

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 472

Barcode 664122

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| | CHAMBER ACTION | |
| <u>Senate</u> | | <u>House</u> |

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05/02/2006 02:28 PM

11 Senator Saunders moved the following amendment:

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13 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

14 On page 36, lines 3-19, delete those lines

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16 and insert:

17 Section 26. Subsections (5) through (8) of section
18 744.708, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

19 744.708 Reports and standards.--

20 (5)(a) Each office of public guardian shall undergo an
21 independent audit by a qualified certified public accountant
22 ~~shall be performed at least once every 2 years. The audit~~
23 ~~should include an investigation into the practices of the~~
24 ~~office for managing the person and property of the wards. A~~
25 copy of the audit report shall be submitted to the Statewide
26 Public Guardianship Office.

27 (b) In addition to regular monitoring activities, the
28 Statewide Public Guardianship Office shall conduct an
29 investigation into the practices of each office of public
30 guardian related to the managing of the personal affairs and
31 property of each ward. When feasible, the investigation

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1 required under this paragraph should be conducted in
2 conjunction with the financial audit of each office.

3 (c) In addition, each ~~the~~ office of public guardian
4 shall be subject to audits or examinations by the Auditor
5 General and the Office of Program Policy Analysis and
6 Government Accountability pursuant to law.

7 (6) ~~A~~ ~~The~~ public guardian shall ensure that each of
8 the guardian's wards is personally visited ~~ward is seen by the~~
9 public guardian or by a professional staff person of the
10 public guardian at least once each calendar quarter ~~four times~~
11 ~~a year.~~ During this personal visit, the public guardian or the
12 professional staff person shall assess:

13 (a) The ward's physical and mental appearance and
14 condition;

15 (b) The appropriateness of the ward's current living
16 situation; and

17 (c) The need for any additional services and the
18 necessity for continuation of existing services, taking into
19 consideration all aspects of social, psychological,
20 educational, direct service, health, and personal care needs.

21 (7) The ratio for professional staff to wards shall be
22 1 professional to 40 wards. The Statewide Public Guardianship
23 Office may increase or decrease the ratio after consultation
24 with the local public guardian and the chief judge of the
25 circuit court. The basis of the decision to increase or
26 decrease the prescribed ratio shall be reported in the annual
27 report to the Secretary of Elderly Affairs, the Governor, the
28 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
29 Representatives, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.

30 (8) ~~The term "professional," for purposes of this~~
31 ~~part, shall not include the public guardian nor the executive~~

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1 ~~director of the Statewide Public Guardianship Office. The term~~
 2 ~~"professional" shall be limited to those persons who exercise~~
 3 ~~direct supervision of individual wards under the direction of~~
 4 ~~the public guardian.~~

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7 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

8 And the title is amended as follows:

9 On page 5, line 4, after the semicolon,

10

11 insert:

12 requiring each office of public guardian to
 13 undergo an audit; requiring the Statewide
 14 Public Guardianship Office to conduct an
 15 investigation into the practices of each office
 16 of public guardian; requiring a report to the
 17 Secretary of Elderly Affairs; deleting a
 18 definition;

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