

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to transitional services for adolescents
 3 and young adults with disabilities; creating the Health
 4 and Transition Services Program; assigning the program for
 5 administrative purposes to Children's Medical Services in
 6 the Department of Health; providing purposes of the
 7 program; delineating the target population; describing
 8 participating service providers and the services that they
 9 are to provide; providing for an evaluation of the
 10 program; providing an effective date.

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

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 14 Section 1. Health and Transition Services Program;
 15 creation; purposes; participating agencies and services
 16 provided; evaluation.--

17 (1) The Health and Transition Services Program is created
 18 for the purpose of assisting adolescents and young adults who
 19 have special needs relating to health care and educational and
 20 vocational services in making a smooth transition from the child
 21 health care and educational system to the adult health care
 22 system and employment. For administrative purposes, the program
 23 is located in Children's Medical Services in the Department of
 24 Health.

25 (2) The target population for the program comprises
 26 persons who are at least 14 but not more than 26 years of age
 27 and have chronic health-related or developmental conditions.

28 (3) The following elements must be in place in order to

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29 ensure the success of the Health and Transition Services
30 Program:

31 (a) A consultative partnership between adult and pediatric
32 health care providers in a major medical health care
33 organization or academic medical setting for the purpose of
34 training and transferring adolescents and young adults to adult
35 health care services.

36 (b) A primary care clinic established in a major medical
37 health care organization for the purpose of fostering the
38 partnership between adult and pediatric health care providers.

39 (c) Community-based health care services that are provided
40 pursuant to agreements with major health care organizations or
41 academic medical centers for purposes of providing consultation
42 concerning the management of special health care needs.

43 (d) Community-based support organizations that can provide
44 assistance with services such as supported living and
45 employment, health insurance, and support services to maintain
46 the young adults in the community.

47 (4) The following services shall be offered to individuals
48 who are enrolled in the Health and Transition Services Program:

49 (a) An assessment of health needs, educational and
50 vocational status and needs, and health insurance status.

51 (b) In coordination with the educational system,
52 community-based organizations, and the vocational system, a plan
53 for transition which includes adult health services, education,
54 habilitative services, independent living, adult employment, and
55 health insurance.

56 (c) A medical home that provides for coordinated and

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57 multidisciplinary care and focuses on engaging adult health care
58 providers in the care and treatment of the adolescents or young
59 adults.

60 (d) Disease self-management programs.

61 (5) The Health and Transition Services Program shall be
62 directed by a medical director having experience in adolescent
63 health. A project coordinator shall assist the medical director
64 in developing and implementing the program. Other staff may be
65 included in order to provide a full range of health and
66 transition services.

67 (6) The Health and Transition Services Program shall be
68 evaluated by an organization or university that has expertise
69 and experience in evaluating health care programs. The
70 evaluation must be formative and cumulative and must include
71 program process and outcome measures as well as client outcomes.
72 The results of the evaluation may be used to improve and
73 replicate the Health and Transition Services Program statewide.

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