

By the Committees on Health and Human Services Appropriations; Health Care; and Senator Atwater

603-2223-05

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to hospices; amending s. 400.602, F.S.; providing for licensure of hospices that meet specified conditions; requiring a report to the Legislature by the Agency for Health Care Administration; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 400.602, Florida Statutes, is amended and subsection (7) is added to that section, to read:

400.602 Licensure required; prohibited acts; exemptions; display, transferability of license.--

(6) Notwithstanding subsection (7) and s. 400.601(3), at any time after July 1, 1995, any entity entitled to licensure under subsection (5) may obtain a license for up to two additional hospices in accordance with the other requirements of this part and upon receipt of any certificate of need that may be required under the provisions of ss. 408.031-408.045.

(7)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 400.601(3), any hospice that is organized as a for-profit corporation and provides a continuum of palliative and supportive care for a terminally ill patient and his or her family may obtain a license in accordance with the other requirements of this part and upon receipt of any certificate of need required under ss. 408.031-408.045 to provide care in:

1. Hospice services areas having populations of 750,000 or more, except that it may not be located in any

1 county in the service area which has a population of 550,000  
2 or less; or

3 2. A hospice service area in which a for-profit  
4 hospice is currently licensed to operate under subsections (5)  
5 or (6).

6 (b) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall  
7 use hospice service areas as published on January 1, 2005. No  
8 later than January 1, 2007, the Agency for Health Care  
9 Administration shall submit to the Legislature a report  
10 analyzing the impact of for-profit hospices on the delivery of  
11 care to terminally ill patients, including a review of the  
12 quality of care, the change in the competitive marketplace,  
13 and any other relevant information.

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
15 law.

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17 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
19 CS for SB 1622

- 20  
21 - Provides that licensure of a for-profit hospice will only  
22 be permitted in a hospice service area with a population  
23 of 750,000 or more, except that it may not be located in  
24 any county in the service area which has a population of  
25 550,000 or less; or in an area where a for-profit hospice  
26 is currently licensed to operate.  
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