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2 An act relating to sickle cell disease care management  
3 and treatment continuing education; amending s.  
4 456.0301, F.S.; revising requirements for a continuing  
5 education course on prescribing controlled substances  
6 which health care practitioners are required to  
7 complete; providing an effective date.  
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9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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11 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section  
12 456.0301, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 456.0301 Requirement for instruction on controlled  
14 substance prescribing.—

15 (1)(a) The appropriate board shall require each person  
16 registered with the United States Drug Enforcement  
17 Administration and authorized to prescribe controlled substances  
18 pursuant to 21 U.S.C. s. 822 to complete a board-approved 2-hour  
19 continuing education course on prescribing controlled substances  
20 offered by a statewide professional association of physicians in  
21 this state that is accredited to provide educational activities  
22 designated for the American Medical Association Physician's  
23 Recognition Award Category 1 Credit or the American Osteopathic  
24 Category 1-A continuing medical education credit as part of  
25 biennial license renewal. The course must include information on  
26 the current standards for prescribing controlled substances,  
27 particularly opiates; alternatives to these standards;  
28 nonpharmacological therapies; prescribing emergency opioid  
29 antagonists; ~~and~~ the risks of opioid addiction following all

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30 stages of treatment in the management of acute pain; and the  
31 treatment of pain for patients with sickle cell disease. The  
32 course may be offered in a distance learning format and must be  
33 included within the number of continuing education hours  
34 required by law. The department may not renew the license of any  
35 prescriber registered with the United States Drug Enforcement  
36 Administration to prescribe controlled substances who has failed  
37 to complete the course. The course must be completed by January  
38 31, 2019, and at each subsequent renewal. This paragraph does  
39 not apply to a licensee who is required by his or her applicable  
40 practice act to complete a minimum of 2 hours of continuing  
41 education on the safe and effective prescribing of controlled  
42 substances.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.