

By Senator Sobel

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

35 (4) By July 1, 2010, require the curriculum of each health
36 care continuing education course to include cultural competency,
37 sensitivity, and health literacy in the respective practice of
38 the health care profession.

39 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.