

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to caregivers for adults; authorizing the
3 Department of Elderly Affairs to create a pilot program in
4 specified counties to train persons to act as companions
5 and provide certain services to frail adults in the
6 community; specifying additional purposes of the pilot
7 program; requiring an evaluation and report to the
8 Legislature; providing appropriations; providing an
9 effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. (1) Beginning in the 2007-2008 fiscal year and
14 for a period of no longer than 3 years, the Department of
15 Elderly Affairs may establish a pilot program in Pasco County or
16 Pinellas County, or both, to train persons to act as companions
17 and provide personal assistance to frail adults 60 years of age
18 or older in the community. The purposes of the pilot program are
19 to:

20 (a) Assist in meeting the growing demand for in-home
21 companion care services and personal care services and
22 preventing costly and premature institutional placements; and

23 (b) Act as a direct referral service for the Department of
24 Elderly Affairs.

25 (2) By January 1, 2010, if the pilot program is
26 established, the Department of Elderly Affairs shall submit a
27 report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the
28 House of Representatives which includes the status of the

29 implementation of the program, the number of persons who have
30 been trained to provide community-based care for frail adults 60
31 years of age or older who live in the community, the number of
32 frail adults 60 years of age or older who have received such
33 services, and recommendations for further legislation, including
34 a recommendation regarding extending the pilot program
35 throughout the state.

36 Section 2. The sum of \$75,000 in nonrecurring revenue is
37 appropriated from the General Revenue Fund to the Department of
38 Elderly Affairs for fiscal year 2007-2008 to implement the
39 provisions of this act.

40 Section 3. The sum of \$1,350,000 in recurring funds from
41 the General Revenue Fund and \$1,650,000 in recurring funds from
42 the Operations and Maintenance Trust Fund are appropriated to
43 the Department of Elderly Affairs for the purpose of completing
44 statewide implementation of Aging Resource Centers as provided
45 in s. 430.2053, Florida Statutes.

46 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.