

Bill No. CS for SB 472

Barcode 943880

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Comm: WD  
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The Committee on Children and Families (Fasano) recommended  
the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 36, lines 4-20, delete those lines

and insert:

Section 26. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section  
744.708, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

744.708 Reports and standards.--

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

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

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

(c) The need for any additional services and the

Bill No. CS for SB 472

Barcode 943880

1 necessity for continuation of existing services, taking into  
2 consideration all aspects of social, psychological,  
3 educational, direct service, health, and personal care needs.

4 (7) The ratio for professional staff to wards shall be  
5 1 professional to 40 wards. The Statewide Public Guardianship  
6 Office may increase or decrease the ratio after consultation  
7 with the local public guardian and the chief judge of the  
8 circuit court. The basis of the decision to increase or  
9 decrease the prescribed ratio shall be reported in the annual  
10 report to the Secretary of Elderly Affairs. ~~Governor, the~~  
11 ~~President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of~~  
12 ~~Representatives, and the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court.~~

13 ~~(8) The term "professional," for purposes of this~~  
14 ~~part, shall not include the public guardian nor the executive~~  
15 ~~director of the Statewide Public Guardianship Office. The~~  
16 ~~term "professional" shall be limited to those persons who~~  
17 ~~exercise direct supervision of individual wards under the~~  
18 ~~direction of the public guardian.~~

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

22 And the title is amended as follows:

23 On page 5, line 8, after the semicolon,  
24  
25 insert:

26 conforming provisions that require the  
27 executive director of the Statewide  
28 Guardianship Office to report to the Secretary  
29 of Elderly Affairs; deleting a prohibition  
30 against the executive director of the Statewide  
31 Guardianship Office or a public guardian from

Bill No. CS for SB 472

Barcode 943880

1           being classified as professionals for meeting a  
2           required ratio of professional staff to wards;  
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