

HB 1417

2006

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to hospices; amending s. 400.602, F.S.;
 3 providing for licensure of for-profit hospices; limiting
 4 the location of for-profit hospices to defined service
 5 areas; providing a definition; requiring a report to the
 6 Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

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

13 400.602 Licensure required; prohibited acts; exemptions;
 14 display, transferability of license.--

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

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

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28 (a) A hospice service area with a population of 750,000 or
29 more, except that a for-profit hospice may not be located in any
30 of the counties in the service area that have a population of
31 50,000 or less; or

32 (b) A hospice service area in which a for-profit hospice
33 is currently licensed to operate under subsections (5) and (6).

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35 For purposes of this subsection, the term "hospice service area"
36 means a geographic area as defined in rule 59C-1.0355, Florida
37 Administrative Code.

38 Section 2. No later than January 1, 2008, the Agency for
39 Health Care Administration shall submit to the President of the
40 Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives a report
41 analyzing the impact of for-profit hospices on the delivery of
42 care to terminally ill patients and include in the report a
43 review of the quality of care offered by for-profit hospices,
44 changes in the competitive marketplace in hospice service areas,
45 and any other information deemed pertinent by the agency.

46 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.