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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/25/2014	.	
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The Committee on Health Policy (Sobel) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 40 - 130

and insert:

supervised by a physician, a physician assistant, or an advanced registered nurse practitioner.

(c) "Palliative care" means patient- and family-centered medical care offered throughout the continuum of an illness which optimizes quality of life by anticipating, preventing, and treating suffering caused by serious illness. Palliative care



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11 involves addressing physical, emotional, social, and spiritual
12 needs and facilitating patient autonomy, access to information,
13 and choice. The term includes, but is not limited to,
14 discussions of the patient's goals for treatment; discussion of
15 treatment options appropriate to the patient, including, if
16 appropriate, hospice care; and comprehensive pain and symptom
17 management.

18 (d) "Serious illness" means a medical illness or physical
19 injury or condition that substantially impacts quality of life
20 for more than a short period of time. The term includes, but is
21 not limited to, cancer, renal or liver failure, heart or lung
22 disease, and Alzheimer's disease and related dementias.

23 (2) PALLIATIVE CARE AND QUALITY OF LIFE INTERDISCIPLINARY
24 ADVISORY COUNCIL.—There is established within the Department of
25 Health a Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary
26 Advisory Council, which is an advisory council as defined in s.
27 20.03, Florida Statutes.

28 (a) The primary purpose of the council is to consult with
29 and advise the department on matters relating to the
30 establishment, maintenance, operation, and outcome evaluation of
31 palliative care initiatives in this state.

32 (b) The council shall consist of nine members appointed by
33 the Governor in consultation with the State Surgeon General and
34 include professionals who have expertise in various aspects of
35 palliative care, including, but not limited to,
36 interdisciplinary palliative care, medical, nursing, social
37 work, pharmacy, and spiritual expertise; patient and family
38 caregivers or their advocates; and such other members as the
39 State Surgeon General deems appropriate. The Governor in



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40 consultation with the State Surgeon General shall ensure that
41 representation on the council reflects a broad perspective of
42 palliative care and includes experience in palliative care in a
43 variety of inpatient, outpatient, and community settings, such
44 as acute care, long-term care, and hospice, and with a variety
45 of populations, including pediatric, youth, and adult. One
46 council member shall be a designee of the American Cancer
47 Society. At least two council members shall be board-certified
48 hospice and palliative medicine physicians, physician
49 assistants, or nurses. Members shall serve for a term of 3
50 years.

51 (c) The council shall adopt internal organizational
52 procedures as necessary for its efficient organization which
53 must, at a minimum, require the council to elect a chair and
54 vice chair whose duties shall be established by the council.

55 (d) The department shall provide such staff, information,
56 and other assistance as is reasonably necessary to assist the
57 council in carrying out its responsibilities.

58 (e) Members of the council shall serve without
59 compensation, but may receive reimbursement as provided in s.
60 112.061, Florida Statutes, for travel and other necessary
61 expenses incurred in the performance of their official duties.

62 (f) The department shall fix a time and place for regular
63 meetings of the council, which shall meet at least twice a year.

64 (3) PALLIATIVE CARE CONSUMER AND PROFESSIONAL INFORMATION
65 AND EDUCATION PROGRAM.—

66 (a) The department shall establish a palliative care
67 consumer and professional information and education program. The
68 purpose of the program is to maximize the effectiveness of



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69 palliative care initiatives in this state by making
70 comprehensive and accurate information and education about
71 palliative care available to the public, health care
72 practitioners, and health care facilities.

73 (b) The department shall publish on its website information
74 and resources, including links to external resources, about
75 palliative care, which shall include, but not be limited to,
76 continuing education opportunities for health care
77 practitioners, information about palliative care delivery in the
78 home and in primary, secondary, and tertiary care settings, best
79 practices for palliative care delivery, and consumer educational
80 materials and referral information for palliative care,
81 including hospice.

82 (c) The department may develop and implement other
83 initiatives regarding palliative care services and education to
84 further the purposes of this section.

85 (d) The department shall consult with the Palliative Care
86 and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Advisory Council in
87 implementing this subsection.

88
89 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

90 And the title is amended as follows:

91 Delete lines 21 - 27

92 and insert:

93 to implement this act; providing an effective date.