staffing levels necessary to carry out the functions of the aging resource center.
- (16) If any of the state activities described in this section are outsourced, either in part or in whole, the contract executing the outsourcing shall mandate that the contractor or its subcontractors shall, either physically or virtually, execute the provisions of the memorandum of understanding instead of the state entity whose function the contractor or subcontractor now performs.
- (17) In order to be eligible to begin transitioning to an aging resource center, an area agency on aging board must ensure that the area agency on aging which it oversees meets all of the minimum requirements set by law and in rule.
- (18) The department shall monitor the three initial projects for aging resource centers and report on the progress of those projects to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by June 30, 2005. The report must include an evaluation of the implementation process.

(19)(a) Once an aging resource center is operational, the department, in consultation with the agency, may develop capitation rates for any of the programs administered through the aging resource center. Capitation rates for programs shall be based on the historical cost experience of the state in providing those same services to the population age 60 or older residing within each area served by an aging resource center.

Each capitated rate may vary by geographic area as determined by the department.

- (b) The department and the agency may determine for each area served by an aging resource center whether it is appropriate, consistent with federal and state laws and regulations, to develop and pay separate capitated rates for each program administered through the aging resource center or to develop and pay capitated rates for service packages which include more than one program or service administered through the aging resource center.
- (c) Once capitation rates have been developed and certified as actuarially sound, the department and the agency may pay service providers the capitated rates for services when appropriate.
- (d) The department, in consultation with the agency, shall annually reevaluate and recertify the capitation rates, adjusting forward to account for inflation, programmatic changes.
- (20) The department, in consultation with the agency, shall submit to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, by December 1,

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2006, a report addressing the feasibility of administering the
following services through aging resource centers beginning July
1, 2007:

(a) Medicaid nursing home services.

(b) Medicaid transportation services.

(c) Medicaid hospice care services.

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- (d) Medicaid intermediate care services.
 - (e) Medicaid prescribed drug services.
 - (f) Medicaid assistive care services.
 - (g) Any other long-term-care program or Medicaid service.
- (21) This section shall not be construed to allow an aging resource center to restrict, manage or impede the local fundraising activities of service providers.

Section 9. Subsection (7) of section 430.703, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.703 Definitions.--As used in this act, the term:

(7) "Other qualified provider" means an entity licensed under chapter 400 that demonstrates a long-term care continuum, meets the requirements of s. 430.705(2), and meets posts a \$500,000 performance bond, and meets all the financial and quality assurance requirements for a provider service network as specified in s. 409.912 and all requirements pursuant to an interagency agreement between the agency and the department.

Section 10. Section 430.705, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.705 Implementation of the long-term care community diversion pilot projects.--

(1) In designing and implementing the community diversion pilot projects, the department shall work in consultation with the agency.

- (2) The department shall select projects whose design and providers demonstrate capacity to maximize the placement of participants in the least restrictive appropriate care setting. The department shall select providers that have a plan administrator who is dedicated to the diversion pilot project and project staff who perform the necessary project administrative functions, including data collection, reporting, and analysis. The department shall select providers that:
- (a) Are determined by the Department of Financial Services to:
 - 1. Meet surplus requirements specified in s. 641.225.
- 2. Demonstrate the ability to comply with the standards for financial solvency specified in s. 641.285.
- 3. Demonstrate the ability to provide for the prompt payment of claims as specified in s. 641.3155.
- 4. Demonstrate the ability to provide technology with the capability for data collection which meets the security requirements of the federal Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, 42 C.F.R. ss. 160 and 164.
- (b) Demonstrate the ability to contract with multiple providers that provide the same type of service.
- (3) Pursuant to 42 C.F.R. s. 438.6(c), the agency, in consultation with the department, shall annually reevaluate and recertify the capitation rates for the diversion pilot projects. The agency, in consultation with the department, shall secure

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the utilization and cost data for Medicaid and Medicare
beneficiaries served by the program which shall be used in
developing rates for the diversion pilot projects.

- (4) In order to achieve rapid enrollment into the program and efficient diversion of applicants from nursing home care, the department and the agency shall allow enrollment of Medicaid beneficiaries on the date that eligibility for the community diversion pilot project is approved. The provider shall receive a prorated capitated rate for those enrollees who are enrolled after the first of each month.
- (5)(3) The department shall provide to prospective participants a choice of participating in a community diversion pilot project or any other appropriate placement available. To the extent possible, individuals shall be allowed to choose their care providers, including long-term care service providers affiliated with an individual's religious faith or denomination.
- (6)(4) The department shall enroll participants. Providers shall not directly enroll participants in community diversion pilot projects.
- (7)(5) In selecting the pilot project area, the department shall consider the following factors in the area:
 - (a) The nursing home occupancy level.
- (b) The number of certificates of need awarded for nursing home beds for which renovation, expansion, or construction has not begun.
 - (c) The annual number of additional nursing home beds.
 - (d) The annual number of nursing home admissions.

(e) The adequacy of community-based long-term care service providers.

- (8)(6) The department may require participants to contribute to their cost of care in an amount not to exceed the cost-sharing required of Medicaid-eligible nursing home residents.
 - (9) (7) Community diversion pilot projects must:
- (a) Provide services for participants that are of sufficient quality, quantity, type, and duration to prevent or delay nursing facility placement.
- (b) Integrate acute and long-term care services, and the funding sources for such services, as feasible.
- (c) Encourage individuals, families, and communities to plan for their long-term care needs.
- (d) Provide skilled and intermediate nursing facility care for participants who cannot be adequately cared for in noninstitutional settings.
- (10) The Legislature finds that preservation of the historic aging network of lead agencies is essential to the well-being of Florida's elderly population. The Legislature finds that the Florida aging network constitutes a system of essential community providers which should be nurtured and assisted to develop systems of operations which allow the gradual assumption of responsibility and financial risk for managing a client through the entire continuum of long-term-care services within the area the lead agency is currently serving and which allow lead agency providers to develop managed systems

of service delivery. The department and the agency shall therefore:

- (a) Develop a demonstration system in which existing community care for the elderly lead agencies are assisted in transitioning their business model and the service delivery system within their current community care service area to enable assumption, over a period of time, of full risk as a diversion pilot project contractor providing long-term-care services in their areas of operation. The department, in consultation with the Agency for Health Care Administration and the Department of Children and Family Services, shall develop an implementation plan for three lead agencies by October 31, 2004. The department may postpone the bidding specified in s. 430.203(9)(c) until such time as the project areas have been designated.
- (b) In each demonstration system, a community care for the elderly lead agency shall be initially reimbursed on a prepaid or fixed-sum basis for services provided under the Aged and Disabled Adult Medicaid Waiver Program and the Assisted Living for the Elderly Medicaid Waiver Program. By the end of the third year of operation, the demonstration shall include services under the long-term-care community diversion pilot project.
- (c) During the first year of operation, the department and the agency may place providers at risk to provide the nursing home services for the enrolled individuals who are participating in the demonstration project. During the 3-year development period, the agency and the department may limit the level of custodial nursing home risk that the administering entities

assume, consistent with the intent of the Legislature to reduce the use and cost of nursing home care. Under risk-sharing arrangements, during the first 3 years of operation, the agency and the department may reimburse the administering entities for the cost of providing nursing home care for Medicaid-eligible participants who have been permanently placed and remain in nursing home care for more than 1 year, or may disenroll such participants from the demonstration projects.

- (d) The agency and the department shall develop reimbursement rates based on the historical cost experience of the state in providing long-term care and nursing home services under Medicaid waiver programs and providing state-funded long-term care services to the population 60 years of age and older in the area served by the pilot project.
- (e) The agency, in consultation with the department, shall ensure that the entity or entities receiving prepaid or fixed—sum reimbursement are assisted in developing internal management and financial control systems necessary to manage the risk associated with providing services under a prepaid or fixed-sum rate system.
- (f) If the agency and the department share risk of custodial nursing home placement, payment rates during the first 3 years of operation shall be set at not more than 100 percent of the costs to the agency and the department of providing equivalent services to the population within the area of the pilot project for the year prior to the year in which the pilot project is implemented, adjusted forward to account for inflation and policy changes of the Medicaid program. In

subsequent years, the rate shall be negotiated, based on the cost experience of the entity in providing contracted services, but may not exceed 95 percent of the amount that would have been paid in the area of the pilot project absent the prepaid or fixed sum reimbursement methodology.

- (g) Community care for the elderly lead agencies which have operated for a period of at least 20 years, which operate a Medicare-certified home health agency, and which have developed a system of service provision by health care volunteers shall be given priority in the selection of pilot projects if they meet the minimum requirements specified in the competitive procurement.
- (h) In order to facilitate the development of the demonstration project, the agency, subject to appropriations included in the General Appropriation Act, shall advance \$500,000, if requested by the lead agency, for the purpose of funding development costs for each demonstration project provider. The terms of repayment may not extend beyond 6 years from the date of funding.
- (i) The agency and the department shall adopt any rules necessary to comply with or administer these requirements, effect and implement interagency agreements between the agency and the department, and comply with federal requirements.
- (j) The department and the agency shall seek federal waivers necessary to implement the requirements of this section, including waivers available from the federal Assistant Secretary on Aging necessary to include Older Americans Act services in the demonstration project.

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(k) The Department of Elderly Affairs shall conduct or contract for an evaluation of the demonstration project. The department shall submit the evaluation to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2006. The evaluation must address the effects of the demonstration pilot project on the effectiveness of the project in providing a comprehensive system of appropriate and high-quality long-term-care services to elders in the least restrictive setting and make recommendations on implementation expansion for other parts of the state. The agency, in consultation with the department, shall evaluate the feasibility of integrating the frail elder option into the nursing home diversion pilot project and the feasibility of integrating each program's funds into one capitated program serving the aged. (12) The agency shall seek federal waivers necessary to place a cap on the number of Nursing Home Diversion providers in each geographic area. The agency may seek federal approval in advance of approval of its formal waiver application to limit the diversion provider network by freezing enrollment of providers at current levels when an area already has three or more providers or, in an expansion area, when enrollment reaches a level of three providers. This subsection does not prevent the department from approving a provider to expand service to additional counties within a planning and service area for which the provider is already approved to serve.

(13) The agency and the department shall adopt any rules necessary to comply with or administer these requirements,

1188	effect and implement interagency agreements between the
1189	department and the agency, and comply with federal requirements.
1190	Section 11. Paragraphs (j) and (k) of subsection (1) of
1191	section 430.502, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph
1192	(1) is added to said subsection, to read:
1193	430.502 Alzheimer's disease; memory disorder clinics and
1194	day care and respite care programs
1195	(1) There is established:
1196	(j) A memory disorder clinic at Lee Memorial Hospital
1197	created by chapter 63-1552, Laws of Florida, as amended; and
1198	(k) A memory disorder clinic at Sarasota Memorial Hospital
1199	in Sarasota County <u>; and</u> ,
1200	(1) A memory disorder clinic at Morton Plant Hospital,
1201	Clearwater, in Pinellas County,
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1203	for the purpose of conducting research and training in a
1204	diagnostic and therapeutic setting for persons suffering from
1205	Alzheimer's disease and related memory disorders. However,
1206	memory disorder clinics funded as of June 30, 1995, shall not
1207	receive decreased funding due solely to subsequent additions of
1208	memory disorder clinics in this subsection.
1209	Section 12. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section
1210	1000.445, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2004-2, Laws
1211	of Florida, is amended to read:
1212	1004.445 Johnnie B. Byrd, Sr., Alzheimer's Center and
1213	Research Institute
1214	(2)

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CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

 (b)1. The affairs of the not-for-profit corporation shall be managed by a board of directors who shall serve without compensation. The board of directors shall consist of the President of the University of South Florida and the chair of the State Board of Education, or their designees, 5 representatives of the state universities, and no fewer than 9 nor more than 14 representatives of the public who are neither medical doctors nor state employees. Each director who is a representative of a state university or of the public shall be appointed to serve a term of 3 years. The chair of the board of directors shall be selected by a majority vote of the directors. Each director shall have only one vote.

- 2. The initial board of directors shall consist of the President of the University of South Florida and the chair of the State Board of Education, or their designees; the five university representatives, of whom one shall be appointed by the Governor, two by the President of the Senate, and two by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; and nine public representatives, of whom three shall be appointed by the Governor, three by the President of the Senate, and three by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
- 3. Upon the expiration of the terms of the initial appointed directors, all directors subject to 3-year terms of office under this paragraph shall be appointed by a majority vote of the directors. $\frac{1}{2}$
- $\underline{4}$. The board may be expanded to include additional public representative directors up to the maximum number allowed.

1242 Additional members shall be added by a majority vote of the 1243 directors. 1244 5. Any vacancy in office shall be filled for the remainder 1245 of the term by majority vote of the directors. Any director may 1246 be reappointed. 1247 Section 13. By January 1 of each year, the Department of 1248 Elderly Affairs shall submit to the Governor, the President of 1249 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, a 1250 summary of the results of the departmental monitoring of the 1251 activities of area agencies on aging. The report shall include 1252 information about area agency compliance with state and federal 1253 rules pertaining to all programs administered by the area 1254 agency, information about each area agency's financial management of state and federally-funded programs, information 1255 1256 about each agency's compliance with the terms of its contracts 1257 with the department, and a summary of corrective action required 1258 by the department. 1259 Section 14. This act is subject to a specific 1260 appropriation in the General Appropriations Act for fiscal year 1261 2004-2005. 1262 Section 15. This act shall take effect upon becoming a

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law.