

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to racial and ethnic minority health care;  
 3           requiring the Department of Health to develop and  
 4           implement plans relating to effective community outreach  
 5           and to increasing the number of racial and ethnic minority  
 6           health care professionals; requiring the department to  
 7           collaborate with universities, colleges, and others on  
 8           development of courses on cultural competency,  
 9           sensitivity, and health literacy; requiring department to  
 10          require additional curriculum content for continuing  
 11          education courses for health care professionals; providing  
 12          an effective date.

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

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 16           Section 1.   Racial and ethnic minority health care.--The  
 17           Department of Health shall:

18           (1) Develop and implement a statewide plan for effective  
 19           outreach to racial and ethnic minority communities throughout  
 20           the state to ensure their maximum participation in publicly  
 21           funded health benefits programs;

22           (2) Develop and implement a statewide plan for increasing  
 23           the number of racial and ethnic minority health care  
 24           professionals, including recommendations for the financing  
 25           mechanisms and recruitment strategies necessary to carry out the  
 26           plan;

27           (3) Work collaboratively with universities and colleges of  
 28           medicine, nursing, pharmacy, dentistry, and other health care

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29 professional training programs to develop courses on cultural  
30 competency, sensitivity, and health literacy that are designed  
31 to address the problem of racial and ethnic disparities in  
32 health care access, utilization, treatment decisions, quality,  
33 and outcomes; and

34 (4) By July 1, 2008, require the curriculum of each health  
35 care continuing education course to include cultural competency,  
36 sensitivity, and health literacy in the respective practice of  
37 the health care profession.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.