

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to memory care; amending s. 429.177,  
3       F.S.; defining the term "memory care services";  
4       requiring memory care providers to follow specified  
5       standards of operation in providing memory care  
6       services; providing requirements for resident  
7       contracts; providing requirements for memory care  
8       facilities; prohibiting certain facilities from  
9       advertising, representing, or holding themselves out  
10      as memory care providers unless such facilities meet  
11      specified criteria; repealing s. 429.178, F.S.,  
12      relating to special care for persons with Alzheimer's  
13      disease, dementia, or other memory disorders;  
14      providing effective dates.

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

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18       **Section 1. Effective January 1, 2026, section 429.177,**  
19 **Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

20       429.177 Patients with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or  
21 other memory ~~related~~ disorders; certain disclosures; minimum  
22 standards.—

23       (1) "Memory care services" means specialized or focused  
24 care and services designed to address health or behavioral

25 issues resulting from Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other  
26 memory disorders.

27 (2) (a) A facility that advertises itself as a memory care  
28 provider or otherwise claims that the facility provides memory  
29 care services, including, but not limited to, services for  
30 residents with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or other memory  
31 disorders, must meet all of the following standards of operation  
32 for such services:

33 1. Develop and implement policies and procedures  
34 addressing all of the following:

35 a. Admittance criteria.

36 b. Care and services necessary to address the needs of  
37 persons admitted for memory care services.

38 2. Activities specifically designed and offered for  
39 persons admitted for memory care services.

40 3. Maintenance of a current and accurate log of residents  
41 admitted as receiving memory care services.

42 (b) The standards in paragraph (a) apply to any unit  
43 designated for the provision of memory care services or to a  
44 facility that provides memory care services to any resident  
45 admitted and requiring such services.

46 (3) In addition to the requirements of s. 429.24, resident  
47 contracts must specify all memory care services to be provided  
48 and any related costs should those costs exceed standard room  
49 and board.

50       (4) In addition to the requirements of s. 429.26(7), for  
51 persons residing in a memory care facility, the facility shall:

52       (a) Notify a licensed physician when a resident has a  
53 change of condition specific to increased or more severe  
54 dementia, or other memory disorder to ensure that appropriate  
55 care is provided to the resident. The notification must occur  
56 within 30 days after the acknowledgement of such changes in  
57 condition by facility staff.

58       (b) If a change in the resident's condition is determined  
59 to exist, notify the resident's representative or designee and  
60 assist in making appointments for the necessary care and  
61 services for treatment of the change in condition.

62       (d) If the resident does not have a representative or  
63 designee, or if the resident's representative or designee cannot  
64 be located or is unresponsive, arrange with the appropriate  
65 health care provider for the necessary care and services for  
66 treatment of the change in condition.

67       (5)(a) The memory care facility, or if a memory care  
68 provider has a specific unit designated for memory care  
69 services, must have at least one staff member present to provide  
70 care and services at all times. The staff member shall:

71       1. Stay awake at all times.

72       2. Meet any training required as defined by statute or  
73 rule for assisted living facilities, including the training and  
74 continuing education requirements of s. 430.5025.

75        3. Be certified in first aid and cardiopulmonary  
76        resuscitation.

77        (b) A staff member administering medication or providing  
78        assistance with the self-administration of medication may not be  
79        considered as the sole staff member toward the staffing  
80        requirement while engaged in these tasks.

81        (6) A facility licensed under this part which claims that  
82        it provides special care for persons who have Alzheimer's  
83        disease, ~~dementia~~, or other memory ~~related~~ disorders must  
84        disclose in its advertisements or in a separate document those  
85        services that distinguish the care as being especially  
86        applicable to, or suitable for, such persons. The facility must  
87        give a copy of all such advertisements or a copy of the document  
88        to each person who requests information about programs and  
89        services for persons with Alzheimer's disease, dementia, or  
90        other memory ~~related~~ disorders offered by the facility and must  
91        maintain a copy of all such advertisements and documents in its  
92        records. The agency shall examine all such advertisements and  
93        documents in the facility's records as part of the license  
94        renewal procedure.

95        **Section 2.** Effective January 1, 2026, section 429.178,  
96        Florida Statutes, is repealed.

97        **Section 3.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
98        act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2025.