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By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senators Baxley, Gibson, Jones, and Garcia

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to dementia-related staff training; creating s. 430.5025, F.S.; providing a short title; defining terms; requiring the Department of Elderly Affairs to offer certain dementia-related education to the public; specifying uniform dementia-related education and training for employees of covered providers; requiring the department or its designee to provide certain dementia-related employee training in an online format and at no cost; providing minimum requirements for the training; requiring the department or its designee to make a record of the completion of the training; providing requirements for the record; requiring covered providers to maintain such records of training completion for their employees; providing that an employee does not have to repeat such training after changing employment to another covered provider; providing additional training and continuing education requirements for certain employees providing direct care; authorizing the department to adopt training curriculum guidelines; authorizing the department or its designee to approve training providers and curricula and maintain a list of approved providers; authorizing training to be offered in a variety of formats; providing that certain continuing education does not require the adoption of curriculum quidelines by the department or provider or curriculum approval by the department or its designee; providing qualifications

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and requirements for approved providers; providing that training curricula approved before the effective date of this act remain in effect until their respective expiration dates; authorizing the department to adopt certain rules; authorizing certified nursing assistants to count the dementiarelated training toward their annual certification training requirements; authorizing health care practitioners to count the dementia-related training requirements toward their continuing education requirements for licensure; creating s. 400.51, F.S.; requiring individuals employed, contracted, or referred by a nurse registry and individuals registered as companion or homemaker services providers to complete specified dementia-related training; amending ss. 400.1755, 400.4785, 429.178, 429.52, 429.83, 429.917, and 429.918, F.S.; revising dementia-related staff training requirements for nursing homes, home health agencies, facilities that provide special care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or related dementia, assisted living facilities, adult family-care homes, adult day care centers, and specialized Alzheimer's services adult day care centers, respectively, to conform to changes made by the act; extending the timeframe in which individuals employed, contracted, or referred to provide services before a specified date must complete the dementia-related staff training required by this act; providing that proof of completion of equivalent

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training substitutes for such training; providing that individuals employed, contracted, or referred to provide services on or after a specified date are subject to the timeframes for completion of such training which are specified in the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 430.5025, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

430.5025 Education and training to foster awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia.—

(1) This section may be cited as the "Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act."

(2) As used in this section, the term:

(a) "Covered provider" means a nursing home facility, a home health agency, a nurse registry, a companion or homemaker service provider, an assisted living facility, an adult family-care home, or an adult day care center licensed or registered under chapter 400 or chapter 429.

(b) "Department" means the Department of Elderly Affairs.

(c) "Direct care" means providing, through in-person contact, assistance with the activities of daily living; assistance with the self-administration of medication; homemaker or companion services; nursing services; or other services that promote the physical, mental, and psychosocial well-being of participants, patients, and residents of covered providers. The term does not include administrative functions or maintenance of

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the physical environment of a licensed facility, including grounds maintenance, building maintenance, housekeeping, laundry, or food preparation.

- (d) "Employee" means an individual, contracted staff, or an independent contractor employed or referred by a covered provider who is required to undergo a level 2 background screening as required by s. 408.809 and chapter 435.
- (e) "Regular contact" means the performance of duties other than direct care which may require employees to interact in person on a daily basis with participants, patients, or residents.
- (3) The department shall offer education to the general public about Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia. The education must provide basic information about the most common forms of dementia, how to identify the signs and symptoms of dementia, skills for coping with and responding to changes as a result of the onset of dementia symptoms, planning for the future, and how to access additional resources about dementia.
- (4) Employees of covered providers must receive uniform training about Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia as follows:
- (a) Upon beginning employment, each employee must receive basic written information about interacting with individuals who have Alzheimer's disease or a related form of dementia.
- (b) Within 30 days after the date of beginning employment, each employee who provides direct care and is in regular contact with participants, patients, or residents must complete a 1-hour training provided by the department or its designee.
 - 1. The department or its designee shall provide the

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training required under this paragraph in an online format and at no cost. The 1-hour training must include information on understanding the basics about the most common forms of dementia, how to identify the signs and symptoms of dementia, and skills for communicating and interacting with individuals who have Alzheimer's disease or a related form of dementia. A record of completion of the training must be made available which identifies the training course, the name of the employee, and the date of completion.

- 2. A covered provider must maintain a record of the employee's completion of the training.
- 3. An employee who has completed the training is not required to repeat the training after changing employment to a different covered provider.
- (c) Within 7 months after the date of beginning employment, each employee of a home health agency or nurse registry, or a companion or homemaker service provider who provides direct care, must complete an additional 2 hours of training. The training must cover, but need not be limited to, behavior management, promotion of the individual's independence in activities of daily living, and skills for working with family members and caregivers.
- (d) Within 7 months after the date of beginning employment, each employee of a nursing home, an assisted living facility, an adult family-care home, or an adult day care center who provides direct care must complete an additional 3 hours of training. The training must cover, but need not be limited to, behavior management, promotion of the individual's independence in activities of daily living, skills for working with family

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members and caregivers, group and individual activities, maintaining an appropriate environment, and ethical issues.

- (e) For an assisted living facility, adult family-care home, or adult day care center that advertises and provides, or is designated to provide, specialized care for individuals who have Alzheimer's disease or a related form of dementia, its employees must receive the following training in addition to the training specified in paragraphs (a) and (b):
- 1. Within 3 months after the date of beginning employment, each employee who has regular contact with or provides direct care to residents or participants must complete an additional 3 hours of training in the topics specified in paragraph (d).
- 2. Within 6 months after the date of beginning employment, each employee who provides direct care must complete an additional 4 hours of dementia-specific training. The training must include, but need not be limited to, information related to understanding Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia, the stages of Alzheimer's disease, communication strategies, medical information, and stress management.
- 3. Thereafter, each employee who provides direct care must participate in a minimum of 4 contact hours of continuing education each calendar year. The continuing education must cover at least one of the topics included in the dementia-specific training in which the employee has not received previous training.
- (f) The department may adopt training curriculum guidelines for the training specified in paragraphs (c), (d), and (e). The department or its designee may approve training providers and training curricula and maintain a list of approved providers.

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Approved training may be offered in a variety of formats,
including in-person and electronic formats. However, continuing
education under this section does not require the adoption of
training curriculum guidelines by the department or the approval
of training providers and curricula by the department or its
designee.

- 1. A training provider meeting one of the following qualifications may offer training in accordance with the curriculum guidelines without prior department or designee approval of the provider or the curriculum:
- <u>a. An individual approved by a board of the Department of</u>

 <u>Health to provide training who is registered with the electronic continuing education tracking system established in s.</u>

 456.025(7);
- b. An individual with a master's or doctoral degree in
 health care, social services, or gerontology from an accredited
 college or university; or
- c. A training provider approved by the department or its designee before July 1, 2022.
- 2. Training providers qualified under sub-subparagraphs1.a. and b. must also have:
- <u>a. At least 1 year of teaching experience as an educator</u>
 for caregivers of individuals with Alzheimer's disease or
 related forms of dementia;
- b. At least 1 year of practical experience in a program providing care to individuals with Alzheimer's disease or related forms of dementia; or
- c. Completed a specialized training program in the subject matter of Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia from

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an accredited health care, human services, or gerontology education provider.

- 3. Upon an employee's completion of the training specified in paragraphs (c), (d), or (e), the training provider must provide a record of completion of the training which includes the name of the employee, the name of the training provider, the topics covered, and the date of completion. The record is evidence of completion of training in the identified topic, and the employee is not required to repeat training in that topic if the employee changes employment to a different covered provider.
- 4. Any training curriculum on Alzheimer's disease or related forms of dementia approved by the department or its designee before July 1, 2022, remains in effect until the curriculum's expiration date.
- (g) The department may adopt rules to create training curriculum guidelines, to establish requirements for the approval of qualified training providers, and to conduct sampling of training or training curricula as necessary to monitor for compliance with curriculum guidelines.
- (5) For a certified nursing assistant as defined in s.

 464.201, training completed as required by this section may be counted toward the total hours of training required to maintain certification as a certified nursing assistant.
- (6) For a health care practitioner as defined in s.

 456.001, training completed as required by this section may be counted toward the total hours of continuing education required by that practitioner's licensing board.
- Section 2. Section 400.1755, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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400.1755 Care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or related disorders; staff training requirements.—

(1) As a condition of licensure, the employees of facilities licensed under this part must complete the training as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025 provide to each of their employees, upon beginning employment, basic written information about interacting with persons with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder.

- (2) All employees who are expected to, or whose responsibilities require them to, have direct contact with residents with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder must, in addition to being provided the information required in subsection (1), also have an initial training of at least 1 hour completed in the first 3 months after beginning employment. This training must include, but is not limited to, an overview of dementias and must provide basic skills in communicating with persons with dementia.
- (3) An individual who provides direct care shall be considered a direct caregiver and must complete the required initial training and an additional 3 hours of training within 9 months after beginning employment. This training shall include, but is not limited to, managing problem behaviors, promoting the resident's independence in activities of daily living, and skills in working with families and caregivers.
- (a) The required 4 hours of training for certified nursing assistants are part of the total hours of training required annually.
 - (b) For a health care practitioner as defined in s.

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456.001, continuing education hours taken as required by that practitioner's licensing board shall be counted toward this total of 4 hours.

(4) For an employee who is a licensed health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, training that is sanctioned by that practitioner's licensing board shall be considered to be approved by the Department of Elderly Affairs.

(5) The Department of Elderly Affairs or its designee must approve the initial and continuing training provided in the facilities. The department must approve training offered in a variety of formats, including, but not limited to, Internetbased training, videos, teleconferencing, and classroom instruction. The department shall keep a list of current providers who are approved to provide initial and continuing training. The department shall adopt rules to establish standards for the trainers and the training required in this section.

(6) Upon completing any training listed in this section, the employee or direct caregiver shall be issued a certificate that includes the name of the training provider, the topic covered, and the date and signature of the training provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of training in the identified topic, and the employee or direct caregiver is not required to repeat training in that topic if the employee or direct caregiver changes employment to a different facility or to an assisted living facility, home health agency, adult day care center, or adult family-care home. The direct caregiver must comply with other applicable continuing education requirements.

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Section 3. Section 400.4785, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.4785 Patients with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders; staff training requirements; certain disclosures.—The employees of a home health agency must complete the training as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025.

- (1) A home health agency must provide the following staff training:
- (a) Upon beginning employment with the agency, each employee must receive basic written information about interacting with participants who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia-related disorders.
- (b) In addition to the information provided under paragraph (a), newly hired home health agency personnel who will be providing direct care to patients must complete 2 hours of training in Alzheimer's disease and dementia-related disorders within 9 months after beginning employment with the agency. This training must include, but is not limited to, an overview of dementia, a demonstration of basic skills in communicating with persons who have dementia, the management of problem behaviors, information about promoting the client's independence in activities of daily living, and instruction in skills for working with families and caregivers.
- (c) For certified nursing assistants, the required 2 hours of training shall be part of the total hours of training required annually.
- (d) For a health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, continuing education hours taken as required by that

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practitioner's licensing board shall be counted toward the total

- (e) For an employee who is a licensed health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, training that is sanctioned by that practitioner's licensing board shall be considered to be approved by the Department of Elderly Affairs.
- (f) The Department of Elderly Affairs, or its designee, must approve the required training. The department must consider for approval training offered in a variety of formats. The department shall keep a list of current providers who are approved to provide the 2-hour training. The department shall adopt rules to establish standards for the employees who are subject to this training, for the trainers, and for the training required in this section.
- (g) Upon completing the training listed in this section, the employee shall be issued a certificate that states that the training mandated under this section has been received. The certificate shall be dated and signed by the training provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of this training, and the employee is not required to repeat this training if the employee changes employment to a different home health agency.
- (h) A licensed home health agency whose unduplicated census during the most recent calendar year was composed comprised of at least 90 percent of individuals aged 21 years or younger at the date of admission is exempt from the training requirements in this section.
- (2) An agency licensed under this part which claims that it provides special care for persons who have Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders must disclose in its advertisements

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or in a separate document those services that distinguish the care as being especially applicable to, or suitable for, such persons. The agency must give a copy of all such advertisements or a copy of the document to each person who requests information about the agency and must maintain a copy of all such advertisements and documents in its records. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall examine all such advertisements and documents in the agency's records as part of the license renewal procedure.

Section 4. Section 400.51, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

disorders; staff training requirements.—Each individual employed, contracted, or referred by a nurse registry or any individual registered with the agency to provide companion services or homemaker services must complete the training as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025.

Section 5. Section 429.178, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.178 Special care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders.—

(1) A facility that which advertises that it provides special care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders must meet the following standards of operation:

(1) (a) 1. If the facility has 17 or more residents, have an awake staff member on duty at all hours of the day and night; or (b) 2. If the facility has fewer than 17 residents, have an

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awake staff member on duty at all hours of the day and night or have mechanisms in place to monitor and ensure the safety of the facility's residents.

- $\underline{\text{(2)}}$ Offer activities specifically designed for persons who are cognitively impaired.
- (3) (e) Have a physical environment that provides for the safety and welfare of the facility's residents.
- (4) (d) Require its employees to complete Employ staff who have completed the training and continuing education as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025 subsection (2).
- (2) (a) An individual who is employed by a facility that provides special care for residents who have Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders, and who has regular contact with such residents, must complete up to 4 hours of initial dementia-specific training developed or approved by the department. The training must be completed within 3 months after beginning employment and satisfy the core training requirements of s. 429.52(3)(g).
- (b) A direct caregiver who is employed by a facility that provides special care for residents who have Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders and provides direct care to such residents must complete the required initial training and 4 additional hours of training developed or approved by the department. The training must be completed within 9 months after beginning employment and satisfy the core training requirements of s. 429.52(3)(g).
- (c) An individual who is employed by a facility that provides special care for residents with Alzheimer's disease or

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other related disorders, but who only has incidental contact with such residents, must be given, at a minimum, general information on interacting with individuals with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders, within 3 months after beginning employment.

- (3) In addition to the training required under subsection (2), a direct caregiver must participate in a minimum of 4 contact hours of continuing education each calendar year. The continuing education must include one or more topics included in the dementia-specific training developed or approved by the department, in which the caregiver has not received previous training.
- (4) Upon completing any training listed in subsection (2), the employee or direct caregiver shall be issued a certificate that includes the name of the training provider, the topic covered, and the date and signature of the training provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of training in the identified topic, and the employee or direct caregiver is not required to repeat training in that topic if the employee or direct caregiver changes employment to a different facility. The employee or direct caregiver must comply with other applicable continuing education requirements.
- (5) The department, or its designee, shall approve the initial and continuing education courses and providers.
- (6) The department shall keep a current list of providers who are approved to provide initial and continuing education for staff of facilities that provide special care for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders.
 - (7) Any facility more than 90 percent of whose residents

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receive monthly optional supplementation payments is not required to pay for the training and education programs required under this section. A facility that has one or more such residents shall pay a reduced fee that is proportional to the percentage of such residents in the facility. A facility that does not have any residents who receive monthly optional supplementation payments must pay a reasonable fee, as established by the department, for such training and education programs.

(8) The department shall adopt rules to establish standards for trainers and training and to implement this section.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 429.52, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.52 Staff training and educational requirements.-

- (1) (a) Each new assisted living facility employee who has not previously completed core training must attend a preservice orientation provided by the facility before interacting with residents. The preservice orientation must be at least 2 hours in duration and cover topics that help the employee provide responsible care and respond to the needs of facility residents. Upon completion, the employee and the administrator of the facility must sign a statement that the employee completed the required preservice orientation. The facility must keep the signed statement in the employee's personnel record.
- (b) Each employee of an assisted living facility must complete the training as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025.
- (c) If completed before interacting with residents, the 1-hour training required by s. 430.5025(4)(b) relating to

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information on Alzheimer's disease and related forms of dementia may count toward the 2 hours of preservice orientation required under paragraph (a).

Section 7. Section 429.83, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 429.83 Residents with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders; training; certain disclosures.—
- (1) The employees of an adult family-care home licensed under this part must complete the training as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025.
- (2) An adult family-care home licensed under this part which claims that it provides special care for persons who have Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders must Disclose in its advertisements or in a separate document those services that distinguish the care as being especially applicable to, or suitable for, such persons. The home must give a copy of all such advertisements or a copy of the document to each person who requests information about programs and services for persons with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders offered by the home and must maintain a copy of all such advertisements and documents in its records. The agency shall examine all such advertisements and documents and documents in the home's records as part of the license renewal procedure.
- Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 429.917, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 429.917 Patients with Alzheimer's disease or other related disorders; staff training requirements; certain disclosures.—
 - (1) The employees of an adult day care center licensed

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under this part must <u>complete the provide the following staff</u> training <u>as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and</u>
Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025÷

- (a) Upon beginning employment with the facility, each employee must receive basic written information about interacting with participants who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia-related disorders.
- (b) In addition to the information provided under paragraph (a), newly hired adult day care center personnel who are expected to, or whose responsibilities require them to, have direct contact with participants who have Alzheimer's disease or dementia-related disorders must complete initial training of at least 1 hour within the first 3 months after beginning employment. The training must include an overview of dementias and must provide instruction in basic skills for communicating with persons who have dementia.
- (c) In addition to the requirements of paragraphs (a) and (b), an employee who will be providing direct care to a participant who has Alzheimer's disease or a dementia-related disorder must complete an additional 3 hours of training within 9 months after beginning employment. This training must include, but is not limited to, the management of problem behaviors, information about promoting the participant's independence in activities of daily living, and instruction in skills for working with families and caregivers.
- (d) For certified nursing assistants, the required 4 hours of training shall be part of the total hours of training required annually.
 - (e) For a health care practitioner as defined in s.

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456.001, continuing education hours taken as required by that practitioner's licensing board shall be counted toward the total of 4 hours.

- (f) For an employee who is a licensed health care practitioner as defined in s. 456.001, training that is sanctioned by that practitioner's licensing board shall be considered to be approved by the Department of Elderly Affairs.
- (g) The Department of Elderly Affairs or its designee must approve the 1-hour and 3-hour training provided to employees and direct caregivers under this section. The department must consider for approval training offered in a variety of formats. The department shall keep a list of current providers who are approved to provide the 1-hour and 3-hour training. The department shall adopt rules to establish standards for the employees who are subject to this training, for the trainers, and for the training required in this section.
- (h) Upon completing any training described in this section, the employee or direct caregiver shall be issued a certificate that includes the name of the training provider, the topic covered, and the date and signature of the training provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of training in the identified topic, and the employee or direct caregiver is not required to repeat training in that topic if the employee or direct caregiver changes employment to a different adult day care center or to an assisted living facility, nursing home, home health agency, or hospice. The direct caregiver must comply with other applicable continuing education requirements.
- (i) An employee who is hired on or after July 1, 2004, must complete the training required by this section.

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Section 9. Subsection (6) of section 429.918, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 429.918 Licensure designation as a specialized Alzheimer's services adult day care center.—
- (6) (a) An adult day care center having a license designated under this section must provide the following staff training and supervision:
- (a) 1. A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse must be on site daily for at least 75 percent of the time that the center is open to ADRD participants. Each licensed practical nurse who works at the center must be supervised in accordance with chapter 464.
- 2. Upon beginning employment with the center, each employee must receive and review basic written information about interacting with ADRD participants.
- 3. In addition to the information provided in subparagraph 2., every employee hired on or after July 1, 2012, who has direct contact with ADRD participants shall complete 4 hours of dementia-specific training within 3 months after employment.
- 4. In addition to the requirements of subparagraphs 2. and 3., each employee hired on or after July 1, 2012, who provides direct care to ADRD participants shall complete an additional 4 hours of dementia-specific training within 6 months after employment.
- (b) Each employee must complete the training and continuing education as required by the Florida Alzheimer's Disease and Dementia Education and Training Act in s. 430.5025 The Department of Elderly Affairs or its designee shall approve the training required under this section. The department shall adopt

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rules to establish standards for employees who are subject to this training, for trainers, and for the training required in this section.

- (c) Upon completing any training described in this section, the employee shall be issued a certificate that includes the name of the training provider, the topics covered, and the date and signature of the training provider. The certificate is evidence of completion of training in the identified topics, and the employee is not required to repeat training in those topics if the employee changes employment to a different adult day care center.
- (d) Each employee hired on or after July 1, 2012, who provides direct care to ADRD participants, must receive and review an orientation plan that includes, at a minimum:
- 1. Procedures to locate an ADRD participant who has wandered from the center. These procedures $\underline{\text{must}}$ shall be reviewed regularly with all direct care staff.
 - 2. Information on the Silver Alert program in this state.
- 3. Information regarding available products or programs used to identify ADRD participants or prevent them from wandering away from the center, their home, or other locations.

Section 10. Each individual employed, contracted, or referred to provide services before July 1, 2022, must complete the training required by s. 430.5025, Florida Statutes, as created by this act, by July 1, 2025. Proof of completion of equivalent training received before July 1, 2022, shall substitute for the required training under s. 430.5025, Florida Statutes. Individuals employed, contracted, or referred to provide services on or after July 1, 2022, must complete the

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	Sec	ction	11.	This	act	shall	take	effect	July	1,	2022.