1

A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to emergency management; amending s. 3 252.355, F.S.; specifying additional entities and agencies that are required to provide registration information to 4 persons with disabilities or special needs for purposes of 5 inclusion within the registry of persons with special 6 7 needs maintained by local emergency management agencies; 8 providing that the Department of Community Affairs shall 9 be the designated lead agency responsible for community education and outreach to the general public, including 10 persons with special needs, regarding registration as a 11 person with special needs, special needs shelters, and 12 general information regarding shelter stays; requiring the 13 department to disseminate educational and outreach 14 information through local emergency management offices; 15 16 requiring the department to coordinate community education and outreach related to special needs shelters with 17 specified agencies and entities; providing that special 18 19 needs shelters must allow persons with special needs to 20 bring service animals into special needs shelters; revising provisions with respect to the required 21 notification of residential utility customers of the 22 availability of the special needs registration program; 23 24 providing that specified confidential and exempt 25 information relating to registration of persons with 26 special needs be provided to the Department of Health and local law enforcement agencies; creating s. 252.3568, 27 F.S.; requiring the Division of Emergency Management to 28 Page 1 of 38

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29 address evacuation of persons with pets in the shelter 30 component of the state comprehensive emergency management plan; creating s. 252.357, F.S., requiring the Florida 31 Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan to permit the 32 Agency for Health Care Administration to make initial 33 contact with each nursing home in a disaster area; 34 35 requiring the agency to annually publish an emergency telephone number that may be used by nursing homes to 36 37 contact the agency; amending s. 252.385, F.S., relating to public shelter space; requiring the Division of Emergency 38 Management of the Department of Community Affairs to 39 biennially prepare and submit a statewide emergency 40 shelter plan to the Governor and the Cabinet for approval; 41 providing plan requirements; requiring the Department of 42 Health to provide specified assistance to the division; 43 44 revising those facilities which are excluded as being suitable for use as public hurricane evacuation shelters; 45 requiring local emergency management agencies to inspect a 46 47 designated facility prior to activation to determine its 48 readiness; amending s. 381.0303, F.S.; providing for the operation, maintenance, and closure of special needs 49 shelters; providing that local Children's Medical Services 50 offices shall assume lead responsibility for specified 51 52 coordination with respect to the development of a plan for 53 the staffing and medical management of pediatric special needs shelters; requiring such plans to conform to the 54 local comprehensive emergency management plan; requiring 55 county governments to assist the Department of Health with 56 Page 2 of 38

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57 nonmedical staffing and operation of special needs 58 shelters; requiring local health departments and emergency 59 management agencies to coordinate such efforts to ensure appropriate staffing; providing that the appropriate 60 county health department, Children's Medical Services 61 62 office, and local emergency management agency shall 63 jointly determine the responsibility for medical supervision in a special needs shelter; providing 64 65 notification requirements; requiring local emergency management agencies to be responsible for the 66 infrastructure and closure of special needs shelters; 67 requiring the emergency management agency and the local 68 health department to coordinate efforts to ensure 69 70 appropriate designation, operation, and infrastructure in special needs shelters; providing that a county health 71 72 department is not prohibited from entering into an alternative agreement with a local emergency management 73 agency to assume the lead responsibility for special needs 74 75 shelter supplies and equipment; providing that state employees with a preestablished role in disaster response 76 are subject to serve in times of disaster in specified 77 capacities; requiring the Secretary of Elderly Affairs to 78 79 convene multiagency special needs shelter discharge 80 planning teams to assist local areas that are severely 81 impacted by a natural or manmade disaster that requires 82 the use of special needs shelters; providing duties and 83 responsibilities of such discharge planning teams; providing for the inclusion of specified state agency 84 Page 3 of 38

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85 representatives on each discharge planning team; revising provisions relating to reimbursement of health care 86 87 practitioners; providing for eligibility of specified health care facilities for reimbursement when a 88 multiagency special needs shelter discharge planning team 89 discharges persons with special needs to such receiving 90 91 facilities; providing procedures and requirements with 92 respect to such reimbursement; requiring the department to 93 specify by rule expenses that are reimbursable and the rate of reimbursement for services; revising provisions 94 which prescribe means of and procedures for reimbursement; 95 disallowing specified reimbursements; revising provisions 96 with respect to the organization, role, duties, and 97 composition of the special needs shelter interagency 98 committee; requiring the department to adopt specified 99 100 rules with respect to special needs shelters; providing requirements with respect to emergency management plans 101 submitted to a county health department by a home health 102 103 agency, nurse registry, hospice, or home medical equipment provider; amending ss. 400.492, 400.497, 400.506, 400.610, 104 105 and 400.934, F.S.; revising requirements with respect to the comprehensive emergency management plans of home 106 health agencies, nurse registries, and hospices, and 107 108 providing such requirements with respect to home medical 109 equipment providers, to include the means by which 110 continuing services will be provided to patients who evacuate to special needs shelters; authorizing the 111 establishment of links to local emergency operations 112 Page 4 of 38

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113 centers for specified purposes; providing actions that 114 constitute abandonment of a patient; providing sanctions 115 for abandonment; revising requirements of a county health 116 department with respect to review of a comprehensive 117 emergency management plan submitted by a home health agency, nurse registry, or hospice, and providing such 118 119 requirements with respect to a home medical equipment 120 provider; providing requirements upon failure to submit a 121 plan or requested information to the department; providing 122 for imposition of a fine; revising requirements of the 123 Department of Health with respect to review of the plan of a home health agency, nurse registry, or hospice that 124 125 operates in more than one county, and providing such 126 requirements with respect to a home medical equipment 127 provider that operates in more than one county; providing 128 that the preparation and maintenance of a comprehensive emergency management plan by a home medical equipment 129 provider is a requirement for licensure and must meet 130 131 minimum criteria established by the Agency for Health Care Administration; providing plan requirements; providing 132 that the plan is subject to review and approval by the 133 county health department; requiring each home medical 134 equipment provider to maintain a current prioritized list 135 136 of patients who need continued services during an 137 emergency; amending s. 400.925, F.S.; defining "life-138 supporting or life-sustaining equipment" for purposes of pt. X of ch. 400, F.S., relating to home medical equipment 139 providers; amending s. 400.935, F.S.; requiring the Agency 140 Page 5 of 38

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141 for Health Care Administration to adopt rules with respect 142 to the comprehensive emergency management plan prepared by 143 a home medical equipment services provider; amending s. 144 408.831, F.S.; providing that entities regulated or licensed by the Agency for Health Care Administration may 145 146 exceed their licensed capacity to act as a receiving 147 facility under specified circumstances; providing 148 requirements while such entities are in an overcapacity 149 status; providing for issuance of an inactive license to 150 such licensees under specified conditions; providing 151 requirements and procedures with respect to the issuance and reactivation of an inactive license; providing fees; 152 providing an effective date. 153 154 155 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 156 157 Section 252.355, Florida Statutes, is amended Section 1. 158 to read: 159 252.355 Registry of persons with special needs; notice.--In order to meet the special needs of persons who 160 (1)161 would need assistance during evacuations and sheltering because of physical, mental, cognitive impairment, or sensory 162 disabilities, each local emergency management agency in the 163 state shall maintain a registry of persons with special needs 164 located within the jurisdiction of the local agency. The 165 166 registration shall identify those persons in need of assistance and plan for resource allocation to meet those identified needs. 167 To assist the local emergency management agency in identifying 168 Page 6 of 38

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such persons, home health agencies, hospices, nurse registries, 169 170 home medical equipment providers, the Department of Children and 171 Family Services, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health 172 Care Administration, the Department of Education, Agency for 173 Persons with Disabilities, Department of Labor and Employment Security, and the Department of Elderly Affairs shall provide 174 175 registration information to all of their special needs clients 176 and to all people with disabilities or special needs who receive 177 services incoming clients as a part of the intake process. The registry shall be continuously maintained updated annually. The 178 179 registration program shall give persons with special needs the option of preauthorizing emergency response personnel to enter 180 their homes during search and rescue operations if necessary to 181 182 assure their safety and welfare following disasters. (2) The Department of Community Affairs shall be the 183 184 designated lead agency responsible for community education and 185 outreach to the general public, including special needs clients, 186 regarding registration and special needs shelters and general 187 information regarding shelter stays. The Department of Community Affairs shall disseminate such educational and outreach 188 189 information through the local emergency management offices. The 190 department shall coordinate the development of curriculum and 191 dissemination of all community education and outreach related to

192 <u>special needs shelters with the Clearinghouse on Disability</u>
193 Information of the Governor's Working Group on the Americans

194 with Disabilities Act, the Department of Children and Family

195 Services, the Department of Health, the Agency for Health Care

196 Administration, the Department of Education, the Agency for

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197 Persons with Disabilities, and the Department of Elderly 198 Affairs. (3) A person with special needs shall be allowed to bring 199 200 his or her service animal into a special needs shelter in 201 compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, 202 Pub. L. No. 101-336. Because a special needs shelter is 203 considered a public facility when it is activated for a 204 disaster, persons with disabilities must be allowed access to 205 special needs shelters when accompanied by a service animal in 206 compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, which 207 provides that businesses and organizations that serve the public must allow people with disabilities to bring their service 208 209 animals into all areas of a facility where customers are 210 normally allowed to go. 211 (4) (2) On or before May 1 of each year Each electric 212 utility in the state shall annually notify residential customers 213 in its service area of the availability of the registration 214 program available through their local emergency management 215 agency with either:-An initial notification upon the activation of new 216 (a) 217 residential service with the electric utility followed by one 218 annual notification between January 1 and May 31; or 219 Two separate annual notifications between January 1 (b) 220 and May 31. 221 The notification required under this subsection may be made by 222 any available means, including, but not limited to, written, 223 electronic, or verbal notification, and may be made concurrently 224 Page 8 of 38

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225 with any other notification to residential customers required by 226 law or rule.

(5) (3) All records, data, information, correspondence, and 227 228 communications relating to the registration of persons with 229 special needs as provided in subsection (1) are confidential and 230 exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), except that such 231 information shall be available to other emergency response agencies, as determined by the local emergency management 232 233 director, and to the Department of Health in the furtherance of its duties and responsibilities. Local law enforcement agencies 234 235 shall be provided complete shelter registration information upon 236 request.

(6) (4) All appropriate agencies and community-based 237 service providers, including home health care providers, 238 hospices, nurse registries, and home medical equipment 239 240 providers, shall assist emergency management agencies by collecting registration information for persons with special 241 needs as part of program intake processes, establishing programs 242 243 to increase the awareness of the registration process, and educating clients about the procedures that may be necessary for 244 245 their safety during disasters. Clients of state or federally 246 funded service programs with physical, mental, cognitive 247 impairment, or sensory disabilities who need assistance in evacuating, or when in shelters, must register as persons with 248 249 special needs. 250 Section 2. Section 252.3568, Florida Statutes, is created

251 to read:

252 <u>252.3568 Emergency sheltering of persons with pets.--In</u>

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253 accordance with the provisions of s. 252.35, the division shall 254 address the evacuation of persons with pets in the shelter 255 component of the state comprehensive emergency management plan. 256 The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall assist 257 the division in determining strategies regarding this activity. Section 3. Section 252.357, Florida Statutes, is created 258 259 to read: 252.357 Monitoring of nursing homes during disaster.--The 260 261 Florida Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan shall permit the Agency for Health Care Administration, working from the agency's 262 263 offices or in the Emergency Operations Center, ESF-8, to make initial contact with each nursing home in the disaster area. The 264 agency, by July 15, 2006, and annually thereafter, shall publish 265 266 on the Internet an emergency telephone number that may be used 267 by nursing homes to contact the agency on a schedule established 268 by the agency to report requests for assistance. The agency may also provide the telephone number to each facility when it makes 269 270 the initial facility call.

271 Section 4. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (a) and (b) of 272 subsection (4) of section 252.385, Florida Statutes, are amended 273 to read:

274

252.385 Public shelter space.--

(2) (a) The division shall administer a program to survey
existing schools, universities, community colleges, and other
state-owned, municipally owned, and county-owned public
buildings and any private facility that the owner, in writing,
agrees to provide for use as a public hurricane evacuation
shelter to identify those that are appropriately designed and
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281 located to serve as such shelters. The owners of the facilities 282 must be given the opportunity to participate in the surveys. The 283 Board of Regents, district school boards, community college 284 boards of trustees, and the Department of Education are 285 responsible for coordinating and implementing the survey of 286 public schools, universities, and community colleges with the 287 division or the local emergency management agency.

288 (b) By January 31 of each even-numbered year, the division 289 shall prepare and submit a statewide emergency shelter plan to 290 the Governor and the Cabinet for approval, subject to the 291 requirements for approval provided in s. 1013.37(2). The plan shall identify the general location and square footage of 292 293 special needs shelters, by regional planning council region, 294 during the next 5 years. The plan shall also include information on the availability of shelters that accept pets. The Department 295 296 of Health shall assist the division in determining the estimated 297 need for special needs shelter space and the adequacy of 298 facilities to meet the needs of persons with special needs based 299 on information from the registries of persons with special needs 300 and other information.

301 (4) (a) Public facilities, including schools, postsecondary 302 education facilities, and other facilities owned or leased by 303 the state or local governments, but excluding hospitals, hospice care facilities, assisted living facilities, or nursing homes, 304 which are suitable for use as public hurricane evacuation 305 306 shelters shall be made available at the request of the local emergency management agencies. The local emergency management 307 agency shall inspect a designated facility to determine its 308

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309 readiness prior to activating the facility for a specific 310 <u>hurricane or disaster</u>. Such agencies shall coordinate with the 311 appropriate school board, university, community college, or 312 local governing board when requesting the use of such facilities 313 as public hurricane evacuation shelters.

314 The Department of Management Services shall (b) 315 incorporate provisions for the use of suitable leased public facilities as public hurricane evacuation shelters into lease 316 317 agreements for state agencies. Suitable leased public facilities 318 include leased public facilities that are solely occupied by 319 state agencies and have at least 2,000 square feet of net floor area in a single room or in a combination of rooms having a 320 minimum of 400 square feet in each room. The net square footage 321 322 of floor area shall must be determined by subtracting from the 323 gross square footage the square footage of spaces such as 324 mechanical and electrical rooms, storage rooms, open corridors, 325 restrooms, kitchens, science or computer laboratories, shop or 326 mechanical areas, administrative offices, records vaults, and 327 crawl spaces.

328 Section 5. Section 381.0303, Florida Statutes, is amended 329 to read:

330 381.0303 Health practitioner recruitment for Special needs 331 shelters.--

(1) PURPOSE.--The purpose of this section is to provide
 for the operation, maintenance, and closure of special needs
 shelters and to designate the Department of Health, through its
 county health departments, as the lead agency for coordination
 of the recruitment of health care practitioners, as defined in
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337 s. 456.001(4), to staff special needs shelters in times of 338 emergency or disaster and to provide resources to the department 339 to carry out this responsibility. However, nothing in this 340 section prohibits a county health department from entering into 341 an agreement with a local emergency management agency to assume 342 the lead responsibility for recruiting health care 343 practitioners.

344 (2) SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER PLAN; STAFFING; CLOSURE; STATE
 345 <u>AGENCY ASSISTANCE</u> AND STAFFING.--Provided funds have been
 346 appropriated to support medical services disaster coordinator
 347 positions in county health departments:-

The department shall assume lead responsibility for 348 (a) the local coordination of local medical and health care 349 providers, the American Red Cross, and other interested parties 350 351 in developing a plan for the staffing and medical management of 352 special needs shelters. The local Children's Medical Services 353 offices shall assume lead responsibility for the coordination of 354 local medical and health care providers, the American Red Cross, 355 and other interested parties in developing a plan for the staffing and medical management of pediatric special needs 356 357 shelters. Plans shall conform to The plan shall be in 358 conformance with the local comprehensive emergency management 359 plan.

360 <u>(b) (a)</u> County health departments shall, in conjunction 361 with the local emergency management agencies, have the lead 362 responsibility for coordination of the recruitment of health 363 care practitioners to staff local special needs shelters. County 364 health departments shall assign their employees to work in Page 13 of 38

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365	special needs shelters when those employees are needed to
366	protect the health <u>and safety of persons with special needs</u> of
367	patients. County governments shall assist the Department of
368	Health with nonmedical staffing and the operation of special
369	needs shelters. The local health department and emergency
370	management agency shall coordinate these efforts to ensure
371	appropriate staffing in special needs shelters.
372	(c) (b) The appropriate county health department,
373	Children's Medical Services office, and local emergency
374	management agency shall jointly <u>decide</u> determine who has
375	responsibility for medical supervision in <u>each</u> a special needs
376	shelter and shall notify the Division of Emergency Management
377	and the Department of Health of their decision.
378	(d) (c) Local emergency management agencies shall be
379	responsible for the designation <u>,</u> and operation <u>, and</u>
380	<u>infrastructure</u> of special needs shelters during times of
381	emergency or disaster and the closure of the facilities
382	following an emergency or disaster. The emergency management
383	agency and the local health department shall coordinate these
384	efforts to ensure appropriate designation, operation, and
385	infrastructure in special needs shelters. County health
386	departments shall assist the local emergency management agency
387	with regard to the management of medical services in special
388	needs shelters. However, nothing in this section prohibits a
389	county health department from entering into an alternative
390	agreement with a local emergency management agency to assume the
391	lead responsibility for special needs shelter supplies and
392	equipment.

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393 (e) Any state employee with a preestablished role in 394 disaster response that has been designated by the employing 395 agency is subject to serve in times of disaster in a capacity 396 that is commensurate with the employee's knowledge, skills, and 397 abilities and to participate in any needed activities related to 398 the disaster unless the employee has other mandated response 399 activities that preclude participation. 400 (f) The Secretary of Elderly Affairs, or his or her designee, shall convene, at any time that he or she deems 401 appropriate and necessary, a multiagency special needs shelter 402 403 discharge planning team or teams to assist local areas that are severely impacted by a natural or manmade disaster that requires 404 the use of special needs shelters. Multiagency special needs 405 406 shelter discharge planning teams shall provide assistance to 407 local emergency management agencies with the continued operation or closure of the shelters, as well as with the discharge of 408 409 special needs clients to alternate facilities if necessary. 410 Local emergency management agencies may request the assistance 411 of a multiagency special needs shelter discharge planning team 412 by alerting statewide emergency management officials of the 413 necessity for additional assistance in their area. The Secretary 414 of Elderly Affairs is encouraged to proactively work with other 415 state agencies prior to any natural disasters for which warnings are provided to ensure that multiagency special needs shelter 416 417 discharge planning teams are ready to assemble and deploy 418 rapidly upon a determination by state emergency management officials that a disaster area requires additional assistance. 419 The Secretary of Elderly Affairs may call upon any state agency 420

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421	or office to provide staff to assist a multiagency special needs
422	shelter discharge planning team or teams. Unless the secretary
423	determines that the nature or circumstances surrounding the
424	disaster do not warrant participation from a particular agency's
425	staff, each multiagency special needs shelter discharge planning
426	team shall include at least one representative from each of the
427	following state agencies:
428	1. Department of Elderly Affairs.
429	2. Department of Health.
430	3. Department of Children and Family Services.
431	4. Department of Veterans' Affairs.
432	5. Department of Community Affairs.
433	6. Agency for Health Care Administration.
434	7. Agency for Persons with Disabilities.
435	(3) REIMBURSEMENT TO HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS AND
436	FACILITIES
437	(a) The Department of Health shall upon request reimburse,
438	subject to the availability of funds for this purpose, health
439	care practitioners, as defined in s. 456.001, provided the
440	practitioner is not providing care to a patient under an
441	existing contract, and emergency medical technicians and
442	paramedics licensed <u>under</u> pursuant to chapter 401 for medical
443	care provided at the request of the department in special needs
444	shelters or at other locations during times of emergency or <u>a</u>
445	<u>declared</u> major disaster. Reimbursement for health care
446	practitioners, except for physicians licensed <u>under</u> pursuant to
447	chapter 458 or chapter 459, shall be based on the average hourly
448	rate that such practitioners were paid according to the most
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449 recent survey of Florida hospitals conducted by the Florida 450 Hospital Association or other nationally or state recognized 451 <u>data source</u>. Reimbursement shall be requested on forms prepared 452 by the Department of Health <u>and shall be paid as specified in</u> 453 paragraph (c).

454 If, upon closure of a special needs shelter, a (b) 455 multiagency special needs shelter discharge planning team determines that it is necessary to discharge persons with 456 457 special needs to other health care facilities, such as 458 hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and community residential homes, the receiving facilities shall be 459 460 eligible for reimbursement for services provided to the individuals for up to 90 days. Any facility eligible for 461 462 reimbursement under this paragraph shall submit invoices for 463 reimbursement on forms developed by the department. A facility 464 must show proof of a written request from a representative of an 465 agency serving on the multiagency special needs shelter 466 discharge planning team that the individual for whom the 467 facility is seeking reimbursement for services rendered was 468 referred to that facility from a special needs shelter. The 469 department shall specify by rule which expenses are reimbursable 470 and the rate of reimbursement for each service. Reimbursement 471 for the services described in this paragraph shall be paid as 472 specified in paragraph (c). If a Presidential Disaster Declaration has been issued 473 (C) made, and the Federal Government makes funds available, the 474 department shall request federal use such funds for 475 476 reimbursement of eligible expenditures. In other situations, or Page 17 of 38

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477 if federal funds do not fully compensate the department for reimbursements permissible under reimbursement made pursuant to 478 this section, the department shall process a budget amendment to 479 480 obtain reimbursement from unobligated, unappropriated moneys in 481 the General Revenue Fund. The department shall not provide 482 reimbursement to facilities under this subsection for services 483 provided to a person with special needs if, during the period of time in which the services were provided, the individual was 484 485 enrolled in another state-funded program, such as Medicaid or another similar program, was covered under a policy of health 486 insurance as defined in s. 624.603, or was a member of a health 487 maintenance organization or prepaid health clinic as defined in 488 chapter 641, which would otherwise pay for the same services. 489 490 Travel expense and per diem costs shall be reimbursed pursuant to s. 112.061. 491

(4) HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONER REGISTRY.--The department may
use the registries established in ss. 401.273 and 456.38 when
health care practitioners are needed to staff special needs
shelters or to assist with other disaster-related activities
staff disaster medical assistance teams.

497 (5) SPECIAL NEEDS SHELTER INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE.--The 498 Secretary Department of Health may establish a special needs 499 shelter interagency committee and serve as or appoint a designee to serve as the committee's chair. The department shall provide 500 501 any necessary staff and resources to support the committee in the performance of its duties, to be chaired and staffed by the 502 department. The committee shall address and resolve problems 503 504 related to special needs shelters not addressed in the state Page 18 of 38

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505 comprehensive emergency medical plan and shall <u>consult on</u> serve 506 as an oversight committee to monitor the planning and operation 507 of special needs shelters.

508

(a) The committee <u>shall</u> may:

509 1. Develop, and negotiate, and regularly review any
510 necessary interagency agreements.

511 2. Undertake other such activities as the department deems 512 necessary to facilitate the implementation of this section.

513

3. Submit recommendations to the Legislature as necessary.

The special needs shelter interagency committee shall 514 (b) 515 be composed of representatives of emergency management, health, medical, and social services organizations. Membership shall 516 include, but shall not be limited to, representatives of the 517 518 Departments of Health, Community Affairs, Children and Family Services, Elderly Affairs, Labor and Employment Security, and 519 520 Education; the Agency for Health Care Administration; the 521 Florida Medical Association; the Florida Osteopathic Medical 522 Association; Associated Home Health Industries of Florida, Inc.; 523 the Florida Nurses Association; the Florida Health Care Association; the Florida Assisted Living Affiliation 524 525 Association; the Florida Hospital Association; the Florida 526 Statutory Teaching Hospital Council; the Florida Association of 527 Homes for the Aging; the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association; the American Red Cross; Florida Hospices and 528 Palliative Care, Inc.; the Association of Community Hospitals 529 and Health Systems; the Florida Association of Health 530 Maintenance Organizations; the Florida League of Health Systems; 531 Private Care Association; and the Salvation Army; the Florida 532 Page 19 of 38

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533 Association of Aging Services Providers; AARP; and the Florida 534 Renal Coalition. 535 Meetings of the committee shall be held in (C) 536 Tallahassee, and members of the committee shall serve at the 537 expense of the agencies or organizations they represent. The committee shall make every effort to use teleconference or video 538 conference capabilities in order to ensure statewide input and 539 540 participation. RULES.--The department has the authority to adopt rules 541 (6) necessary to implement this section. Rules shall may include: 542 (a) The a definition of a "person with special needs", 543 544 including eligibility criteria for individuals with physical, 545 mental, cognitive impairment, or sensory disabilities and the 546 services a person with special needs can expect to receive in a special needs shelter patient, specify physician reimbursement, 547 548 and designate which county health departments will have 549 responsibility for implementation of subsections (2) and (3). 550 The process for special needs shelter health care (b) practitioners and facility reimbursement for services provided in 551 a disaster. 552 553 Guidelines for special needs shelter staffing levels to (C) 554 provide services. 555 (d) The definition of and standards for special needs shelter supplies and equipment, including durable medical 556 557 equipment. (e) Compliance with applicable laws relating to service 558 559 animals. 560 (f) Standards for the special needs shelter registration Page 20 of 38

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561	process, including guidelines for addressing the needs of
562	unregistered persons in need of a special needs shelter.
563	(g) Standards for addressing the needs of families where
564	only one dependent is eligible for admission to a special needs
565	shelter and the needs of adults with special needs who are
566	caregivers for individuals without special needs.
567	(h) The requirement of the county health departments to
568	seek the participation of hospitals, nursing homes, assisted
569	living facilities, home health agencies, hospice providers,
570	nurse registries, home medical equipment providers, dialysis
571	centers, and other health and medical emergency preparedness
572	stakeholders in preevent planning activities.
573	(7) REVIEW OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANS; CONTINUITY OF
574	CAREEach emergency management plan submitted to a county
575	health department by a home health agency under s. 400.492, by a
576	nurse registry pursuant to s. 400.506(16)(e), by a hospice
577	pursuant to s. 400.610(1)(b), or by a home medical equipment
578	provider pursuant to s. 400.934(20)(a) shall specify the means
579	by which the home health agency, nurse registry, hospice, or
580	home medical equipment provider will continue to provide staff
581	and equipment to perform the same type and quantity of services
582	for their patients who evacuate to special needs shelters that
583	were being provided to those patients prior to evacuation. The
584	submission of emergency management plans to county health
585	departments by home health agencies <u>, pursuant to s.</u>
586	400.497(8)(c) and (d) and by nurse registries <u>,</u> pursuant to s.
587	400.506(16)(e) and by hospice programs, pursuant to s.
588	400.610(1)(b) and home medical equipment providers is
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589 conditional upon the receipt of an appropriation by the 590 department to establish medical services disaster coordinator 591 positions in county health departments unless the secretary of 592 the department and a local county commission jointly determine 593 to require such plans to be submitted based on a determination 594 that there is a special need to protect public health in the 595 local area during an emergency.

596 Section 6. Section 400.492, Florida Statutes, is amended 597 to read:

400.492 Provision of services during an emergency.--Each 598 599 home health agency shall prepare and maintain a comprehensive emergency management plan that is consistent with the standards 600 adopted by national or state accreditation organizations and 601 602 consistent with the local special needs plan. The plan shall be 603 updated annually and shall provide for continuing home health 604 services during an emergency that interrupts patient care or 605 services in the patient's home. The plan shall include the means 606 by which the home health agency will continue to provide staff 607 to perform the same type and quantity of services to their patients who evacuate to special needs shelters that were being 608 609 provided to those patients prior to evacuation. The plan shall 610 describe how the home health agency establishes and maintains an 611 effective response to emergencies and disasters, including: 612 notifying staff when emergency response measures are initiated; providing for communication between staff members, county health 613 departments, and local emergency management agencies, including 614 a backup system; identifying resources necessary to continue 615 essential care or services or referrals to other organizations 616 Page 22 of 38

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subject to written agreement; and prioritizing and contactingpatients who need continued care or services.

Each patient record for patients who are listed in the 619 (1)620 registry established pursuant to s. 252.355 shall include a 621 description of how care or services will be continued in the 622 event of an emergency or disaster. The home health agency shall 623 discuss the emergency provisions with the patient and the patient's caregivers, including where and how the patient is to 624 625 evacuate, procedures for notifying the home health agency in the 626 event that the patient evacuates to a location other than the 627 shelter identified in the patient record, and a list of medications and equipment which must either accompany the 628 patient or will be needed by the patient in the event of an 629 630 evacuation.

631 (2)Each home health agency shall maintain a current 632 prioritized list of patients who need continued services during an emergency. The list shall indicate how services shall be 633 634 continued in the event of an emergency or disaster for each 635 patient and if the patient is to be transported to a special needs shelter, and shall indicate if the patient is receiving 636 637 skilled nursing services and the patient's medication and 638 equipment needs. The list shall be furnished to county health 639 departments and to local emergency management agencies, upon 640 request.

(3) Home health agencies shall not be required to continue
to provide care to patients in emergency situations that are
beyond their control and that make it impossible to provide
services, such as when roads are impassable or when patients do
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645 not qo to the location specified in their patient records. Home 646 health agencies may establish links to local emergency 647 operations centers to determine a mechanism to approach specific 648 areas within a disaster area in order for the agency to reach 649 its clients. The presentation of a home health agency client to 650 a special needs shelter without the home health agency making a 651 good faith effort to provide services in the shelter setting 652 shall be considered abandonment of the client and constitutes a 653 class II deficiency, subject to sanctions provided in s. 654 400.484(2)(b). For purposes of this section, "good faith effort" 655 may be demonstrated by documented attempts of staff to follow 656 procedures as outlined in the home health agency's comprehensive emergency management plan, and by the patient's record, which 657 658 support a finding that continuing care has been provided for 659 those patients who have been identified as needing care by the home health agency in the event of an emergency or disaster 660 661 under subsection (1).

(4) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 400.464(2) or any
other provision of law to the contrary, a home health agency may
provide services in a special needs shelter located in any
county.

666 Section 7. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (8) of 667 section 400.497, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

400.497 Rules establishing minimum standards.--The agency
shall adopt, publish, and enforce rules to implement this part,
including, as applicable, ss. 400.506 and 400.509, which must
provide reasonable and fair minimum standards relating to:

(8) Preparation of a comprehensive emergency management

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673 plan pursuant to s. 400.492. 674 (C) The plan is subject to review and approval by the 675 county health department. During its review, the county health 676 department shall contact state and local health and medical 677 stakeholders during its review when necessary. ensure that the 678 following agencies, at a minimum, are given the opportunity to 679 review the plan: 680 1. The local emergency management agency. 2. The Agency for Health Care Administration. 681 682 3. The local chapter of the American Red Cross or other 683 lead sheltering agency. The district office of the Department of Children and 684 4. 685 Family Services. 686 687 The county health department shall complete its review to ensure 688 that the plan is in accordance with the criteria set forth in 689 the rules of the Agency for Health Care Administration within 90 690 60 days after receipt of the plan and shall either approve the 691 plan or advise the home health agency of necessary revisions. If 692 the home health agency fails to submit a plan or fails to submit 693 the requested information or revisions to the county health 694 department within 30 days after written notification from the county health department, the county health department shall 695 696 notify the Agency for Health Care Administration. The agency 697 shall notify the home health agency that such failure constitutes a deficiency, subject to a fine of \$5,000 per 698 occurrence. If the plan is not submitted, information is not 699 700 provided, or revisions are not made as requested, the agency may

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701 impose the fine.

For any home health agency that operates in more than 702 (d) 703 one county, the Department of Health shall review the plan, after consulting with state and local health and medical 704 705 stakeholders, when necessary all of the county health 706 departments, the agency, and all the local chapters of the American Red Cross or other lead sheltering agencies in the 707 areas of operation for that particular home health agency. The 708 709 department of Health shall complete its review within 90 days after receipt of the plan and shall either approve the plan or 710 711 advise the home health agency of necessary revisions. The 712 department of Health shall make every effort to avoid imposing differing requirements on a home health agency that operates in 713 714 more than one county as a result of differing or conflicting comprehensive plan requirements of the based on differences 715 716 between counties in which on the home health agency operates.

717 Section 8. Subsection (16) of section 400.506, Florida718 Statutes, is amended to read:

719 400.506 Licensure of nurse registries; requirements;
720 penalties.--

721 Each nurse registry shall prepare and maintain a (16)722 comprehensive emergency management plan that is consistent with 723 the criteria in this subsection and with the local special needs plan. The plan shall be updated annually. The plan shall include 724 the means by which the nurse registry will continue to provide 725 726 staff to perform the same type and quantity of services to their patients who evacuate to special needs shelters that were being 727 provided to those patients prior to evacuation. The plan shall 728

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729 specify how the nurse registry shall facilitate the provision of 730 continuous care by persons referred for contract to persons who 731 are registered pursuant to s. 252.355 during an emergency that 732 interrupts the provision of care or services in private 733 residencies. Nurse registries may establish links to local 734 emergency operations centers to determine a mechanism to 735 approach specific areas within a disaster area in order for a 736 provider to reach its clients. The presentation of nurse 737 registry clients to a special needs shelter without the nurse 738 registry provider making a good faith effort to provide services 739 in the shelter setting shall be considered abandonment of the 740 patient and constitutes a class II deficiency, subject to 741 sanctions provided in s. 400.484(2)(b). For purposes of this 742 section, "good faith effort" may be demonstrated by documented attempts of staff to follow procedures as outlined in the nurse 743 744 registry's comprehensive emergency management plan which support 745 a finding that continuing care has been provided for those 746 patients who have been identified as needing care by the nurse 747 registry in the event of an emergency under s. 400.506(1).

(a) All persons referred for contract who care for persons
registered pursuant to s. 252.355 must include in the patient
record a description of how care will be continued during a
disaster or emergency that interrupts the provision of care in
the patient's home. It shall be the responsibility of the person
referred for contract to ensure that continuous care is
provided.

(b) Each nurse registry shall maintain a current
 prioritized list of patients in private residences who are
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757 registered pursuant to s. 252.355 and are under the care of 758 persons referred for contract and who need continued services 759 during an emergency. This list shall indicate, for each patient, 760 if the client is to be transported to a special needs shelter 761 and if the patient is receiving skilled nursing services. Nurse 762 registries shall make this list available to county health 763 departments and to local emergency management agencies upon 764 request.

(c) Each person referred for contract who is caring for a patient who is registered pursuant to s. 252.355 shall provide a list of the patient's medication and equipment needs to the nurse registry. Each person referred for contract shall make this information available to county health departments and to local emergency management agencies upon request.

(d) Each person referred for contract shall not be required to continue to provide care to patients in emergency situations that are beyond the person's control and that make it impossible to provide services, such as when roads are impassable or when patients do not go to the location specified in their patient records.

777 The comprehensive emergency management plan required (e) 778 by this subsection is subject to review and approval by the county health department. During its review, the county health 779 780 department shall contact state and local health and medical stakeholders, when necessary ensure that, at a minimum, the 781 local emergency management agency, the Agency for Health Care 782 Administration, and the local chapter of the American Red Cross 783 784 or other lead sheltering agency are given the opportunity to Page 28 of 38

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785 review the plan. The county health department shall complete its 786 review to ensure that the plan is in accordance with the 787 criteria set forth in the rules of the Agency for Health Care 788 Administration within 90 60 days after receipt of the plan and 789 shall either approve the plan or advise the nurse registry of 790 necessary revisions. If a nurse registry fails to submit a plan 791 or fails to submit requested information or revisions to the 792 county health department within 30 days after written 793 notification from the county health department, the county 794 health department shall notify the Agency for Health Care 795 Administration. The agency shall notify the nurse registry that 796 such failure constitutes a deficiency, subject to a fine of 797 \$5,000 per occurrence. If the plan is not submitted, information 798 is not provided, or revisions are not made as requested, the 799 agency may impose the fine. 800 (f) The Department of Health shall review the 801 comprehensive emergency management plan of any nurse registry 802 that operates in more than one county. The department shall 803 complete its review within 90 days after receipt of the plan and 804 shall either approve the plan or advise the nurse registry of 805 necessary revisions. The department shall make every effort to 806 avoid imposing differing requirements on nurse registries that 807 operate in more than one county as a result of differing or conflicting comprehensive plan requirements of the counties in 808 809 which the nurse registry operates. 810 (q) (f) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall adopt rules establishing minimum criteria for the comprehensive 811 emergency management plan and plan updates required by this 812

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813 subsection, with the concurrence of the Department of Health and814 in consultation with the Department of Community Affairs.

- 815 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 816 400.610, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 817

400.610 Administration and management of a hospice.--

(1) A hospice shall have a clearly defined organized
governing body, consisting of a minimum of seven persons who are
representative of the general population of the community
served. The governing body shall have autonomous authority and
responsibility for the operation of the hospice and shall meet
at least quarterly. The governing body shall:

824 Prepare and maintain a comprehensive emergency (b)1. management plan that provides for continuing hospice services in 825 826 the event of an emergency that is consistent with local special needs plans. The plan shall include provisions for ensuring 827 828 continuing care to hospice patients who go to special needs 829 shelters. The plan shall include the means by which the hospice 830 provider will continue to provide staff to perform the same type 831 and quantity of services to their patients who evacuate to 832 special needs shelters that were being provided to those 833 patients prior to evacuation. The plan is subject to review and 834 approval by the county health department, except as provided in 835 subparagraph 2. During its review, the county health department shall contact state and local health and medical stakeholders, 836 when necessary ensure that the department, the agency, and the 837 838 local chapter of the American Red Cross or other lead sheltering agency have an opportunity to review and comment on the plan. 839 The county health department shall complete its review to ensure 840

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841 that the plan is in accordance with the criteria set forth in 842 the rules of the Department of Elderly Affairs within 90 60 days 843 after receipt of the plan and shall either approve the plan or 844 advise the hospice of necessary revisions. Hospice providers may 845 establish links to local emergency operations centers to 846 determine a mechanism to approach specific areas within a disaster area in order for the provider to reach its clients. 847 848 The presentation of hospice clients to a special needs shelter 849 without the hospice provider making a good faith effort to 850 provide services in the shelter setting shall be considered 851 abandonment of the client subject to sanction as provided by law 852 or rule. For the purposes of this section, "good faith effort" may be demonstrated by documented attempts of staff to follow 853 854 procedures as outlined in the hospice's comprehensive emergency management plan and to provide continuing care for those hospice 855 856 clients who have been identified as needing alternative 857 caregiver services in the event of an emergency. For any hospice that operates in more than one county, 2.

858 859 the Department of Health during its review shall contact state 860 and local health and medical stakeholders, when necessary review 861 the plan, after consulting with all of the county health 862 departments, the agency, and all the local chapters of the 863 American Red Cross or other lead sheltering agency in the areas 864 of operation for that particular hospice. The Department of Health shall complete its review to ensure that the plan is in 865 accordance with the criteria set forth in the rules of the 866 Department of Elderly Affairs within 90 days after receipt of 867 the plan and shall either approve the plan or advise the hospice 868 Page 31 of 38

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869 of necessary revisions. The Department of Health shall make 870 every effort to avoid imposing on the hospice differing 871 requirements on a hospice that operates in more than one county as a result of differing or conflicting comprehensive plan 872 873 requirements of the based on differences between counties in 874 which the hospice operates. 875 Section 10. Subsections (13) through (16) of section 400.925, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (14) 876 through (17), respectively, and a new subsection (13) is added 877 to that section to read: 878 400.925 Definitions.--As used in this part, the term: 879 880 (13) "Life-supporting or life-sustaining equipment" means a device that is essential to, or that yields information that 881 882 is essential to, the restoration or continuation of a bodily function important to the continuation of human life. Life-883 884 supporting or life-sustaining equipment includes apnea monitors, 885 enteral feeding pumps, infusion pumps, portable home dialysis 886 equipment, and ventilator equipment and supplies for all related 887 equipment, including oxygen equipment and related respiratory 888 equipment. 889 Section 11. Subsections (20), (21), and (22) are added to 890 section 400.934, Florida Statutes, to read: 400.934 Minimum standards.--As a requirement of licensure, 891 892 home medical equipment providers shall: 893 (20) (a) Prepare and maintain a comprehensive emergency management plan that meets minimum criteria established by the 894 agency in rule under s. 400.935. The plan shall be updated 895 896 annually and shall provide for continuing home medical equipment Page 32 of 38

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897	services for life-supporting or life-sustaining equipment, as
898	defined in 400.925, during an emergency that interrupts home
899	medical equipment services in a patient's home. The plan shall
900	include:
901	1. The means by which the home medical equipment provider
902	will continue to provide equipment to perform the same type and
903	quantity of services to its patients who evacuate to special
904	needs shelters that were being provided to those patients prior
905	to evacuation.
906	2. The means by which the home medical equipment provider
907	establishes and maintains an effective response to emergencies
908	and disasters, including plans for:
909	a. Notification of staff when emergency response measures
910	are initiated.
911	b. Communication between staff members, county health
912	departments, and local emergency management agencies, which
913	shall include provisions for a backup communications system.
914	c. Identification of resources necessary to continue
915	essential care or services or referrals to other organizations
916	subject to written agreement.
917	d. Contacting and prioritizing patients in need of
918	continued medical equipment services and supplies.
919	(b) The plan is subject to review and approval by the
920	county health department. During its review, the county health
921	department shall contact state and local health and medical
922	stakeholders, when necessary. The county health department shall
923	complete its review to ensure that the plan is in accordance
924	with the criteria set forth in the rules of the Agency for
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925 Health Care Administration within 90 days after receipt of the 926 plan. If a home medical equipment provider fails to submit a 927 plan or fails to submit requested information or revisions to 928 the county health department within 30 days after written 929 notification from the county health department, the county health department shall notify the Agency for Health Care 930 931 Administration. The agency shall notify the home medical 932 equipment provider that such failure constitutes a deficiency, 933 subject to a fine of \$5,000 per occurrence. If the plan is not submitted, information is not provided, or revisions are not 934 935 made as requested, the agency may impose the fine. 936 The Department of Health shall review the (C) 937 comprehensive emergency management plan of any home medical 938 equipment provider that operates in more than one county. The department shall complete its review within 90 days after 939 940 receipt of the plan and shall either approve the plan or advise 941 the home medical equipment provider of necessary revisions. The 942 department shall make every effort to avoid imposing differing 943 requirements on home medical equipment providers that operate in 944 more than one county as a result of differing or conflicting 945 comprehensive plan requirements of the counties in which the 946 home medical equipment provider operates. 947 Each home medical equipment provider shall maintain a (21)current prioritized list of patients who need continued services 948 949 during an emergency. The list shall indicate the means by which 950 services shall be continued for each patient in the event of an 951 emergency or disaster, whether the patient is to be transported 952 to a special needs shelter, and whether the patient has life-

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953	supporting or life-sustaining equipment, including the specific
954	type of equipment and related supplies. The list shall be
955	furnished to county health departments and local emergency
956	management agencies, upon request.
957	(22) Home medical equipment providers may establish links
958	to local emergency operations centers to determine a mechanism
959	to approach specific areas within a disaster area in order for
960	the provider to reach its patients.
961	Section 12. Subsection (11) is added to section 400.935,
962	Florida Statutes, to read:
963	400.935 Rules establishing minimum standardsThe agency
964	shall adopt, publish, and enforce rules to implement this part,
965	which must provide reasonable and fair minimum standards
966	relating to:
967	(11) Preparation of the comprehensive emergency management
968	plan under s. 400.934 and the establishment of minimum criteria
969	for the plan, including the maintenance of patient equipment and
970	supply lists that can accompany patients who are transported
971	from their homes. Such rules shall be formulated in consultation
972	with the Department of Health and the Department of Community
973	Affairs.
974	Section 13. Section 408.831, Florida Statutes, is amended
975	to read:
976	408.831 Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license,
977	registration, certificate, or application
978	(1) In addition to any other remedies provided by law, the
979	agency may deny each application or suspend or revoke each
980	license, registration, or certificate of entities regulated or
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981 licensed by it:

If the applicant, licensee, registrant, or 982 (a) 983 certificateholder, or, in the case of a corporation, partnership, or other business entity, if any officer, director, 984 985 agent, or managing employee of that business entity or any 986 affiliated person, partner, or shareholder having an ownership 987 interest equal to 5 percent or greater in that business entity, 988 has failed to pay all outstanding fines, liens, or overpayments 989 assessed by final order of the agency or final order of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, not subject to 990 991 further appeal, unless a repayment plan is approved by the 992 agency; or

993

(b) For failure to comply with any repayment plan.

994 (2)In reviewing any application requesting a change of ownership or change of the licensee, registrant, or 995 996 certificateholder, the transferor shall, prior to agency 997 approval of the change, repay or make arrangements to repay any 998 amounts owed to the agency. Should the transferor fail to repay 999 or make arrangements to repay the amounts owed to the agency, the issuance of a license, registration, or certificate to the 1000 1001 transferee shall be delayed until repayment or until 1002 arrangements for repayment are made.

1003(3) Entities subject to this section may exceed their1004licensed capacity to act as a receiving facility in accordance1005with an emergency operations plan for clients of evacuating1006providers from a geographic area where an evacuation order has1007been issued by a local authority having jurisdiction. While in1008an overcapacity status, each provider must furnish or arrange

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1009	for appropriate care and services to all clients. In addition,
1010	the agency may approve requests for overcapacity beyond 15 days,
1011	which approvals may be based upon satisfactory justification and
1012	need as provided by the receiving and sending facility.
1013	(4) An inactive license may be issued to a licensee
1014	subject to this section when the provider is located in a
1015	geographic area where a state of emergency was declared by the
1016	Governor if the provider:
1017	(a) Suffered damage to the provider's operation during
1018	that state of emergency.
1019	(b) Is currently licensed.
1020	(c) Does not have a provisional license.
1021	(d) Will be temporarily unable to provide services but is
1022	reasonably expected to resume services within 12 months.
1023	
1024	An inactive license may be issued for a period not to exceed 12
1025	months but may be renewed by the agency for up to 6 additional
1026	months upon demonstration to the agency of progress toward
1027	reopening. A request by a licensee for an inactive license or to
1028	extend the previously approved inactive period must be submitted
1029	in writing to the agency, accompanied by written justification
1030	for the inactive license which states the beginning and ending
1031	dates of inactivity and includes a plan for the transfer of any
1032	clients to other providers and appropriate licensure fees. Upon
1033	agency approval, the licensee shall notify clients of any
1034	necessary discharge or transfer as required by authorizing
1035	statutes or applicable rules. The beginning of the inactive
1036	licensure period shall be the date the provider ceases
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1037 operations. The end of the inactive period shall become the licensee expiration date, and all licensure fees must be 1038 current, paid in full, and may be prorated. Reactivation of an 1039 inactive license requires the prior approval by the agency of a 1040 1041 renewal application, including payment of licensure fees and 1042 agency inspections indicating compliance with all requirements 1043 of this part and applicable rules and statutes. 1044 (5) (5) (3) This section provides standards of enforcement

applicable to all entities licensed or regulated by the Agency for Health Care Administration. This section controls over any conflicting provisions of chapters 39, 381, 383, 390, 391, 393, 394, 395, 400, 408, 468, 483, and 641 or rules adopted pursuant to those chapters.

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Section 14. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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