

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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