

By Senator Flores

37-01013-15

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the advisory council on brain and  
3           spinal cord injuries; amending s. 381.78, F.S.;  
4           requiring the council to appoint a seven-member  
5           committee on brain injury; providing for committee  
6           membership; specifying certain duties; requiring the  
7           committee to report to the council biannually;  
8           requiring the committee to report to the State Surgeon  
9           General annually; providing an effective date.

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

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13           Section 1. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (4) of  
14           section 381.78, Florida Statutes, to read:

15           381.78 Advisory council on brain and spinal cord injuries.-

16           (4) The council shall:

17           (c)1. Appoint a seven-member committee on brain injury. The  
18           committee shall be composed of:

19           a. An individual who has a traumatic brain injury.

20           b. A veteran of the United States Armed Forces who has a  
21           traumatic brain injury.

22           c. A family caregiver or former family caregiver of an  
23           individual who has a traumatic brain injury and whose care is  
24           not state funded.

25           d. A family caregiver or former family caregiver of an  
26           individual who has a traumatic brain injury and who is a  
27           recipient of Medicaid waiver services.

28           e. A representative of a health care facility or  
29           rehabilitation center that serves individuals who have traumatic

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30 brain injuries.

31 f. A health care practitioner who specializes in the  
32 treatment of individuals who have traumatic brain injuries.

33 g. An individual who conducts traumatic brain injury  
34 research.

35 2. Membership on the council is not a prerequisite for  
36 membership on this committee. Committee members shall serve 2-  
37 year terms and may not be compensated or reimbursed for per diem  
38 or travel expenses.

39 3. The committee shall:

40 a. Research and analyze statistical trends with respect to  
41 the occurrence of traumatic brain injuries in this state.

42 b. Assess the delivery and availability of services  
43 provided by the Department of Health and other state agencies  
44 for individuals who have traumatic brain injuries and their  
45 family members, as well as issues affecting the individuals'  
46 eligibility for those services throughout the continuum of care.

47 c. Assess the delivery and availability of services  
48 provided by private businesses or entities, including home and  
49 community-based providers, for individuals with traumatic brain  
50 injuries, and education and support services to assist family  
51 members and caregivers throughout the continuum of care.

52 d. Review and assess the role of the state in providing  
53 community-based treatment, long-term care, and family caregiver  
54 support, including the provision of respite care and education  
55 about the ongoing assessment and management of traumatic brain  
56 injuries for both individuals who have such injuries and their  
57 family members and caregivers.

58 e. Determine the needs of individuals who have traumatic

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59 brain injuries and examine the efficacy of immediate,  
60 intermediate, rehabilitative, and community-based treatment, as  
61 well as where gaps in services exist.

62 f. Determine strategies for providing coordinated care,  
63 services, and support to individuals who have traumatic brain  
64 injuries and their family members and caregivers, and strategies  
65 to address identified gaps in the provision of those services.

66 g. Report to the council its findings and recommendations  
67 biannually at council meetings and issue a written report  
68 annually to the State Surgeon General.

69 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2015.