

**By** the Committees on Health and Human Services Appropriations; Children, Families, and Elder Affairs; and Senators Wise and Lynn

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2                   An act relating to the personal care attendant program;  
3                   amending s. 413.402, F.S.; revising provisions governing a  
4                   program to provide personal care attendants for persons  
5                   who have disabilities; requiring the Florida Endowment  
6                   Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation to enter into an  
7                   agreement by a certain date with the Florida Association  
8                   of Centers for Independent Living to administer a program  
9                   to provide such attendants to persons who have severe and  
10                  chronic disabilities; requiring that the parties execute a  
11                  memorandum of understanding; naming the program the "James  
12                  Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal Attendant  
13                  Services Program"; providing for payment for the  
14                  administration of the program; removing a provision  
15                  requiring interagency memoranda of agreement; revising  
16                  eligibility requirements for participation in the personal  
17                  care attendant program; removing provisions concerning the  
18                  training, selection, and recruitment of personal care  
19                  attendants; providing for training of program participants  
20                  concerning hiring and managing an attendant; providing for  
21                  the adoption and revision of program policies and  
22                  procedures by the association in cooperation with an  
23                  oversight group; providing for membership in the oversight  
24                  group; amending s. 413.4021, F.S.; increasing the  
25                  percentage of revenues collected from persons who fail to  
26                  remit sales tax which is deposited in the special reserve  
27                  account of the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational  
28                  Rehabilitation to administer the program; deleting a  
29                  provision requiring that the Florida Endowment Foundation

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30       for Vocational Rehabilitation select an entity to  
31       administer the program; providing for automatic enrollment  
32       in the program for certain persons; providing an effective  
33       date.

34

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

36

37       Section 1. Section 413.402, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
38       read:

39       413.402 Personal care attendant program.--The Florida  
40 Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation shall enter  
41 into an agreement, no later than October 1, 2008, with the  
42 Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living to  
43 administer the James Patrick Memorial Work Incentive Personal  
44 Attendant Services, in conjunction with the Brain and Spinal Cord  
45 Injury Program in the Department of Health, shall develop a  
46 Program to provide personal care attendants to persons who have  
47 severe and chronic disabilities of all kinds and who are eligible  
48 under pursuant to subsection (1). Effective July 1, 2008, the  
49 Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living shall  
50 receive 12 percent of the funds paid to or on behalf of  
51 participants from funds to be deposited with the Florida  
52 Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation pursuant to  
53 ss. 320.08068(4)(d) and 413.4021(1) to administer the program.  
54 For the purpose of ensuring continuity of services, a memorandum  
55 of understanding shall be executed between the parties to cover  
56 the period between July 1, 2008, and the execution of the final  
57 agreement. association and the Department of Health shall jointly  
58 develop memoranda of understanding with the Department of

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59 Revenue, the Florida Medicaid program in the Agency for Health  
60 Care Administration, the Florida Endowment Foundation for  
61 Vocational Rehabilitation, and the Division of Vocational  
62 Rehabilitation of the Department of Education.

63 (1) In order to be Persons eligible to participate in the  
64 program, a person must:

65 (a) Be at least 18 years of age, be a legal resident of  
66 this state, and be significantly and chronically disabled due to  
67 a traumatic spinal cord injury;

68 (b) Require a personal care attendant for assistance with  
69 or support for at least two activities of daily living as defined  
70 in s. 429.02, as determined by a physician, psychologist, or  
71 psychiatrist bathing, dressing, bowel and bladder management, and  
72 transportation;

73 (c) Require a personal care attendant in order to accept a  
74 job or maintain substantial gainful employment; and

75 (d) Be able to acquire hire and direct supervise a personal  
76 care attendant.; and

77 (e) Meet one of the following requirements:

78 1. Live in a nursing home;

79 2. Have moved out of a nursing home within the preceding  
80 180 days due to participation in a Medicaid home and community-  
81 based waiver program targeted to persons with brain or spinal  
82 cord injuries; or

83 3. Presently be employed but, because of a loss of a  
84 caregiver, will lose employment and potentially return to a  
85 nursing home.

86 (2) (a) The association, in cooperation with the Department  
87 of Health and the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational

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88 Rehabilitation, shall develop a program to recruit, screen, and  
89 select candidates to be trained as personal care attendants.

90 (b) The services of a nurse registry licensed pursuant to  
91 s. 100.506 may be utilized to recruit and screen candidates and  
92 to operate as a fiscal intermediary through which payments are  
93 made to individuals performing services as personal care  
94 attendants under the program. The Department of Health and the  
95 Agency for Health Care Administration shall seek any federal  
96 waivers necessary to implement this provision.

97 (3) The Florida Association of Centers for Independent  
98 Living association and the Department of Health, in cooperation  
99 with the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational  
100 Rehabilitation, shall provide develop a training to program  
101 participants on hiring and managing a personal care attendant  
102 and, in cooperation with the oversight group described in  
103 paragraph (b), adopt and revise the policies and procedures  
104 governing the personal care attendant program and the training  
105 program.

106 (b) The oversight group shall include, but need not be  
107 limited to, a member of the Florida Association of Centers for  
108 Independent Living, a person who is participating in the program,  
109 and one representative each from the Department of Revenue, the  
110 Department of Children and Family Services, the Division of  
111 Vocational Rehabilitation in the Department of Education, the  
112 Medicaid program in the Agency for Health Care Administration,  
113 the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation,  
114 and the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program in the Department of  
115 Health program for personal care attendants.

116 (4) The association, in cooperation with the Department of

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117 Health and the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational  
118 Rehabilitation, shall establish procedures for selecting persons  
119 eligible under subsection (1) to participate in the program.

120 (5) The association, in cooperation with the Department of  
121 Revenue, the Brain and Spinal Cord Injury Program in the  
122 Department of Health, the Florida Medicaid program in the Agency  
123 for Health Care Administration, a representative from the state  
124 attorney's office in each of the judicial circuits participating  
125 in the program, the Florida Endowment Foundation for Vocational  
126 Rehabilitation, and the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of  
127 the Department of Education, shall develop a plan for  
128 implementation of the program.

129 (6) The Department of Health shall establish an oversight  
130 workgroup for the personal care attendant program to oversee the  
131 implementation and administration of the program. The workgroup  
132 shall be composed of one representative from the Brain and Spinal  
133 Cord Injury Program in the Department of Health, one  
134 representative from the Department of Revenue, one representative  
135 from the Florida Medicaid Program in the Agency for Health Care  
136 Administration, one representative from the Florida Endowment  
137 Foundation for Vocational Rehabilitation, one representative from  
138 the Florida Association of Centers for Independent Living, one  
139 representative from the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation of  
140 the Department of Education, and two members who are persons with  
141 traumatic spinal cord injuries or are family members of persons  
142 with traumatic spinal cord injuries.

143 Section 2. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 413.4021,  
144 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

145 413.4021 Program participant selection; tax collection

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146 enforcement diversion program.--The Department of Revenue, in  
147 coordination with the Florida Association of Centers for  
148 Independent Living and the Florida Prosecuting Attorneys  
149 Association, shall select judicial circuits in which to operate  
150 the program. The association and the state attorneys' offices  
151 shall develop and implement a tax collection enforcement  
152 diversion program, which shall collect revenue due from persons  
153 who have not remitted their collected sales tax. The criteria for  
154 referral to the tax collection enforcement diversion program  
155 shall be determined cooperatively between the state attorneys'  
156 offices and the Department of Revenue.

157 (1) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 212.20, 50 percent  
158 of the revenues collected from the tax collection enforcement  
159 diversion program shall be deposited into the special reserve  
160 ~~operating~~ account of the Florida Endowment Foundation for  
161 Vocational Rehabilitation, to be used to administer the personal  
162 care attendant program and to contract with the state attorneys  
163 participating in the tax collection enforcement diversion program  
164 in an amount of not more than \$50,000 for each state attorney.

165 (2) The program shall operate only from funds deposited  
166 into the operating account of the Florida Endowment Foundation  
167 for Vocational Rehabilitation. ~~The Florida Endowment Foundation~~  
~~for Vocational Rehabilitation shall select the entity to~~  
168 ~~administer the personal care attendant program.~~

170 Section 3. Notwithstanding any other law, each person  
171 enrolled in the personal care attendant program under s. 413.402,  
172 Florida Statutes, on June 30, 2008, and each person enrolled in  
173 the pilot personal care attendant program in Lake, Orange,  
174 Osceola, and Seminole Counties as authorized in Specific

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175     Appropriation 340, chapter 2006-25, Laws of Florida, on June 30,  
176     2008, is automatically eligible for and enrolled in the personal  
177     care attendant program, as amended by this act on July 1, 2008.

178                 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.