

## Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 988

An act relating to transitional services for young adults with disabilities; creating a health care transition services task force within the Department of Health; providing legislative intent; providing for membership, duties, and responsibilities of the task force; providing for reimbursement of members for expenses; requiring the task force to assess the need for health care transition services and provide a report to the Governor and the Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Health Care Transition Services Task Force for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities.—

(1) The Department of Health shall create a statewide Health Care Transition Services Task Force for Youth and Young Adults with Disabilities. It is the intent of the Legislature that the task force assess the need for health care transition services for youth with disabilities, develop strategies to ensure successful transition from the pediatric to the adult health care system, and identify existing and potential funding sources. The task force shall be composed of 14 members and shall have representatives from at least three geographic areas in the state, representing rural, suburban, and urban areas.

(2) The task force shall be composed of the following persons:

(a) The Deputy Secretary of Children's Medical Services within the Department of Health or his or her designee who shall be the chairperson of the task force.

(b) A representative from the children's health care medical community.

(c) A representative from the adult health care medical community.

(d) The director of the Agency for Persons with Disabilities or his or her designee.

(e) Two representatives of associations that advocate for persons who have chronic medical conditions or disabilities, such as the American Diabetes Association, the Sickle Cell Foundation, the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, United Cerebral Palsy, the Spina Bifida Association, or the Down Syndrome Association.

(f) Two young adults who have chronic health problems or developmental disabilities or a family member of such young adults.

(g) The deputy commissioner of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation within the Department of Education or his or her designee.

- (h) The Commissioner of Education or his or her designee.
- (i) The Secretary of Health Care Administration or his or her designee.
- (j) The Secretary of Children and Family Services or his or her designee.
- (k) A person appointed by the President of the Senate.
- (l) A person appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

(3) The Department of Health shall provide staff support to the task force. Task force members who are not public officers or employees shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses incurred as provided in s. 112.061, Florida Statutes, in carrying out their duties, which shall be paid by the Department of Health. Members who are public officers or employees shall be reimbursed by the budget entity through which they are compensated.

(4) The task force shall:

(a) Convene by August 31, 2008.

(b) Obtain input from key stakeholders, community stakeholders, public agencies, the medical practice community, and youth who have chronic special health care needs and disabilities and their families to assess the need for health care transition services and to identify barriers that impede access to comprehensive medical treatment and health care for youth and young adults who have chronic special health care needs and disabilities.

(c) Develop a statewide plan to promote the development of health care transition services. The plan should put forth different models that accommodate the geographic and cultural diversity in the state and that are adapted to the local needs of communities and to local health services delivery systems. Furthermore, the plan should promote the integration of health care transition services with transition programs for education, vocation, and independent living.

(d) Identify common or comparable performance measures for all entities that serve the needs for health care transition services of youth and young adults who have chronic special health care needs and disabilities.

(e) Collect and disseminate information concerning best practices in health care transition services for youth and young adults who have chronic special health care needs and disabilities.

(f) Identify existing and potential funding sources to create health care transition services within communities.

(5) The task force shall present a final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2009, and shall expire upon the submission of the report.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2008.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2008.