

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to pediatric skilled nursing facilities;
 3 providing a definition; requiring the Agency for Health
 4 Care Administration to implement a program and develop
 5 criteria for designation as a licensed pediatric skilled
 6 nursing facility; requiring that certain affiliations be
 7 established and providing purposes thereof; providing
 8 criteria for a nursing home to qualify as a licensed
 9 pediatric skilled nursing facility; prohibiting
 10 expenditure of certain funds for certain purposes;
 11 providing an effective date.

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

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

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

24 (2)(a) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall
 25 implement a comprehensive multidisciplinary program of education
 26 and rehabilitation in a nursing home facility designated by the
 27 agency as a licensed pediatric skilled nursing facility. The
 28 program shall be administered at the nursing home facility and

29 in other appropriate settings.

30 (b) The agency shall develop criteria for designating
 31 licensed pediatric skilled nursing facilities in consultation
 32 with advocates of children and advocates of persons with
 33 disabilities.

34 (3) To be designated as a licensed pediatric skilled
 35 nursing facility, a nursing home licensee shall, at a minimum:

36 (a) Provide a comprehensive program of integrated
 37 pediatric services that include institutional and community-
 38 based services.

39 (b) Participate in a nationally recognized accreditation
 40 program and hold a valid accreditation, such as the
 41 accreditation awarded by the Joint Commission on Accreditation
 42 of Healthcare Organizations or the Commission of Accreditation
 43 of Rehabilitative Facilities.

44 (c) Have been in business in this state for a minimum of
 45 10 consecutive years.

46 (d) Demonstrate an active program in multidisciplinary
 47 education and rehabilitation that relates to medically fragile
 48 children.

49 (e) Have a formalized contractual relationship with at
 50 least one accredited health profession education program located
 51 in this state.

52 (f) Have a formalized relationship with an accredited
 53 hospital.

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

57 (4) A licensed pediatric skilled nursing facility shall be
 58 affiliated with the Department of Education and national
 59 organizations focused on excellence in pediatric nursing care
 60 and education. The purpose of such affiliations is to foster the
 61 development of methods for improving and expanding the
 62 capability of health care facilities to respond to the medical,
 63 psychological, and social needs of technologically dependent and
 64 medically fragile infants, children, and young adults by
 65 providing the most effective and appropriate services. A
 66 licensed pediatric skilled nursing facility shall serve as a
 67 resource for education and the dissemination of best practices
 68 in the provision of health care services in institutional
 69 settings to the pediatric and young adult populations with
 70 special health care needs.

71 (5) In order for a nursing home to qualify as a licensed
 72 pediatric skilled nursing facility and to be entitled to the
 73 benefits provided under this section, the nursing home shall:

74 (a) Be primarily operated and established to offer,
 75 afford, and render a comprehensive multidisciplinary program for
 76 medically fragile children and young adults. This program shall
 77 provide education, socialization, rehabilitation, counseling,
 78 recreation, daily living, and assistive technology services and
 79 equipment to encourage independence and maximize quality-of-life
 80 potential to residents of the state.

81 (b) Certify to the Agency for Health Care Administration
 82 each school year the name, address, and educational history of
 83 each resident approved and accepted for admission to the
 84 facility.

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85 (6) If a licensed pediatric skilled nursing facility
86 receives funds appropriated to administer this section, it may
87 not expend the funds for:

88 (a) Any purpose other than operating and maintaining a
89 pediatric skilled nursing facility and conducting pediatric
90 education and rehabilitation;

91 (b) Constructing any building of any kind, nature, or
92 description; or

93 (c) Maintaining or operating, in any form or manner, a
94 nonlicensed pediatric skilled nursing facility or health care
95 facility.

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