

By Senator Campbell

32-1250-05

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to pediatric skilled nursing facilities; providing a definition; requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to implement a pilot project and develop criteria for designation as a pediatric skilled nursing facility; requiring that certain affiliations be established and providing purposes thereof; authorizing an appropriation; providing criteria for a nursing home to qualify as a pediatric skilled nursing facility; prohibiting expenditure of funds for certain purposes; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Implementation of a pediatric skilled nursing facility license.--

(1) As used in this section, the term "pediatric skilled nursing facility" means a nursing home that contains a minimum of 36 licensed nursing home beds; has access to a resident pediatric and young adult population of sufficient size to support resident education, socialization, and rehabilitation; and has a contractual relationship with the Department of Education in this state.

(2)(a) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall implement a comprehensive multidisciplinary program of education and rehabilitation as a pilot project in a nursing home facility designated by the agency as a pediatric skilled nursing facility. The program shall be established as a pilot

1 project and shall be administered at the nursing home facility  
2 and other appropriate settings.

3 (b) The agency shall develop criteria for designating  
4 pediatric skilled nursing facilities in consultation with  
5 advocates of children and advocates of persons with  
6 disabilities.

7 (3) To be designated as a pediatric skilled nursing  
8 facility, a nursing home licensee shall, at a minimum:

9 (a) Provide a comprehensive program of integrated  
10 pediatric services that include institutional and  
11 community-based services.

12 (b) Participate in a nationally recognized  
13 accreditation program and hold a valid accreditation, such as  
14 the accreditation awarded by the Joint Commission on  
15 Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations or the Commission of  
16 Accreditation of Rehabilitative Facilities.

17 (c) Have been in business in this state for a minimum  
18 of 10 consecutive years.

19 (d) Demonstrate an active program in multidisciplinary  
20 education and rehabilitation that relates to medically fragile  
21 children.

22 (e) Have a formalized contractual relationship with at  
23 least one accredited health profession education program  
24 located in this state.

25 (f) Have a formalized relationship with an accredited  
26 hospital.

27 (g) Have senior consultants and staff members who hold  
28 formal faculty appointments at universities, at least one of  
29 which has an accredited health profession education program.

30 (4) A pediatric skilled nursing facility must be  
31 affiliated with the Department of Education and national

1 organizations focused on excellence in pediatric nursing care  
2 and education. The purpose of such affiliations is to foster  
3 the development of methods for improving and expanding the  
4 capability of health care facilities to respond to the  
5 medical, psychological, and social needs of technologically  
6 dependent and medically fragile infants, children, and young  
7 adults by providing the most effective and appropriate  
8 services. A pediatric skilled nursing facility shall serve as  
9 a resource for education and the dissemination of best  
10 practices in the provision of health care services in  
11 institutional settings to the pediatric and young adult  
12 populations with special health care needs.

13 (5) The Legislature may provide an annual  
14 appropriation to the nursing home facility designated as a  
15 pediatric skilled nursing facility.

16 (6) In order for a nursing home to qualify as a  
17 pediatric skilled nursing facility and to be entitled to the  
18 benefits provided under this section, the nursing home shall:

19 (a) Be primarily operated and established to offer,  
20 afford, and render a comprehensive multidisciplinary program  
21 for medically fragile children and young adults. This program  
22 shall provide education, socialization, rehabilitation,  
23 counseling, recreation, daily living, and assistive technology  
24 services and equipment to encourage independence and maximize  
25 quality of life potential to residents of the state.

26 (b) Certify to the Agency for Health Care  
27 Administration each school year the name, address, and  
28 educational history of each resident approved and accepted for  
29 admission in the institution.

30 (7) A pediatric skilled nursing facility may not  
31 expend any of the funds received under this section for any

1 purpose other than operating and maintaining a pediatric  
2 skilled nursing facility and conducting pediatric education  
3 and rehabilitation. In addition, a pediatric skilled nursing  
4 facility may not expend any funds received under this section  
5 for constructing any building of any kind, nature, or  
6 description or for maintaining or operating, in any form or  
7 manner, a pediatric skilled nursing facility or health care  
8 facility.

9           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
10 law.