

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to medication technicians; amending s.  
 3           429.02, F.S.; defining the term "medication  
 4           technician"; amending s. 429.52, F.S.; providing  
 5           minimum requirements and specifications for training  
 6           of medication technicians; requiring the Agency for  
 7           Health Care Administration to authorize online  
 8           materials and courses to be used for such training;  
 9           providing for examination and certification of  
 10          medication technicians after completion of an online  
 11          training course; providing an effective date.

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 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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15           Section 1. Subsections (16) through (28) of section  
 16           429.02, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (17)  
 17           through (29), respectively, subsection (12) is amended, and a  
 18           new subsection (16) is added to that section, to read:

19           429.02 Definitions.—When used in this part, the term:

20           (12) "Extended congregate care" means acts beyond those  
 21           authorized in subsection (19) ~~(18)~~ which may be performed  
 22           pursuant to part I of chapter 464 by persons licensed thereunder  
 23           while carrying out their professional duties, and other  
 24           supportive services that may be specified by rule. The purpose  
 25           of such services is to enable residents to age in place in a

26 residential environment despite mental or physical limitations  
 27 that might otherwise disqualify them from residency in a  
 28 facility licensed under this part.

29 (16) "Medication technician" means an unlicensed staff  
 30 member who has completed 6 hours of training approved by the  
 31 agency and provided by an agency-certified trainer. A medication  
 32 technician may provide assistance with a resident's self-  
 33 administration of medications and with his or her use of point-  
 34 of-care devices.

35 Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 429.52, Florida  
 36 Statutes, is amended to read:

37 429.52 Staff training and educational requirements.—

38 (6) Medication technicians shall ~~Staff assisting with the~~  
 39 ~~self-administration of medications under s. 429.256~~ must  
 40 complete a minimum of 6 additional hours of training provided by  
 41 a registered nurse or a licensed pharmacist before providing  
 42 assistance. Two hours of continuing education are required  
 43 annually thereafter. The agency shall establish by rule the  
 44 minimum requirements of medication technician ~~this~~ training,  
 45 which must address infection control, safe handling and use of  
 46 assistive care devices, communicating with case managers and  
 47 health care providers, standard of care protocols for the  
 48 provision of care in a licensed assisted living facility,  
 49 identification of nursing standards, and methods of assisting  
 50 residents with the self-administration of medications. The

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51 agency shall authorize approved training for medication  
52 technicians to be conducted using online materials and courses  
53 approved by the agency. An online training course must conclude  
54 with the trainee taking an end-of-course examination. The course  
55 must provide a unique certification number for each trainee and  
56 a certificate to a trainee who passes the examination which must  
57 include the passing examination score.

58 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.