

By Senator Wise

5-00376A-08

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1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to transitional services for young adults
3 with disabilities; creating a health care transition
4 services task force within the Department of Health;
5 providing legislative intent; providing for membership,
6 duties, and responsibilities of the task force; providing
7 for reimbursement of members for expenses; requiring the
8 Legislature to allocate funds to the task force; requiring
9 the task force to assess the need for health care
10 transition services and provide a report to the Governor
11 and the Legislature; creating the Don Davis Health and
12 Transition Services Program of Jacksonville; assigning the
13 program for administrative purposes to the Children's
14 Medical Services Network within the Department of Health;
15 providing purposes of the program; describing
16 participating service providers and the services that they
17 are to provide; providing for an evaluation of the
18 program; providing an appropriation; providing an
19 effective date.

20
21 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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23 Section 1. Health Care Transition Services Task Force for
24 Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities; membership, duties, and
25 responsibilities.--

26 (1) The Department of Health shall create a statewide
27 Health Care Transition Services Task Force for Youth and Young
28 Adults with Disabilities. It is the intent of the Legislature
29 that the task force assess the need for health care transition

5-00376A-08

2008988__

30 services for youth with disabilities, develop strategies to
31 ensure successful transition from the pediatric to the adult
32 health care system, and identify existing and potential funding
33 sources. The task force shall be composed of 13 members. The task
34 force shall have representatives from at least three geographic
35 areas in the state, representing rural, suburban, and urban
36 areas.

37 (2) The task force shall be composed of the following
38 persons:

39 (a) The director of the Division of Children's Medical
40 Services Network within the Department of Health or his or her
41 designee.

42 (b) A representative from the children's health care
43 medical community.

44 (c) A representative from the adult health care medical
45 community.

46 (d) The director of the Agency for Persons with
47 Disabilities or his or her designee.

48 (e) Two representatives of associations that advocate for
49 persons who have chronic medical conditions or disabilities, such
50 as the American Diabetes Association, the Sickle Cell Foundation,
51 the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, United Cerebral Palsy, the Spina
52 Bifida Association, or the Down Syndrome Association.

53 (f) Two young adults who have chronic health problems or
54 developmental disabilities or a family member.

55 (g) The deputy commissioner of the Division of Vocational
56 Rehabilitation within the Department of Education or his or her
57 designee.

58 (h) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.

5-00376A-08

2008988__

59 (i) The Secretary of Health Care Administration or his or
60 her designee.

61 (j) A person appointed by the President of the Senate.

62 (k) A person appointed by the Speaker of the House of
63 Representatives.

64 (3) The director of the Division of Children's Medical
65 Services Network or his or her designee shall be the chairperson
66 of the task force. The Department of Health shall provide staff
67 support to the task force. Task force members shall serve without
68 compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and
69 travel expenses incurred as provided in s. 112.061, Florida
70 Statutes, in carrying out their duties. Members who are public
71 officers or employees shall be reimbursed through the budget
72 entity through which they are compensated.

73 (4) The task force shall:

74 (a) Convene by August 31, 2008.

75 (b) Obtain input from key stakeholders, community
76 stakeholders, public agencies, the medical practice community,
77 and youth who have chronic special health care needs and
78 disabilities and their families to assess the need for health
79 care transition services and to identify barriers that impede
80 access to comprehensive medical treatment and health care for
81 youth and young adults who have chronic special health care needs
82 and disabilities.

83 (c) Develop a statewide plan to promote the development of
84 health care transition services. The plan should put forth
85 different models that accommodate the geographic and cultural
86 diversity in the state and that are adapted to the local needs of
87 communities and to local health services delivery systems.

5-00376A-08

2008988__

88 Furthermore, the plan should promote the integration of health
89 care transition services with transition programs for education,
90 vocation, and independent living.

91 (d) Identify common or comparable performance measures for
92 all entities that serve the needs for health care transition
93 services of youth and young adults who have chronic special
94 health care needs and disabilities.

95 (e) Collect and disseminate information concerning best
96 practices in health care transition services for youth and young
97 adults who have chronic special health care needs and
98 disabilities.

99 (f) Identify existing and potential funding sources to
100 create health care transition services within communities.

101 (5) The Legislature shall allocate up to \$100,000 to offset
102 expenses incurred by the activities of the task force. The task
103 force shall present a final report of its findings and
104 recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
105 the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2009.

106 Section 2. The Don Davis Health and Transition Services
107 Program of Jacksonville; creation; purposes; participating
108 agencies and services provided; evaluation.--

109 (1) The Don Davis Health and Transition Services Program of
110 Jacksonville is created for the purpose of assisting adolescents
111 and young adults who have special needs relating to health care
112 and educational and vocational services in making a smooth
113 transition from the child health care and educational system to
114 the adult health care system and to employment. For
115 administrative purposes, the program shall be located in the
116 Division of Children's Medical Services Network within the

5-00376A-08

2008988__

117 Department of Health.

118 (2) The program shall provide services for persons who are
119 14 through 26 years of age residing in Baker, Clay, Duval,
120 Nassau, and St. Johns Counties and who have chronic special
121 health care needs or developmental disabilities.

122 (3) The following elements must be in place in order to
123 ensure the success of the Don Davis Health and Transition
124 Services Program of Jacksonville:

125 (a) A consultative partnership between adult and pediatric
126 health care providers in a major medical health care organization
127 or academic medical setting for the purpose of training and
128 transferring adolescents and young adults to adult health care
129 services.

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

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

137 (d) Community-based support organizations that can provide
138 assistance with services such as supported living and employment,
139 health insurance, and support services to maintain the young
140 adult in the community.

141 (4) The following services shall be offered to individuals
142 who are enrolled in the Don Davis Health and Transition Services
143 Program of Jacksonville:

144 (a) An assessment of health needs, educational and
145 vocational status and needs, and health insurance status.

5-00376A-08

2008988__

146 (b) In coordination with the educational system, community-
147 based organizations, and the vocational system, a plan for
148 transition which includes adult health services, education,
149 habilitative services, independent living, adult employment, and
150 health insurance.

151 (c) A medical home that provides for coordinated and
152 multidisciplinary care and focuses on engaging adult health care
153 providers in the care and treatment of the adolescent or young
154 adult.

155 (d) Self-management of specific health conditions,
156 preventive health services, and the use of primary care and
157 specialty health care services.

158 (5) The Don Davis Health and Transition Services Program of
159 Jacksonville shall be codirected by two physicians having
160 experience in pediatric and adult health care. A project
161 coordinator shall assist the physicians in developing and
162 implementing the program. A nurse coordinator shall provide care
163 coordination services. Other staff may be included in order to
164 provide a full range of health and transition services.

165 (6) The Don Davis Health and Transition Services Program of
166 Jacksonville shall conduct an evaluation that is formative and
167 cumulative and must include program process and outcome measures
168 as well as client outcomes. The results of the evaluation may be
169 used to improve and develop other health and transition programs
170 statewide.

171 Section 3. The sum of \$650,000 is appropriated from the
172 General Revenue Fund to the Division of Children's Medical
173 Services Network within the Department of Health for operational
174 and expansion costs during the 2008-2009 fiscal year.

5-00376A-08

2008988__

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