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A bill to be entitled An act relating to the Agency for Health Care Administration; repealing s. 395.0199, F.S., relating to private utilization review of health care services; amending ss. 395.405 and 400.0712, F.S.; conforming crossreferences; amending s. 400.118, F.S.; removing provisions requiring quality-of-care monitors for nursing facilities in agency district offices; amending s. 400.141, F.S.; revising reporting requirements for facility staff-toresident ratios; deleting a requirement that licensed nursing home facilities provide the agency with a monthly report on the number of vacant beds in the facility; amending s. 400.147, F.S.; revising reporting requirements under facility internal risk management and quality assurance programs; revising the definition of the term "adverse incident" for reporting purposes; requiring abuse, neglect, and exploitation to be reported to the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services; deleting a requirement that the agency submit an annual report on nursing home adverse incidents to the Legislature; amending s. 400.162, F.S.; revising provisions relating to procedures and policies regarding the safekeeping of nursing home residents' property; amending s. 400.191, F.S.; eliminating requirements for the agency to publish the Nursing Home Guide annually in printed form; revising information provided on the agency's Internet website; amending s. 400.195, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 400.23, F.S.;

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deleting provisions relating to minimum staffing requirements for nursing homes; amending s. 400.474, F.S.; providing that specified provisions relating to remuneration do not apply to or preclude certain payment practices permitted under specified federal laws or regulations; amending s. 400.506, F.S.; exempting nurse registries not participating in the Medicaid or Medicare program from certain disciplinary actions for paying remuneration to certain entities in exchange for patient referrals; amending s. 400.9905, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "clinic" to provide that pt. X of ch. 400, F.S., the Health Care Clinic Act, does not apply to entities that do not seek reimbursement from insurance companies for medical services paid pursuant to personal injury protection coverage; amending s. 400.9935, F.S.; revising accreditation requirements for clinics providing magnetic resonance imaging services; providing for a unique identification number for licensed clinics and entities holding certificates of exemption; requiring the agency to assign unique identification numbers, under certain circumstances, and publish the numbers on its Internet website in a specified format; amending s. 400.995, F.S.; revising agency responsibilities with respect to personnel and operations in certain injunctive proceedings; amending s. 408.803, F.S.; revising definitions applicable to pt. II of ch. 408, F.S., the "Health Care Licensing Procedures Act"; amending s. 408.806, F.S.; revising contents of and procedures

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relating to health care provider applications for licensure; providing an exception from certain licensure inspections for adult family-care homes; authorizing the agency to provide electronic access to certain information and documents; amending s. 408.808, F.S.; providing for a provisional license to be issued to applicants applying for a change of ownership; providing a time limit on provisional licenses; amending s. 408.809, F.S.; revising provisions relating to background screening of specified employees; exempting certain persons from rescreening; permitting certain persons to apply for an exemption from disqualification under certain circumstances; requiring health care providers to submit to the agency an affidavit of compliance with background screening requirements at the time of license renewal; deleting a provision to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 408.810, F.S.; revising provisions relating to information required for licensure; amending s. 408.811, F.S.; providing for certain inspections to be accepted in lieu of complete licensure inspections; granting agency access to records requested during an offsite review; providing timeframes for correction of certain deficiencies and submission of plans to correct such deficiencies; amending s. 408.813, F.S.; providing classifications of violations of pt. II of ch. 408, F.S.; providing for fines; amending s. 408.820, F.S.; revising applicability of exemptions from specified requirements of pt. II of ch. 408, F.S.; conforming references; creating s. 408.821, F.S.; requiring entities

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regulated or licensed by the agency to designate a safety liaison for emergency operations; providing that entities regulated or licensed by the agency may temporarily exceed their licensed capacity to act as receiving providers under specified circumstances; providing requirements while such entities are in an overcapacity status; providing for issuance of an inactive license to such licensees under specified conditions; providing requirements and procedures with respect to the issuance and reactivation of an inactive license; authorizing the agency to adopt rules; amending s. 408.831, F.S.; deleting provisions relating to authorization for entities regulated or licensed by the agency to exceed their licensed capacity to act as receiving facilities and issuance and reactivation of inactive licenses; amending s. 408.918, F.S.; requiring accreditation by the National Alliance of Information and Referral Services for participation in the Florida 211 Network; eliminating the requirement that the agency seek certain assistance and quidance in resolving certain disputes; removing certain agency obligations relating to the Florida 211 Network; requiring the Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services to perform certain functions related to the Florida 211 Network; amending s. 409.221, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 409.901, F.S.; revising a definition applicable to Medicaid providers; repealing s. 429.071, F.S., relating to the intergenerational respite care assisted living facility pilot program; amending s.

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429.08, F.S.; authorizing the agency to provide information regarding licensed assisted living facilities electronically or on its Internet website; abolishing local coordinating workgroups established by agency field offices; deleting a fine; deleting provisions requiring the agency to provide certain information and notice to service providers; amending s. 429.14, F.S.; conforming a reference; amending s. 429.19, F.S.; revising agency procedures for imposition of fines for violations of pt. I of ch. 429, F.S., the "Assisted Living Facilities Act"; providing for the posting of certain information electronically or on the agency's Internet website; amending s. 429.23, F.S.; revising the definition of the term "adverse incident" for reporting purposes; requiring abuse, neglect, and exploitation to be reported to the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services; deleting a requirement that the agency submit an annual report on assisted living facility adverse incidents to the Legislature; amending s. 429.26, F.S.; removing requirement for a resident of an assisted living facility to undergo examinations and evaluations under certain circumstances; amending s. 430.80, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending ss. 435.04 and 435.05, F.S.; requiring employers of certain employees to submit an affidavit of compliance with level 2 screening requirements at the time of license renewal; amending s. 483.031, F.S.; conforming a reference; amending s. 483.041, F.S.; revising a definition applicable to pt. I

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141 of ch. 483, F.S., the "Florida Clinical Laboratory Law"; repealing s. 483.106, F.S., relating to applications for 143 certificates of exemption by clinical laboratories that perform certain tests; amending s. 483.172, F.S.; conforming a reference; amending s. 627.4239, F.S.; 146 revising the definition of the term "standard reference compendium" for purposes of regulating the insurance coverage of drugs used in the treatment of cancer; 149 amending s. 627.736, F.S.; providing that personal injury 150 protection insurance carriers are not required to pay claims or charges for service or treatment billed by a provider not holding an identification number issued by the agency; amending s. 651.118, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; providing an effective date. 156 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 157 Section 1. Section 395.0199, Florida Statutes, is 159 repealed. Section 2. Section 395.405, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 395.405 Rulemaking. -- The department shall adopt and 163 enforce all rules necessary to administer ss. 395.0199, 395.401, 395.4015, 395.402, 395.4025, 395.403, 395.404, and 395.4045. 164

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400.0712 Application for inactive license. --

Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 400.0712, Florida

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Statutes, is amended to read:

(1) As specified in s. 408.831(4) and this section, the agency may issue an inactive license to a nursing home facility for all or a portion of its beds. Any request by a licensee that a nursing home or portion of a nursing home become inactive must be submitted to the agency in the approved format. The facility may not initiate any suspension of services, notify residents, or initiate inactivity before receiving approval from the agency; and a licensee that violates this provision may not be issued an inactive license.

Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 400.118, Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (2), and present subsection (2) of that section is amended to read:

400.118 Quality assurance; early warning system; monitoring; rapid response teams.--

(2) (a) The agency shall establish within each district office one or more quality-of-care monitors, based on the number of nursing facilities in the district, to monitor all nursing facilities in the district on a regular, unannounced, aperiodic basis, including nights, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Quality-of-care monitors shall visit each nursing facility at least quarterly. Priority for additional monitoring visits shall be given to nursing facilities with a history of resident care deficiencies. Quality-of-care monitors shall be registered nurses who are trained and experienced in nursing facility regulation, standards of practice in long-term care, and evaluation of patient care. Individuals in these positions shall not be deployed by the agency as a part of the district survey team in the conduct of routine, scheduled surveys, but shall

function solely and independently as quality-of-care monitors. Quality-of-care monitors shall assess the overall quality of life in the nursing facility and shall assess specific conditions in the facility directly related to resident care, including the operations of internal quality improvement and risk management programs and adverse incident reports. The quality-of-care monitor shall include in an assessment visit observation of the care and services rendered to residents and formal and informal interviews with residents, family members, facility staff, resident guests, volunteers, other regulatory staff, and representatives of a long-term care ombudsman council or Florida advocacy council.

(b) Findings of a monitoring visit, both positive and negative, shall be provided orally and in writing to the facility administrator or, in the absence of the facility administrator, to the administrator on duty or the director of nursing. The quality-of-care monitor may recommend to the facility administrator procedural and policy changes and staff training, as needed, to improve the care or quality of life of facility residents. Conditions observed by the quality-of-care monitor which threaten the health or safety of a resident shall be reported immediately to the agency area office supervisor for appropriate regulatory action and, as appropriate or as required by law, to law enforcement, adult protective services, or other responsible agencies.

(c) Any record, whether written or oral, or any written or oral communication generated pursuant to paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) shall not be subject to discovery or introduction

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into evidence in any civil or administrative action against a nursing facility arising out of matters which are the subject of quality-of-care monitoring, and a person who was in attendance at a monitoring visit or evaluation may not be permitted or required to testify in any such civil or administrative action as to any evidence or other matters produced or presented during the monitoring visits or evaluations. However, information, documents, or records otherwise available from original sources are not to be construed as immune from discovery or use in any such civil or administrative action merely because they were presented during monitoring visits or evaluations, and any person who participates in such activities may not be prevented from testifying as to matters within his or her knowledge, but such witness may not be asked about his or her participation in such activities. The exclusion from the discovery or introduction of evidence in any civil or administrative action provided for herein shall not apply when the quality-of-care monitor makes a report to the appropriate authorities regarding a threat to the health or safety of a resident. Section 5. Section 400.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 400.141 Administration and management of nursing home facilities.--(1) Every licensed facility shall comply with all applicable standards and rules of the agency and shall: (a) (1) Be under the administrative direction and charge of

a licensed administrator.

 $\underline{\text{(b)}}$  Appoint a medical director licensed pursuant to chapter 458 or chapter 459. The agency may establish by rule more specific criteria for the appointment of a medical director.

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- $\underline{\text{(c)}}$  Have available the regular, consultative, and emergency services of physicians licensed by the state.
- (d) (4) Provide for resident use of a community pharmacy as specified in s. 400.022(1)(q). Any other law to the contrary notwithstanding, a registered pharmacist licensed in Florida, that is under contract with a facility licensed under this chapter or chapter 429, shall repackage a nursing facility resident's bulk prescription medication which has been packaged by another pharmacist licensed in any state in the United States into a unit dose system compatible with the system used by the nursing facility, if the pharmacist is requested to offer such service. In order to be eligible for the repackaging, a resident or the resident's spouse must receive prescription medication benefits provided through a former employer as part of his or her retirement benefits, a qualified pension plan as specified in s. 4972 of the Internal Revenue Code, a federal retirement program as specified under 5 C.F.R. s. 831, or a long-term care policy as defined in s. 627.9404(1). A pharmacist who correctly repackages and relabels the medication and the nursing facility which correctly administers such repackaged medication under the provisions of this paragraph may subsection shall not be held liable in any civil or administrative action arising from the repackaging. In order to be eligible for the repackaging, a nursing facility resident for whom the medication is to be

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repackaged shall sign an informed consent form provided by the facility which includes an explanation of the repackaging process and which notifies the resident of the immunities from liability provided in this paragraph herein. A pharmacist who repackages and relabels prescription medications, as authorized under this paragraph subsection, may charge a reasonable fee for costs resulting from the implementation of this provision.

(e) (5) Provide for the access of the facility residents to dental and other health-related services, recreational services, rehabilitative services, and social work services appropriate to their needs and conditions and not directly furnished by the licensee. When a geriatric outpatient nurse clinic is conducted in accordance with rules adopted by the agency, outpatients attending such clinic shall not be counted as part of the general resident population of the nursing home facility, nor shall the nursing staff of the geriatric outpatient clinic be counted as part of the nursing staff of the facility, until the outpatient clinic load exceeds 15 a day.

(f) (6) Be allowed and encouraged by the agency to provide other needed services under certain conditions. If the facility has a standard licensure status, and has had no class I or class II deficiencies during the past 2 years or has been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235, it may be encouraged by the agency to provide services, including, but not limited to, respite and adult day services, which enable individuals to move in and out of the facility. A facility is not subject to any additional licensure requirements for providing these services. Respite care may be offered to persons

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in need of short-term or temporary nursing home services. Respite care must be provided in accordance with this part and rules adopted by the agency. However, the agency shall, by rule, adopt modified requirements for resident assessment, resident care plans, resident contracts, physician orders, and other provisions, as appropriate, for short-term or temporary nursing home services. The agency shall allow for shared programming and staff in a facility which meets minimum standards and offers services pursuant to this paragraph subsection, but, if the facility is cited for deficiencies in patient care, may require additional staff and programs appropriate to the needs of service recipients. A person who receives respite care may not be counted as a resident of the facility for purposes of the facility's licensed capacity unless that person receives 24-hour respite care. A person receiving either respite care for 24 hours or longer or adult day services must be included when calculating minimum staffing for the facility. Any costs and revenues generated by a nursing home facility from nonresidential programs or services shall be excluded from the calculations of Medicaid per diems for nursing home institutional care reimbursement.

(g) (7) If the facility has a standard license or is a Gold Seal facility, exceeds the minimum required hours of licensed nursing and certified nursing assistant direct care per resident per day, and is part of a continuing care facility licensed under chapter 651 or a retirement community that offers other services pursuant to part III of this chapter or part I or part III of chapter 429 on a single campus, be allowed to share

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programming and staff. At the time of inspection and in the semiannual report required pursuant to paragraph (o) subsection (15), a continuing care facility or retirement community that uses this option must demonstrate through staffing records that minimum staffing requirements for the facility were met. Licensed nurses and certified nursing assistants who work in the nursing home facility may be used to provide services elsewhere on campus if the facility exceeds the minimum number of direct care hours required per resident per day and the total number of residents receiving direct care services from a licensed nurse or a certified nursing assistant does not cause the facility to violate the staffing ratios required under s. 400.23(3)(a). Compliance with the minimum staffing ratios shall be based on total number of residents receiving direct care services, regardless of where they reside on campus. If the facility receives a conditional license, it may not share staff until the conditional license status ends. This paragraph subsection does not restrict the agency's authority under federal or state law to require additional staff if a facility is cited for deficiencies in care which are caused by an insufficient number of certified nursing assistants or licensed nurses. The agency may adopt rules for the documentation necessary to determine compliance with this provision.

- $\underline{\text{(h)}}$  (8) Maintain the facility premises and equipment and conduct its operations in a safe and sanitary manner.
- (i) (9) If the licensee furnishes food service, provide a wholesome and nourishing diet sufficient to meet generally accepted standards of proper nutrition for its residents and

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provide such therapeutic diets as may be prescribed by attending physicians. In making rules to implement this <u>paragraph</u> subsection, the agency shall be guided by standards recommended by nationally recognized professional groups and associations with knowledge of dietetics.

- <u>(j) (10)</u> Keep full records of resident admissions and discharges; medical and general health status, including medical records, personal and social history, and identity and address of next of kin or other persons who may have responsibility for the affairs of the residents; and individual resident care plans including, but not limited to, prescribed services, service frequency and duration, and service goals. The records shall be open to inspection by the agency.
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$  (11) Keep such fiscal records of its operations and conditions as may be necessary to provide information pursuant to this part.
- (1) (12) Furnish copies of personnel records for employees affiliated with such facility, to any other facility licensed by this state requesting this information pursuant to this part. Such information contained in the records may include, but is not limited to, disciplinary matters and any reason for termination. Any facility releasing such records pursuant to this part shall be considered to be acting in good faith and may not be held liable for information contained in such records, absent a showing that the facility maliciously falsified such records.
- $\underline{\text{(m)}}$  (13) Publicly display a poster provided by the agency containing the names, addresses, and telephone numbers for the

state's abuse hotline, the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the Agency for Health Care Administration consumer hotline, the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, with a clear description of the assistance to be expected from each.

- $\underline{\text{(n)}}$  (14) Submit to the agency the information specified in s. 400.071(1)(b) for a management company within 30 days after the effective date of the management agreement.
- $\underline{(0)1.}$  Submit semiannually to the agency, or more frequently if requested by the agency, information regarding facility staff-to-resident ratios, staff turnover, and staff stability, including information regarding certified nursing assistants, licensed nurses, the director of nursing, and the facility administrator. For purposes of this reporting:
- $\underline{a.(a)}$  Staff-to-resident ratios must be reported in the categories specified in s. 400.23(3)(a) and applicable rules. The ratio must be reported as an average for the most recent calendar quarter.
- <u>b.(b)</u> Staff turnover must be reported for the most recent 12-month period ending on the last workday of the most recent calendar quarter prior to the date the information is submitted. The turnover rate must be computed quarterly, with the annual rate being the cumulative sum of the quarterly rates. The turnover rate is the total number of terminations or separations experienced during the quarter, excluding any employee terminated during a probationary period of 3 months or less, divided by the total number of staff employed at the end of the

period for which the rate is computed, and expressed as a percentage.

- $\underline{\text{c.}(c)}$  The formula for determining staff stability is the total number of employees that have been employed for more than 12 months, divided by the total number of employees employed at the end of the most recent calendar quarter, and expressed as a percentage.
- <u>d.(d)</u> A nursing facility that has failed to comply with state minimum-staffing requirements for 2 consecutive days is prohibited from accepting new admissions until the facility has achieved the minimum-staffing requirements for a period of 6 consecutive days. For the purposes of this <u>sub-subparagraph</u> paragraph, any person who was a resident of the facility and was absent from the facility for the purpose of receiving medical care at a separate location or was on a leave of absence is not considered a new admission. Failure to impose such an admissions moratorium constitutes a class II deficiency.
- $\underline{\text{e.}(e)}$  A nursing facility which does not have a conditional license may be cited for failure to comply with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a)1.a. only if it has failed to meet those standards on 2 consecutive days or if it has failed to meet at least 97 percent of those standards on any one day.
- $\underline{f.(f)}$  A facility which has a conditional license must be in compliance with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a) at all times.
- 2. Nothing in This paragraph does not section shall limit the agency's ability to impose a deficiency or take other

actions if a facility does not have enough staff to meet the residents' needs.

- (16) Report monthly the number of vacant beds in the facility which are available for resident occupancy on the day the information is reported.
- (p) (17) Notify a licensed physician when a resident exhibits signs of dementia or cognitive impairment or has a change of condition in order to rule out the presence of an underlying physiological condition that may be contributing to such dementia or impairment. The notification must occur within 30 days after the acknowledgment of such signs by facility staff. If an underlying condition is determined to exist, the facility shall arrange, with the appropriate health care provider, the necessary care and services to treat the condition.
- (q) (18) If the facility implements a dining and hospitality attendant program, ensure that the program is developed and implemented under the supervision of the facility director of nursing. A licensed nurse, licensed speech or occupational therapist, or a registered dietitian must conduct training of dining and hospitality attendants. A person employed by a facility as a dining and hospitality attendant must perform tasks under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse.
- <u>(r) (19)</u> Report to the agency any filing for bankruptcy protection by the facility or its parent corporation, divestiture or spin-off of its assets, or corporate reorganization within 30 days after the completion of such activity.

(s) (20) Maintain general and professional liability insurance coverage that is in force at all times. In lieu of general and professional liability insurance coverage, a state-designated teaching nursing home and its affiliated assisted living facilities created under s. 430.80 may demonstrate proof of financial responsibility as provided in s. 430.80(3)(h).

(t)(21) Maintain in the medical record for each resident a daily chart of certified nursing assistant services provided to the resident. The certified nursing assistant who is caring for the resident must complete this record by the end of his or her shift. This record must indicate assistance with activities of daily living, assistance with eating, and assistance with drinking, and must record each offering of nutrition and hydration for those residents whose plan of care or assessment indicates a risk for malnutrition or dehydration.

(u) (22) Before November 30 of each year, subject to the availability of an adequate supply of the necessary vaccine, provide for immunizations against influenza viruses to all its consenting residents in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs. Subject to these exemptions, any consenting person who becomes a resident of the facility after November 30 but before March 31 of the following year must be immunized within 5 working days after becoming a resident. Immunization shall not be provided to any resident who provides documentation that he or she has been immunized as required by this paragraph subsection. This paragraph subsection does not

prohibit a resident from receiving the immunization from his or her personal physician if he or she so chooses. A resident who chooses to receive the immunization from his or her personal physician shall provide proof of immunization to the facility. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this paragraph subsection.

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(v) (23) Assess all residents for eligibility for pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccination (PPV) and vaccinate residents when indicated within 60 days after the effective date of this act in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs. Residents admitted after the effective date of this act shall be assessed within 5 working days of admission and, when indicated, vaccinated within 60 days in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, subject to exemptions for medical contraindications and religious or personal beliefs. Immunization shall not be provided to any resident who provides documentation that he or she has been immunized as required by this paragraph subsection. This paragraph subsection does not prohibit a resident from receiving the immunization from his or her personal physician if he or she so chooses. A resident who chooses to receive the immunization from his or her personal physician shall provide proof of immunization to the facility. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this paragraph subsection.

 $\underline{\text{(w)}}$  (24) Annually encourage and promote to its employees the benefits associated with immunizations against influenza viruses in accordance with the recommendations of the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The agency may adopt and enforce any rules necessary to comply with or implement this <u>paragraph</u> subsection.

- (2) Facilities that have been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235 may develop a plan to provide certified nursing assistant training as prescribed by federal regulations and state rules and may apply to the agency for approval of their program.
- Section 6. Present subsections (9) through (13) of section 400.147, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10) through (14), respectively, subsection (5) and present subsection (14) are amended, and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:
- 400.147 Internal risk management and quality assurance program.--
- (5) For purposes of reporting to the agency under this section, the term "adverse incident" means:
- (a) An event over which facility personnel could exercise control and which is associated in whole or in part with the facility's intervention, rather than the condition for which such intervention occurred, and which results in one of the following:
  - 1. Death;

- 2. Brain or spinal damage;
- 3. Permanent disfigurement;

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4. Fracture or dislocation of bones or joints;

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- 5. A limitation of neurological, physical, or sensory function;
- 6. Any condition that required medical attention to which the resident has not given his or her informed consent, including failure to honor advanced directives; or
- 7. Any condition that required the transfer of the resident, within or outside the facility, to a unit providing a more acute level of care due to the adverse incident, rather than the resident's condition prior to the adverse incident; or
- 8. An event that is reported to law enforcement or its personnel for investigation; or
- (b) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation as defined in s. 415.102;
  - (c) Abuse, neglect and harm as defined in s. 39.01;
- (b) (d) Resident elopement, if the elopement places the resident at risk of harm or injury.; or
  - (e) An event that is reported to law enforcement.
- (9) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation must be reported to the agency as required by 42 C.F.R. s. 483.13(c) and to the department as required by chapters 39 and 415.
- (14) The agency shall annually submit to the Legislature a report on nursing home adverse incidents. The report must include the following information arranged by county:
  - (a) The total number of adverse incidents.
- (b) A listing, by category, of the types of adverse incidents, the number of incidents occurring within each category, and the type of staff involved.

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(c) A listing, by category, of the types of injury caused and the number of injuries occurring within each category.

(d) Types of liability claims filed based on an adverse incident or reportable injury.

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- (e) Disciplinary action taken against staff, categorized by type of staff involved.
- Section 7. Subsection (3) of section 400.162, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 400.162 Property and personal affairs of residents.--
- A licensee shall provide for the safekeeping of personal effects, funds, and other property of the resident in the facility. Whenever necessary for the protection of valuables, or in order to avoid unreasonable responsibility therefor, the licensee may require that such valuables be excluded or removed from the facility and kept at some place not subject to the control of the licensee. At the request of a resident, the facility shall mark the resident's personal property with the resident's name or another type of identification, without defacing the property. Any theft or loss of a resident's personal property shall be documented by the facility. The facility shall develop policies and procedures to minimize the risk of theft or loss of the personal property of residents. A copy of the policy shall be provided to every employee and to each resident and resident's representative, if appropriate, at admission and when revised. Facility policies must include provisions related to reporting theft or loss of a resident's property to law enforcement and any facility waiver of liability for loss or theft. The facility shall post notice

of these policies and procedures, and any revision thereof, in places accessible to residents.

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 400.191, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 400.191 Availability, distribution, and posting of reports and records.--
- (2) The agency shall publish the Nursing Home Guide annually in consumer-friendly printed form and quarterly in electronic form to assist consumers and their families in comparing and evaluating nursing home facilities.
- (a) The agency shall provide an Internet site which shall include at least the following information either directly or indirectly through a link to another established site or sites of the agency's choosing:
- 1. A section entitled "Have you considered programs that provide alternatives to nursing home care?" which shall be the first section of the Nursing Home Guide and which shall prominently display information about available alternatives to nursing homes and how to obtain additional information regarding these alternatives. The Nursing Home Guide shall explain that this state offers alternative programs that permit qualified elderly persons to stay in their homes instead of being placed in nursing homes and shall encourage interested persons to call the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) Program to inquire if they qualify. The Nursing Home Guide shall list available home and community-based programs which shall clearly state the services that are provided and indicate whether nursing home services are included

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2. A list by name and address of all nursing home facilities in this state, including any prior name by which a facility was known during the previous 24-month period.

- 3. Whether such nursing home facilities are proprietary or nonproprietary.
- 4. The current owner of the facility's license and the year that that entity became the owner of the license.
- 5. The name of the owner or owners of each facility and whether the facility is affiliated with a company or other organization owning or managing more than one nursing facility in this state.
- 6. The total number of beds in each facility and the most recently available occupancy levels.
- 7. The number of private and semiprivate rooms in each facility.
  - 8. The religious affiliation, if any, of each facility.
- 9. The languages spoken by the administrator and staff of each facility.
- 10. Whether or not each facility accepts Medicare or Medicaid recipients or insurance, health maintenance organization, Veterans Administration, CHAMPUS program, or workers' compensation coverage.
- 11. Recreational and other programs available at each facility.
- 666 12. Special care units or programs offered at each 667 facility.
- 13. Whether the facility is a part of a retirement

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community that offers other services pursuant to part III of this chapter or part I or part III of chapter 429.

- 14. Survey and deficiency information, including all federal and state recertification, licensure, revisit, and complaint survey information, for each facility for the past 30 months. For noncertified nursing homes, state survey and deficiency information, including licensure, revisit, and complaint survey information for the past 30 months shall be provided.
- 15. A summary of the deficiency data for each facility over the past 30 months. The summary may include a score, rating, or comparison ranking with respect to other facilities based on the number of citations received by the facility on recertification, licensure, revisit, and complaint surveys; the severity and scope of the citations; and the number of recertification surveys the facility has had during the past 30 months. The score, rating, or comparison ranking may be presented in either numeric or symbolic form for the intended consumer audience.
- (b) The agency shall provide the following information in printed form:
- 1. A section entitled "Have you considered programs that provide alternatives to nursing home care?" which shall be the first section of the Nursing Home Guide and which shall prominently display information about available alternatives to nursing homes and how to obtain additional information regarding these alternatives. The Nursing Home Guide shall explain that this state offers alternative programs that permit qualified

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elderly persons to stay in their homes instead of being placed in nursing homes and shall encourage interested persons to call the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) Program to inquire if they qualify. The Nursing Home Guide shall list available home and community-based programs which shall clearly state the services that are provided and indicate whether nursing home services are included if needed.

2. A list by name and address of all nursing home facilities in this state.

- 3. Whether the nursing home facilities are proprietary or nonproprietary.
- 4. The current owner or owners of the facility's license and the year that entity became the owner of the license.
- 5. The total number of beds, and of private and semiprivate rooms, in each facility.
  - 6. The religious affiliation, if any, of each facility.
- 7. The name of the owner of each facility and whether the facility is affiliated with a company or other organization owning or managing more than one nursing facility in this state.
- 8. The languages spoken by the administrator and staff of each facility.
- 9. Whether or not each facility accepts Medicare or Medicaid recipients or insurance, health maintenance organization, Veterans Administration, CHAMPUS program, or workers' compensation coverage.
- 10. Recreational programs, special care units, and other programs available at each facility.

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11. The Internet address for the site where more detailed information can be seen.

- 12. A statement advising consumers that each facility will have its own policies and procedures related to protecting resident property.
- 13. A summary of the deficiency data for each facility over the past 30 months. The summary may include a score, rating, or comparison ranking with respect to other facilities based on the number of citations received by the facility on recertification, licensure, revisit, and complaint surveys; the severity and scope of the citations; the number of citations; and the number of recertification surveys the facility has had during the past 30 months. The score, rating, or comparison ranking may be presented in either numeric or symbolic form for the intended consumer audience.
- (b) (c) The agency may provide the following additional information on an Internet site or in printed form as the information becomes available:
  - 1. The licensure status history of each facility.
  - 2. The rating history of each facility.
- 3. The regulatory history of each facility, which may include federal sanctions, state sanctions, federal fines, state fines, and other actions.
- 4. Whether the facility currently possesses the Gold Seal designation awarded pursuant to s. 400.235.
- 5. Internet links to the Internet sites of the facilities or their affiliates.

Section 9. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 400.195, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.195 Agency reporting requirements.--

- (1) For the period beginning June 30, 2001, and ending June 30, 2005, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall provide a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives with respect to nursing homes. The first report shall be submitted no later than December 30, 2002, and subsequent reports shall be submitted every 6 months thereafter. The report shall identify facilities based on their ownership characteristics, size, business structure, for-profit or not-for-profit status, and any other characteristics the agency determines useful in analyzing the varied segments of the nursing home industry and shall report:
- (d) Information regarding deficiencies cited, including information used to develop the Nursing Home Guide WATCH LIST pursuant to s. 400.191, and applicable rules, a summary of data generated on nursing homes by Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Nursing Home Quality Information Project, and information collected pursuant to s. 400.147(10)(9), relating to litigation.

Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 400.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.23 Rules; evaluation and deficiencies; licensure status.--

(3)

(b) The agency shall adopt rules to allow properly trained staff of a nursing facility, in addition to certified nursing

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The rules shall specify the minimum training requirements and shall specify the physiological conditions or disorders of residents which would necessitate that the eating assistance be provided by nursing personnel of the facility. Nonnursing staff providing eating assistance to residents under the provisions of this subsection shall not count toward compliance with minimum staffing standards.

Section 11. Subsection (6) of section 400.474, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.474 Administrative penalties.--

- (6) The agency may deny, revoke, or suspend the license of a home health agency and shall impose a fine of \$5,000 against a home health agency that:
  - (a) Gives remuneration for staffing services to:
- 1. Another home health agency with which it has formal or informal patient-referral transactions or arrangements; or
- 2. A health services pool with which it has formal or informal patient-referral transactions or arrangements,

unless the home health agency has activated its comprehensive emergency management plan in accordance with s. 400.492. This paragraph does not apply to a Medicare-certified home health agency that provides fair market value remuneration for staffing services to a non-Medicare-certified home health agency that is part of a continuing care facility licensed under chapter 651 for providing services to its own residents if each resident receiving home health services pursuant to this arrangement

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attests in writing that he or she made a decision without influence from staff of the facility to select, from a list of Medicare-certified home health agencies provided by the facility, that Medicare-certified home health agency to provide the services.

- (b) Provides services to residents in an assisted living facility for which the home health agency does not receive fair market value remuneration.
- (c) Provides staffing to an assisted living facility for which the home health agency does not receive fair market value remuneration.
- (d) Fails to provide the agency, upon request, with copies of all contracts with assisted living facilities which were executed within 5 years before the request.
- (e) Gives remuneration to a case manager, discharge planner, facility-based staff member, or third-party vendor who is involved in the discharge planning process of a facility licensed under chapter 395 or this chapter from whom the home health agency receives referrals.
- (f) Fails to submit to the agency, within 15 days after the end of each calendar quarter, a written report that includes the following data based on data as it existed on the last day of the quarter:
- The number of insulin-dependent diabetic patients receiving insulin-injection services from the home health agency;
- 2. The number of patients receiving both home health services from the home health agency and hospice services;

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3. The number of patients receiving home health services from that home health agency; and

- 4. The names and license numbers of nurses whose primary job responsibility is to provide home health services to patients and who received remuneration from the home health agency in excess of \$25,000 during the calendar quarter.
- (g) Gives cash, or its equivalent, to a Medicare or Medicaid beneficiary.
- (h) Has more than one medical director contract in effect at one time or more than one medical director contract and one contract with a physician-specialist whose services are mandated for the home health agency in order to qualify to participate in a federal or state health care program at one time.
- (i) Gives remuneration to a physician without a medical director contract being in effect. The contract must:
  - 1. Be in writing and signed by both parties;
- 2. Provide for remuneration that is at fair market value for an hourly rate, which must be supported by invoices submitted by the medical director describing the work performed, the dates on which that work was performed, and the duration of that work; and
  - 3. Be for a term of at least 1 year.

The hourly rate specified in the contract may not be increased during the term of the contract. The home health agency may not execute a subsequent contract with that physician which has an increased hourly rate and covers any portion of the term that was in the original contract.

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- (j) Gives remuneration to:
- 1. A physician, and the home health agency is in violation of paragraph (h) or paragraph (i);
  - 2. A member of the physician's office staff; or
  - 3. An immediate family member of the physician,

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if the home health agency has received a patient referral in the preceding 12 months from that physician or physician's office staff.

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(k) Fails to provide to the agency, upon request, copies of all contracts with a medical director which were executed within 5 years before the request.

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Nothing in paragraph (e) or paragraph (j) shall be interpreted as applying to or precluding any discount, compensation, waiver of payment, or payment practice permitted by 42 U.S.C. s. 1320a-7b(b) or regulations adopted thereunder, including 42 C.F.R. s. 1001.952, or by 42 U.S.C. s. 1395nn or regulations adopted thereunder.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (15) of section 400.506, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.506 Licensure of nurse registries; requirements; penalties.--

(15)(a) The agency may deny, suspend, or revoke the license of a nurse registry and shall impose a fine of \$5,000 against a nurse registry that:

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1. Provides services to residents in an assisted living facility for which the nurse registry does not receive fair market value remuneration.

- 2. Provides staffing to an assisted living facility for which the nurse registry does not receive fair market value remuneration.
- 3. Fails to provide the agency, upon request, with copies of all contracts with assisted living facilities which were executed within the last 5 years.
- 4. Gives remuneration to a case manager, discharge planner, facility-based staff member, or third-party vendor who is involved in the discharge planning process of a facility licensed under chapter 395 or this chapter and from whom the nurse registry receives referrals. This subparagraph does not apply to a nurse registry that does not participate in the Medicaid or Medicare program.
- 5. Gives remuneration to a physician, a member of the physician's office staff, or an immediate family member of the physician, and the nurse registry received a patient referral in the last 12 months from that physician or the physician's office staff. This subparagraph does not apply to a nurse registry that does not participate in the Medicaid or Medicare program.
- Section 13. Paragraph (m) is added to subsection (4) of section 400.9905, Florida Statutes, to read:

400.9905 Definitions.--

(4) "Clinic" means an entity at which health care services are provided to individuals and which tenders charges for reimbursement for such services, including a mobile clinic and a

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portable equipment provider. For purposes of this part, the term does not include and the licensure requirements of this part do not apply to:

(m) Entities that do not seek reimbursement from insurance companies for medical services paid pursuant to personal injury protection coverage required by s. 627.736.

Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (7) of section 400.9935, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (10) is added to that section, to read:

400.9935 Clinic responsibilities.--

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(7) (a) Each clinic engaged in magnetic resonance imaging services must be accredited by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American College of Radiology, or the Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care, within 1 year after licensure. A clinic that is accredited by the American College of Radiology or is within the original 1-year period after licensure and replaces its core magnetic resonance imaging equipment shall be given 1 year after the date upon which the equipment is replaced to attain accreditation. However, a clinic may request a single, 6-month extension if it provides evidence to the agency establishing that, for good cause shown, such clinic cannot can not be accredited within 1 year after licensure, and that such accreditation will be completed within the 6-month extension. After obtaining accreditation as required by this subsection, each such clinic must maintain accreditation as a condition of renewal of its license. A clinic that files a change of ownership application must comply with the original

accreditation timeframe requirements of the transferor. The agency shall deny a change of ownership application if the clinic is not in compliance with the accreditation requirements. When a clinic adds, replaces, or modifies magnetic resonance imaging equipment and the accrediting organization requires new accreditation, the clinic must be accredited within 1 year after the date of the addition, replacement, or modification but may request a single, 6-month extension if the clinic provides evidence of good cause to the agency.

(10) Any clinic holding an active license and any entity holding a current certificate of exemption may request a unique identification number from the agency for the purposes of submitting claims to personal injury protection insurance carriers for services or treatment pursuant to part XI of chapter 627. Upon request, the agency shall assign a unique identification number to a clinic holding an active license or an entity holding a current certificate of exemption. The agency shall publish the identification number of each clinic and entity on its Internet website in a searchable format that is readily accessible to personal injury protection insurance carriers for the purposes of s. 627.736(5)(b)1.g.

Section 15. Subsection (6) of section 400.995, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.995 Agency administrative penalties. --

(6) <u>During an inspection</u>, the agency, as an alternative to or in conjunction with an administrative action against a clinic for violations of this part and adopted rules, shall make a reasonable attempt to discuss each violation and recommended

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corrective action with the owner, medical director, or clinic director of the clinic, prior to written notification. The agency, instead of fixing a period within which the clinic shall enter into compliance with standards, may request a plan of corrective action from the clinic which demonstrates a good faith effort to remedy each violation by a specific date, subject to the approval of the agency.

Section 16. Subsections (5), (9), and (13) of section 408.803, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

408.803 Definitions. -- As used in this part, the term:

(5) "Change of ownership" means:

- (a) An event in which the licensee sells or otherwise transfers its ownership changes to a different individual or legal entity, as evidenced by a change in federal employer identification number or taxpayer identification number; or
- (b) An event in which 51 45 percent or more of the ownership, voting shares, membership, or controlling interest of a licensee is in any manner transferred or otherwise assigned. This paragraph does not apply to a licensee that is publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange. In a corporation whose shares are not publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange is transferred or assigned, including the final transfer or assignment of multiple transfers or assignments over a 2-year period that cumulatively total 45 percent or greater.

A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.

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(9) "Licensee" means an individual, corporation, partnership, firm, association, ex governmental entity, or other entity that is issued a permit, registration, certificate, or license by the agency. The licensee is legally responsible for all aspects of the provider operation.

- (13) "Voluntary board member" means a board member of a not-for-profit corporation or organization who serves solely in a voluntary capacity, does not receive any remuneration for his or her services on the board of directors, and has no financial interest in the corporation or organization. The agency shall recognize a person as a voluntary board member following submission of a statement to the agency by the board member and the not-for-profit corporation or organization that affirms that the board member conforms to this definition. The statement affirming the status of the board member must be submitted to the agency on a form provided by the agency.
- Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1), subsection (2), paragraph (c) of subsection (7), and subsection (8) of section 408.806, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

408.806 License application process.--

- (1) An application for licensure must be made to the agency on forms furnished by the agency, submitted under oath, and accompanied by the appropriate fee in order to be accepted and considered timely. The application must contain information required by authorizing statutes and applicable rules and must include:
  - (a) The name, address, and social security number of  $\underline{:}$
  - 1. The applicant;

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2. The administrator or a similarly titled person who is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the provider;

- 3. The financial officer or similarly titled person who is responsible for the financial operation of the licensee or provider; and
- $\underline{4.}$  Each controlling interest if the applicant or controlling interest is an individual.

- (2) (a) The applicant for a renewal license must submit an application that must be received by the agency at least 60 days but no more than 120 days prior to the expiration of the current license. An application received more than 120 days prior to the expiration of the current license shall be returned to the applicant. If the renewal application and fee are received prior to the license expiration date, the license shall not be deemed to have expired if the license expiration date occurs during the agency's review of the renewal application.
- (b) The applicant for initial licensure due to a change of ownership must submit an application that must be received by the agency at least 60 days prior to the date of change of ownership.
- (c) For any other application or request, the applicant must submit an application or request that must be received by the agency at least 60 days but no more than 120 days prior to the requested effective date, unless otherwise specified in authorizing statutes or applicable rules. An application received more than 120 days prior to the requested effective date shall be returned to the applicant.

electronically at least 90 days prior to the expiration of a license that a renewal license is necessary to continue operation. The failure to timely submit a renewal application and license fee shall result in a \$50 per day late fee charged to the licensee by the agency; however, the aggregate amount of the late fee may not exceed 50 percent of the licensure fee or \$500, whichever is less. If an application is received after the required filing date and exhibits a hand-canceled postmark obtained from a United States post office dated on or before the required filing date, no fine will be levied.

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- (c) If an inspection is required by the authorizing statute for a license application other than an initial application, the inspection must be unannounced. This paragraph does not apply to inspections required pursuant to ss. 383.324, 395.0161(4), 429.67(6), and 483.061(2).
- (8) The agency may establish procedures for the electronic notification and submission of required information, including, but not limited to:
  - (a) Licensure applications.
  - (b) Required signatures.
  - (c) Payment of fees.
- 1079 (d) Notarization of applications.

Requirements for electronic submission of any documents required

1083 As an alternative to sending documents as required by

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by this part or authorizing statutes may be established by rule.

authorizing statutes, the agency may provide electronic access to information or documents.

Section 18. Subsection (2) of section 408.808, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.808 License categories.--

issued to an applicant pursuant to s. 408.809(3). An applicant against whom a proceeding denying or revoking a license is pending at the time of license renewal may be issued a provisional license effective until final action not subject to further appeal. A provisional license may also be issued to an applicant applying for a change of ownership. A provisional license shall be limited in duration to a specific period of time, not to exceed 12 months, as determined by the agency.

Section 19. Subsection (5) of section 408.809, Florida Statutes, is amended, and new subsections (5) and (6) are added to that section, to read:

408.809 Background screening; prohibited offenses.--

- (5) Effective October 1, 2009, in addition to the offenses listed in ss. 435.03 and 435.04, all persons required to undergo background screening pursuant to this part or authorizing statutes must not have been found guilty of, regardless of adjudication, or entered a plea of nolo contendere or guilty to, any of the following offenses or any similar offense of another jurisdiction:
- (a) A violation of any authorizing statutes, if the offense was a felony.

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1111	(b) A violation of this chapter, if the offense was a
1112	felony.
1113	(c) A violation of s. 409.920, relating to Medicaid
1114	provider fraud, if the offense was a felony.
1115	(d) A violation of s. 409.9201, relating to Medicaid
1116	fraud, if the offense was a felony.
1117	(e) A violation of s. 741.28, relating to domestic
1118	violence.
1119	(f) A violation of chapter 784, relating to assault,
1120	battery, and culpable negligence, if the offense was a felony.
1121	(g) A violation of s. 810.02, relating to burglary.
1122	(h) A violation of s. 817.034, relating to fraudulent acts
1123	through mail, wire, radio, electromagnetic, photoelectronic, or
1124	photooptical systems.
1125	(i) A violation of s. 817.234, relating to false and
1126	fraudulent insurance claims.
1127	(j) A violation of s. 817.505, relating to patient
1128	brokering.
1129	(k) A violation of s. 817.568, relating to criminal use of
1130	personal identification information.
1131	(1) A violation of s. 817.60, relating to obtaining a
1132	credit card through fraudulent means.
1133	(m) A violation of s. 817.61, relating to fraudulent use
1134	of credit cards, if the offense was a felony.
1135	(n) A violation of s. 831.01, relating to forgery.
1136	(o) A violation of s. 831.02, relating to uttering forged

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1138 (p) A violation of s. 831.07, relating to forging bank

1139 bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

(q) A violation of s. 831.09, relating to uttering forged

1141 bank bills, checks, drafts, or promissory notes.

(r) A violation of s. 831.30, relating to fraud in obtaining medicinal drugs.

(s) A violation of s. 831.31, relating to the sale,

manufacture, delivery, or possession with the intent to sell,

manufacture, or deliver any counterfeit controlled substance, if
the offense was a felony.

A person who serves as a controlling interest of or is employed by a licensee on September 30, 2009, shall not be required by law to submit to rescreening if that licensee has in its possession written evidence that the person has been screened and qualified according to the standards specified in s. 435.03 or s. 435.04. However, if such person has been convicted of a disqualifying offense listed in this subsection, he or she may apply for an exemption from the appropriate licensing agency before September 30, 2009, and if agreed to by the employer, may continue to perform his or her duties until the licensing agency renders a decision on the application for exemption for an offense listed in this subsection. Exemptions from disqualification may be granted pursuant to s. 435.07.

(6) The attestations required under ss. 435.04(5) and 435.05(3) must be submitted at the time of license renewal, notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 435.04(5) and 435.05(3)

which require annual submission of an affidavit of compliance with background screening requirements.

(5) Background screening is not required to obtain a certificate of exemption issued under s. 483.106.

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- Section 20. Subsection (3) of section 408.810, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 408.810 Minimum licensure requirements.——In addition to the licensure requirements specified in this part, authorizing statutes, and applicable rules, each applicant and licensee must comply with the requirements of this section in order to obtain and maintain a license.
- (3) Unless otherwise specified in this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules, any information required to be reported to the agency must be submitted within 21 calendar days after the report period or effective date of the information, whichever is earlier, including, but not limited to, any change of:
- (a) Information contained in the most recent application for licensure.
  - (b) Required insurance or bonds.
- Section 21. Present subsection (4) of section 408.811,

  Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (6), subsections
  (2) and (3) are amended, and new subsections (4) and (5) are
  added to that section, to read:
- 1189 408.811 Right of inspection; copies; inspection reports;
  1190 plan for correction of deficiencies.--
- 1191 (2) Inspections conducted in conjunction with 1192 certification, comparable licensure requirements, or a

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recognized or approved accreditation organization may be accepted in lieu of a complete licensure inspection. However, a licensure inspection may also be conducted to review any licensure requirements that are not also requirements for certification.

- (3) The agency shall have access to and the licensee shall provide, or if requested send, copies of all provider records required during an inspection or other review at no cost to the agency, including records requested during an offsite review.
- (4) Deficiencies must be corrected within 30 calendar days after the provider is notified of inspection results unless an alternative timeframe is required or approved by the agency.
- (5) The agency may require an applicant or licensee to submit a plan of correction for deficiencies. If required, the plan of correction must be filed with the agency within 10 calendar days after notification unless an alternative timeframe is required.
- Section 22. Section 408.813, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 408.813 Administrative fines; violations.—As a penalty for any violation of this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules, the agency may impose an administrative fine.
- (1) Unless the amount or aggregate limitation of the fine is prescribed by authorizing statutes or applicable rules, the agency may establish criteria by rule for the amount or aggregate limitation of administrative fines applicable to this part, authorizing statutes, and applicable rules. Each day of violation constitutes a separate violation and is subject to a

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separate fine, unless a per-violation fine is prescribed by law. For fines imposed by final order of the agency and not subject to further appeal, the violator shall pay the fine plus interest at the rate specified in s. 55.03 for each day beyond the date set by the agency for payment of the fine.

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(2) Violations of this part, authorizing statutes, or applicable rules shall be classified according to the nature of the violation and the gravity of its probable effect on clients. The scope of a violation may be cited as an isolated, patterned, or widespread deficiency. An isolated deficiency is a deficiency affecting one or a very limited number of clients, or involving one or a very limited number of staff, or a situation that occurred only occasionally or in a very limited number of locations. A patterned deficiency is a deficiency in which more than a very limited number of clients are affected, or more than a very limited number of staff are involved, or the situation has occurred in several locations, or the same client or clients have been affected by repeated occurrences of the same deficient practice but the effect of the deficient practice is not found to be pervasive throughout the provider. A widespread deficiency is a deficiency in which the problems causing the deficiency are pervasive in the provider or represent systemic failure that has affected or has the potential to affect a large portion of the provider's clients. This subsection does not affect the legislative determination of the amount of a fine imposed under authorizing statutes. Violations shall be classified on the written notice as follows:

(a) Class "I" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines present an imminent danger to the clients of the provider or a substantial probability that death or serious physical or emotional harm would result therefrom. The condition or practice constituting a class I violation shall be abated or eliminated within 24 hours, unless a fixed period, as determined by the agency, is required for correction. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class I violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.

- (b) Class "II" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines directly threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of the clients, other than class I violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class II violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.
- (c) Class "III" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to the care of clients which the agency determines indirectly or potentially threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of clients, other than class I or class II violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class III violation. A citation for a class III violation must specify the time within

which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class III violation is corrected within the time specified, a fine may not be imposed.

- (d) Class "IV" violations are those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a provider or to required reports, forms, or documents that do not have the potential of negatively affecting clients. These violations are of a type that the agency determines do not threaten the health, safety, or security of clients. The agency shall impose an administrative fine as provided by law for a cited class IV violation. A citation for a class IV violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class IV violation is corrected within the time specified, a fine may not be imposed.
- Section 23. Subsections (12) through (29) of section 408.820, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (11) through (28), respectively, and present subsections (11), (12), (13), (21), and (26) of that section are amended to read:
- 408.820 Exemptions.--Except as prescribed in authorizing statutes, the following exemptions shall apply to specified requirements of this part:
- (11) Private review agents, as provided under part I of chapter 395, are exempt from ss. 408.806(7), 408.810, and 408.811.
- 1300 (11) (12) Health care risk managers, as provided under part 1301 I of chapter 395, are exempt from ss. 408.806(7), 408.810 (4) 1302 (10), and 408.811.
  - (12) (13) Nursing homes, as provided under part II of

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1304 chapter 400, are exempt from <u>ss.</u> <del>s.</del> 408.810(7) <u>and 408.813(2)</u>.

- 1305 (20) (21) Transitional living facilities, as provided under 1306 part V of chapter 400, are exempt from s.  $408.810 \frac{(7)}{(7)}$  (10).
- 1307  $\underline{(25)}$  (26) Health care clinics, as provided under part X of chapter 400, are exempt from  $\underline{s}$ .  $\underline{ss}$ . 408.809 and 408.810(1), (6), (7), and (10).
- 1310 Section 24. Section 408.821, Florida Statutes, is created 1311 to read:
- 1312 <u>408.821 Emergency management planning; emergency</u>
  1313 operations; inactive license.--

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- (1) Licensees required by authorizing statutes to have an emergency operations plan must designate a safety liaison to serve as the primary contact for emergency operations.
- (2) An entity subject to this part may temporarily exceed its licensed capacity to act as a receiving provider in accordance with an approved emergency operations plan for up to 15 days. While in an overcapacity status, each provider must furnish or arrange for appropriate care and services to all clients. In addition, the agency may approve requests for overcapacity in excess of 15 days, which approvals may be based upon satisfactory justification and need as provided by the receiving and sending providers.
- (3) (a) An inactive license may be issued to a licensee subject to this section when the provider is located in a geographic area in which a state of emergency was declared by the Governor if the provider:
- 1330 <u>1. Suffered damage to its operation during the state of</u>
  1331 emergency.

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2. Is currently licensed.

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- 3. Does not have a provisional license.
- 4. Will be temporarily unable to provide services but is reasonably expected to resume services within 12 months.
- An inactive license may be issued for a period not to exceed 12 months but may be renewed by the agency for up to 12 additional months upon demonstration to the agency of progress toward reopening. A request by a licensee for an inactive license or to extend the previously approved inactive period must be submitted in writing to the agency, accompanied by written justification for the inactive license, which states the beginning and ending dates of inactivity and includes a plan for the transfer of any clients to other providers and appropriate licensure fees. Upon agency approval, the licensee shall notify clients of any necessary discharge or transfer as required by authorizing statutes or applicable rules. The beginning of the inactive licensure period shall be the date the provider ceases operations. The end of the inactive period shall become the license expiration date, and all licensure fees must be current, must be paid in full, and may be prorated. Reactivation of an inactive license requires the prior approval by the agency of a renewal application, including payment of licensure fees and agency inspections indicating compliance with all requirements of this part and applicable rules and statutes.
- (4) The agency may adopt rules relating to emergency management planning, communications, and operations. Licensees providing residential or inpatient services must utilize an online database approved by the agency to report information to

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1360 the agency regarding the provider's emergency status, planning, 1361 or operations. 1362 Section 25. Subsections (3), (4), and (5) of section 1363 408.831, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1364 408.831 Denial, suspension, or revocation of a license, 1365 registration, certificate, or application .--1366 (3) An entity subject to this section may exceed its 1367 licensed capacity to act as a receiving facility in accordance 1368 with an emergency operations plan for clients of evacuating 1369 providers from a geographic area where an evacuation order has 1370 been issued by a local authority having jurisdiction. While in 1371 an overcapacity status, each provider must furnish or arrange 1372 for appropriate care and services to all clients. In addition, 1373 the agency may approve requests for overcapacity beyond 15 days, 1374 which approvals may be based upon satisfactory justification and 1375 need as provided by the receiving and sending facilities. 1376 (4) (a) An inactive license may be issued to a licensee 1377 subject to this section when the provider is located in a 1378 geographic area where a state of emergency was declared by the 1379 Governor if the provider: 1380 1. Suffered damage to its operation during that state of 1381 emergency. 1382 2. Is currently licensed. 1383 3. Does not have a provisional license. 4. Will be temporarily unable to provide services but is 1384 1385 reasonably expected to resume services within 12 months. (b) An inactive license may be issued for a period not to 1386 1387 exceed 12 months but may be renewed by the agency for up to 12

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additional months upon demonstration to the agency of progress toward reopening. A request by a licensee for an inactive license or to extend the previously approved inactive period must be submitted in writing to the agency, accompanied by written justification for the inactive license, which states the beginning and ending dates of inactivity and includes a plan for the transfer of any clients to other providers and appropriate licensure fees. Upon agency approval, the licensee shall notify clients of any necessary discharge or transfer as required by authorizing statutes or applicable rules. The beginning of the inactive licensure period shall be the date the provider ceases operations. The end of the inactive period shall become the licensee expiration date, and all licensure fees must be current, paid in full, and may be prorated. Reactivation of an inactive license requires the prior approval by the agency of a renewal application, including payment of licensure fees and agency inspections indicating compliance with all requirements of this part and applicable rules and statutes.

(3)(5) This section provides standards of enforcement applicable to all entities licensed or regulated by the Agency for Health Care Administration. This section controls over any conflicting provisions of chapters 39, 383, 390, 391, 394, 395, 400, 408, 429, 468, 483, and 765 or rules adopted pursuant to those chapters.

Section 26. Subsection (2) of section 408.918, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (3) is added to that section, to read:

408.918 Florida 211 Network; uniform certification requirements.--

- (2) In order to participate in the Florida 211 Network, a 211 provider must be <u>fully accredited by the National certified by the Agency for Health Care Administration. The agency shall develop criteria for certification, as recommended by the Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services or have received approval to operate, pending accreditation, from its affiliate, the Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services, and shall adopt the criteria as administrative rules.</u>
- (a) If any provider of information and referral services or other entity leases a 211 number from a local exchange company and is not <u>authorized as described in this section</u>, certified by the agency, the agency shall, after consultation with the local exchange company and the Public Service Commission <u>shall</u> request that the Federal Communications Commission direct the local exchange company to revoke the use of the 211 number.
- (b) The agency shall seek the assistance and guidance of the Public Service Commission and the Federal Communications Commission in resolving any disputes arising over jurisdiction related to 211 numbers.
- (3) The Florida Alliance of Information and Referral Services is the 211 collaborative organization for the state that is responsible for studying, designing, implementing, supporting, and coordinating the Florida 211 Network and receiving federal grants.

Section 27. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 409.221, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 409.221 Consumer-directed care program.--
- (4) CONSUMER-DIRECTED CARE.--
- (e) Services.--Consumers shall use the budget allowance only to pay for home and community-based services that meet the consumer's long-term care needs and are a cost-efficient use of funds. Such services may include, but are not limited to, the following:
- 1451 1. Personal care.

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- 2. Homemaking and chores, including housework, meals, shopping, and transportation.
- 3. Home modifications and assistive devices which may increase the consumer's independence or make it possible to avoid institutional placement.
  - 4. Assistance in taking self-administered medication.
- 5. Day care and respite care services, including those provided by nursing home facilities pursuant to s.
- 1460 400.141(1)(f)(6) or by adult day care facilities licensed 1461 pursuant to s. 429.907.
- 6. Personal care and support services provided in an assisted living facility.
- Section 28. Subsection (5) of section 409.901, Florida

  1465 Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1466 409.901 Definitions; ss. 409.901-409.920.--As used in ss. 409.901-409.920, except as otherwise specifically provided, the term:
  - (5) "Change of ownership" means:

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1470	(a) An event in which the provider ownership changes to a
1471	different individual legal entity, as evidenced by a change in
1472	federal employer identification number or taxpayer
1473	identification number; or
1474	(b) An event in which $51$ $45$ percent or more of the
1475	ownership, voting shares, membership, or controlling interest of
1476	a provider is in any manner transferred or otherwise assigned.
1477	This paragraph does not apply to a licensee that is publicly
1478	traded on a recognized stock exchange; or
1479	(c) When the provider is licensed or registered by the
1480	agency, an event considered a change of ownership for licensure
1481	as defined in s. 408.803 in a corporation whose shares are not
1482	publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange is transferred or
1483	assigned, including the final transfer or assignment of multiple
1484	transfers or assignments over a 2-year period that cumulatively
1484 1485	transfers or assignments over a 2-year period that cumulatively total 45 percent or more.
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1485 1486	total 45 percent or more.
1485 1486 1487	total 45 percent or more.  A change solely in the management company or board of directors
1485 1486 1487 1488	total 45 percent or more.  A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  Section 30. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490 1491 1492	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  Section 30. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 429.08, Florida Statutes, are
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490 1491 1492 1493	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  Section 30. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 429.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
1485 1486 1487 1488 1489 1490 1491 1492 1493 1494	A change solely in the management company or board of directors is not a change of ownership.  Section 29. Section 429.071, Florida Statutes, is repealed.  Section 30. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) and subsections (2) and (3) of section 429.08, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  429.08 Unlicensed facilities; referral of person for

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(e) The agency shall <u>publish</u> provide to the department's elder information and referral providers a list, by county, of licensed assisted living facilities, to assist persons who are considering an assisted living facility placement in locating a licensed facility. This information may be provided electronically or on the agency's Internet website.

- Administration shall establish a local coordinating workgroup which includes representatives of local law enforcement agencies, state attorneys, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Department of Legal Affairs, local fire authorities, the Department of Children and Family Services, the district long-term care ombudsman council, and the district human rights advocacy committee to assist in identifying the operation of unlicensed facilities and to develop and implement a plan to ensure effective enforcement of state laws relating to such facilities. The workgroup shall report its findings, actions, and recommendations semiannually to the Director of Health Quality Assurance of the agency.
- (2)(3) It is unlawful to knowingly refer a person for residency to an unlicensed assisted living facility; to an assisted living facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to an assisted living facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408. Any person who violates this subsection commits a noncriminal violation, punishable by a fine not exceeding \$500 as provided in s. 775.083.

(a) Any health care practitioner, as defined in s. 456.001, who is aware of the operation of an unlicensed facility shall report that facility to the agency. Failure to report a facility that the practitioner knows or has reasonable cause to suspect is unlicensed shall be reported to the practitioner's licensing board.

- (b) Any provider as defined in s. 408.803 that hospital or community mental health center licensed under chapter 395 or chapter 394 which knowingly discharges a patient or client to an unlicensed facility is subject to sanction by the agency.
- (c) Any employee of the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, who knowingly refers a person for residency to an unlicensed facility; to a facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to a facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408 is subject to disciplinary action by the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family Services.
- (d) The employer of any person who is under contract with the agency or department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, and who knowingly refers a person for residency to an unlicensed facility; to a facility the license of which is under denial or has been suspended or revoked; or to a facility that has a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408 shall be fined and required to prepare a corrective action plan designed to prevent such referrals.
- (e) The agency shall provide the department and the Department of Children and Family Services with a list of

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licensed facilities within each county and shall update the list at least quarterly.

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(f) At least annually, the agency shall notify, in appropriate trade publications, physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, hospitals licensed under chapter 395, nursing home facilities licensed under part II of chapter 400, and employees of the agency or the department, or the Department of Children and Family Services, who are responsible for referring persons for residency, that it is unlawful to knowingly refer a person for residency to an unlicensed assisted living facility and shall notify them of the penalty for violating such prohibition. The department and the Department of Children and Family Services shall, in turn, notify service providers under contract to the respective departments who have responsibility for resident referrals to facilities. Further, the notice must direct each noticed facility and individual to contact the appropriate agency office in order to verify the licensure status of any facility prior to referring any person for residency. Each notice must include the name, telephone number, and mailing address of the appropriate office to contact.

Section 31. Paragraph (e) of subsection (1) of section 429.14, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.14 Administrative penalties. --

(1) In addition to the requirements of part II of chapter 408, the agency may deny, revoke, and suspend any license issued under this part and impose an administrative fine in the manner provided in chapter 120 against a licensee of an assisted living

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facility for a violation of any provision of this part, part II of chapter 408, or applicable rules, or for any of the following actions by a licensee of an assisted living facility, for the actions of any person subject to level 2 background screening under s. 408.809, or for the actions of any facility employee:

- (e) A citation of any of the following deficiencies as specified defined in s. 429.19:
  - 1. One or more cited class I deficiencies.

- 2. Three or more cited class II deficiencies.
- 3. Five or more cited class III deficiencies that have been cited on a single survey and have not been corrected within the times specified.
- Section 32. Subsections (2), (8), and (9) of section 429.19, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
- 429.19 Violations; imposition of administrative fines; grounds.--
- (2) Each violation of this part and adopted rules shall be classified according to the nature of the violation and the gravity of its probable effect on facility residents. The agency shall indicate the classification on the written notice of the violation as follows:
- (a) Class "I" violations are <u>defined in s. 408.813</u> those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines present an imminent danger to the residents or guests of the facility or a substantial probability that death or serious physical or emotional harm would result therefrom. The condition or practice constituting a class I

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violation shall be abated or eliminated within 24 hours, unless a fixed period, as determined by the agency, is required for correction. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class I violation in an amount not less than \$5,000 and not exceeding \$10,000 for each violation. A fine may be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.

- (b) Class "II" violations are <u>defined in s. 408.813</u> those conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines directly threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of the facility residents, other than class I violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class II violation in an amount not less than \$1,000 and not exceeding \$5,000 for each violation. A fine shall be levied notwithstanding the correction of the violation.
- conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a facility or to the personal care of residents which the agency determines indirectly or potentially threaten the physical or emotional health, safety, or security of facility residents, other than class I or class II violations. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class III violation in an amount not less than \$500 and not exceeding \$1,000 for each violation. A citation for a class III violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class III violation is corrected within the

time specified, no fine may be imposed, unless it is a repeated offense.

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- Class "IV" violations are defined in s. 408.813 those (d) conditions or occurrences related to the operation and maintenance of a building or to required reports, forms, or documents that do not have the potential of negatively affecting residents. These violations are of a type that the agency determines do not threaten the health, safety, or security of residents of the facility. The agency shall impose an administrative fine for a cited class IV violation in an amount not less than \$100 and not exceeding \$200 for each violation. A citation for a class IV violation must specify the time within which the violation is required to be corrected. If a class IV violation is corrected within the time specified, no fine shall be imposed. Any class IV violation that is corrected during the time an agency survey is being conducted will be identified as an agency finding and not as a violation.
- or in conjunction with an administrative action against a facility for violations of this part and adopted rules, shall make a reasonable attempt to discuss each violation and recommended corrective action with the owner or administrator of the facility, prior to written notification. The agency, instead of fixing a period within which the facility shall enter into compliance with standards, may request a plan of corrective action from the facility which demonstrates a good faith effort to remedy each violation by a specific date, subject to the approval of the agency.

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The agency shall develop and disseminate an annual list of all facilities sanctioned or fined \$5,000 or more for violations of state standards, the number and class of violations involved, the penalties imposed, and the current status of cases. The list shall be disseminated, at no charge, to the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the area agencies on aging, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council, and the state and local ombudsman councils. The Department of Children and Family Services shall disseminate the list to service providers under contract to the department who are responsible for referring persons to a facility for residency. The agency may charge a fee commensurate with the cost of printing and postage to other interested parties requesting a copy of this list. This information may be provided electronically or on the agency's Internet website.

Section 33. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 429.23, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 429.23 Internal risk management and quality assurance program; adverse incidents and reporting requirements.--
- (2) Every facility licensed under this part is required to maintain adverse incident reports. For purposes of this section, the term, "adverse incident" means:
- (a) An event over which facility personnel could exercise control rather than as a result of the resident's condition and results in:
  - 1. Death;

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- 3. Permanent disfigurement;
- 4. Fracture or dislocation of bones or joints;
- 5. Any condition that required medical attention to which the resident has not given his or her consent, including failure to honor advanced directives;
- 6. Any condition that requires the transfer of the resident from the facility to a unit providing more acute care due to the incident rather than the resident's condition before the incident; or.
- 7. An event that is reported to law enforcement or its personnel for investigation; or
- (b) Abuse, neglect, or exploitation as defined in s. 415.102;
  - (c) Events reported to law enforcement; or
- (b) (d) Resident elopement, if the elopement places the resident at risk of harm or injury.
- the Department of Children and Family Services as required under chapter 415. The agency shall annually submit to the Legislature a report on assisted living facility adverse incident reports. The report must include the following information arranged by county:
  - (a) A total number of adverse incidents;
- 1716 (b) A listing, by category, of the type of adverse
  1717 incidents occurring within each category and the type of staff
  1718 involved;

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(c) A listing, by category, of the types of injuries, if any, and the number of injuries occurring within each category;

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- (d) Types of liability claims filed based on an adverse incident report or reportable injury; and
- (e) Disciplinary action taken against staff, categorized by the type of staff involved.

Section 34. Subsections (10) through (12) of section 429.26, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (9) through (11), respectively, and present subsection (9) of that section is amended to read:

429.26 Appropriateness of placements; examinations of residents.--

(9) If, at any time after admission to a facility, a resident appears to need care beyond that which the facility is licensed to provide, the agency shall require the resident to be physically examined by a licensed physician, physician assistant, or licensed nurse practitioner. This examination shall, to the extent possible, be performed by the resident's preferred physician or nurse practitioner and shall be paid for by the resident with personal funds, except as provided in s. 429.18(2). Following this examination, the examining physician, physician assistant, or licensed nurse practitioner shall complete and sign a medical form provided by the agency. The completed medical form shall be submitted to the agency within 30 days after the date the facility owner or administrator is notified by the agency that the physical examination is required. After consultation with the physician, physician assistant, or licensed nurse practitioner who performed the

1747 examination, a medical review team designated by the agency 1748 shall then determine whether the resident is appropriately residing in the facility. The medical review team shall base its 1749 1750 decision on a comprehensive review of the resident's physical 1751 and functional status, including the resident's preferences, and 1752 on an isolated health-related problem. In the case of a 1753 mental health resident, if the resident appears to have needs in 1754 addition to those identified in the community living support 1755 plan, the agency may require an evaluation by a mental health professional, as determined by the Department of Children and 1756 1757 Family Services. A facility may not be required to retain a 1758 resident who requires more services or care than the facility is 1759 able to provide in accordance with its policies and criteria for 1760 admission and continued residency. Members of the medical review 1761 team making the final determination may not include the agency 1762 personnel who initially questioned the appropriateness of a 1763 resident's placement. Such determination is final and binding 1764 upon the facility and the resident. Any resident who is 1765 determined by the medical review team to be inappropriately 1766 residing in a facility shall be given 30 days' written notice to 1767 relocate by the owner or administrator, unless the resident's 1768 continued residence in the facility presents an imminent danger 1769 to the health, safety, or welfare of the resident or a 1770 substantial probability exists that death or serious physical 1771 harm would result to the resident if allowed to remain in the 1772 facility. 1773 Section 35. Paragraph (h) of subsection (3) of section 1774 430.80, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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430.80 Implementation of a teaching nursing home pilot project.--

- (3) To be designated as a teaching nursing home, a nursing home licensee must, at a minimum:
- (h) Maintain insurance coverage pursuant to s.  $400.141\underline{(1)(s)(20)}$  or proof of financial responsibility in a minimum amount of \$750,000. Such proof of financial responsibility may include:
- 1. Maintaining an escrow account consisting of cash or assets eligible for deposit in accordance with s. 625.52; or
- 2. Obtaining and maintaining pursuant to chapter 675 an unexpired, irrevocable, nontransferable and nonassignable letter of credit issued by any bank or savings association organized and existing under the laws of this state or any bank or savings association organized under the laws of the United States that has its principal place of business in this state or has a branch office which is authorized to receive deposits in this state. The letter of credit shall be used to satisfy the obligation of the facility to the claimant upon presentment of a final judgment indicating liability and awarding damages to be paid by the facility or upon presentment of a settlement agreement signed by all parties to the agreement when such final judgment or settlement is a result of a liability claim against the facility.

Section 36. Subsection (5) of section 435.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

435.04 Level 2 screening standards.--

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(5) Under penalty of perjury, all employees in such positions of trust or responsibility shall attest to meeting the requirements for qualifying for employment and agreeing to inform the employer immediately if convicted of any of the disqualifying offenses while employed by the employer. Each employer of employees in such positions of trust or responsibilities which is licensed or registered by a state agency shall submit to the licensing agency annually or at the time of license renewal, under penalty of perjury, an affidavit of compliance with the provisions of this section.

Section 37. Subsection (3) of section 435.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 435.05 Requirements for covered employees.--Except as otherwise provided by law, the following requirements shall apply to covered employees:
- (3) Each employer required to conduct level 2 background screening must sign an affidavit annually or at the time of <a href="License renewal">License renewal</a>, under penalty of perjury, stating that all covered employees have been screened or are newly hired and are awaiting the results of the required screening checks.
- Section 38. Subsection (2) of section 483.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 483.031 Application of part; exemptions.--This part applies to all clinical laboratories within this state, except:
- (2) A clinical laboratory that performs only waived tests and has received a certificate of exemption from the agency under s. 483.106.

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1829	Section 39. Subsection (10) of section 483.041, Florida
1830	Statutes, is amended to read:
1831	483.041 DefinitionsAs used in this part, the term:
1832	(10) "Waived test" means a test that the federal <u>Centers</u>
1833	for Medicare and Medicaid Services Health Care Financing
1834	Administration has determined qualifies for a certificate of
1835	waiver under the federal Clinical Laboratory Improvement
1836	Amendments of 1988, and the federal rules adopted thereunder.
1837	Section 40. <u>Section 483.106, Florida Statutes, is</u>
1838	repealed.
1839	Section 41. Subsection (3) of section 483.172, Florida
1840	Statutes, is amended to read:
1841	483.172 License fees
1842	(3) The agency shall assess a biennial fee of \$100 for a
1843	certificate of exemption and a \$100 biennial license fee under
1844	this section for facilities surveyed by an approved accrediting
1845	organization.
1846	Section 42. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
1847	627.4239, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
1848	627.4239 Coverage for use of drugs in treatment of
1849	cancer
1850	(1) DEFINITIONSAs used in this section, the term:
1851	(b) "Standard reference compendium" means <u>authoritative</u>
1852	compendia identified by the Secretary of the United States
1853	Department of Health and Human Services and recognized by the
1854	federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services +
1855	1. The United States Pharmacopeia Drug Information;
1856	2. The American Medical Association Drug Evaluations; or

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3. The American Hospital Formulary Service Drug Information.

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- Section 43. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 627.736, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 1861 627.736 Required personal injury protection benefits;
  1862 exclusions; priority; claims.--
  - (5) CHARGES FOR TREATMENT OF INJURED PERSONS. --
- 1864 (b) 1. An insurer or insured is not required to pay a claim or charges:
  - a. Made by a broker or by a person making a claim on behalf of a broker;
  - b. For any service or treatment that was not lawful at the time rendered;
  - c. To any person who knowingly submits a false or misleading statement relating to the claim or charges;
  - d. With respect to a bill or statement that does not substantially meet the applicable requirements of paragraph (d);
  - e. For any treatment or service that is upcoded, or that is unbundled when such treatment or services should be bundled, in accordance with paragraph (d). To facilitate prompt payment of lawful services, an insurer may change codes that it determines to have been improperly or incorrectly upcoded or unbundled, and may make payment based on the changed codes, without affecting the right of the provider to dispute the change by the insurer, provided that before doing so, the insurer must contact the health care provider and discuss the reasons for the insurer's change and the health care provider's

reason for the coding, or make a reasonable good faith effort to do so, as documented in the insurer's file; and

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- f. For medical services or treatment billed by a physician and not provided in a hospital unless such services are rendered by the physician or are incident to his or her professional services and are included on the physician's bill, including documentation verifying that the physician is responsible for the medical services that were rendered and billed; and
- g. For any service or treatment billed by a provider not holding an identification number issued by the agency pursuant to s. 400.9935(10).
- The Department of Health, in consultation with the appropriate professional licensing boards, shall adopt, by rule, a list of diagnostic tests deemed not to be medically necessary for use in the treatment of persons sustaining bodily injury covered by personal injury protection benefits under this section. The initial list shall be adopted by January 1, 2004, and shall be revised from time to time as determined by the Department of Health, in consultation with the respective professional licensing boards. Inclusion of a test on the list of invalid diagnostic tests shall be based on lack of demonstrated medical value and a level of general acceptance by the relevant provider community and shall not be dependent for results entirely upon subjective patient response. Notwithstanding its inclusion on a fee schedule in this subsection, an insurer or insured is not required to pay any charges or reimburse claims for any invalid diagnostic test as determined by the Department of Health.

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1912	Section 44. Subsection (13) of section 651.118, Florida
1913	Statutes, is amended to read:
1914	651.118 Agency for Health Care Administration;
1915	certificates of need; sheltered beds; community beds
1916	(13) Residents, as defined in this chapter, are not
1917	considered new admissions for the purpose of s.
1918	400.141 <u>(1)(o)1.d.<del>(15)(d).</del></u>
1919	Section 45. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
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