

CHAPTER 2025-182

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 954

An act relating to certified recovery residences; amending s. 397.487, F.S.; requiring, by a specified date, the governing body of each county or municipality to adopt an ordinance to establish procedures for the review and approval of certified recovery residences; requiring that such ordinance include a process for requesting reasonable accommodations from any local land use regulation that serves to prohibit the establishment of a certified recovery residence; specifying criteria for the ordinance; providing that the ordinance may establish additional requirements for the review and approval of reasonable accommodation requests; requiring that such additional requirements be consistent with federal law and not conflict with the act; prohibiting the ordinance from requiring public hearings beyond the minimum required by law; providing that the ordinance may include provisions for revocation of a granted accommodation for cause, if the accommodation is not reinstated within a specified timeframe; providing construction; amending s. 397.4871, F.S.; providing that the personnel-to-resident ratio for a certified recovery residence must be met only when the residents are at the residence; providing that a certified recovery residence administrator for Level IV certified recovery residences which maintains a specified personnel-to-patient ratio has a limitation on the number of residents it may manage; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (15) and (16) are added to section 397.487, Florida Statutes, to read:

397.487 Voluntary certification of recovery residences.—

(15)(a) By January 1, 2026, the governing body of each county or municipality shall adopt an ordinance establishing procedures for the review and approval of certified recovery residences within its jurisdiction. The ordinance must include a process for requesting reasonable accommodations from any local land use regulation that serves to prohibit the establishment of a certified recovery residence.

(b) At a minimum, the ordinance must:

1. Be consistent with the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, 42 U.S.C. ss. 3601 et seq., and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 12131 et seq.

2. Establish a written application process for requesting a reasonable accommodation for the establishment of a certified recovery residence, which application must be submitted to the appropriate local government office.

3. Require the local government to date-stamp each application upon receipt. If additional information is required, the local government must notify the applicant in writing within the first 30 days after receipt of the application and allow the applicant at least 30 days to respond.

4. Require the local government to issue a final written determination on the application within 60 days after receipt of a completed application. The determination must:

a. Approve the request in whole or in part, with or without conditions; or

b. Deny the request, stating with specificity the objective, evidence-based reasons for denial and identifying any deficiencies or actions necessary for reconsideration.

5. Provide that if a final written determination is not issued within 60 days after receipt of a completed application, the request is deemed approved unless the parties agree in writing to a reasonable extension of time.

6. Require that the application include, at a minimum:

a. The name and contact information of the applicant or the applicant's authorized representative;

b. The property address and parcel identification number; and

c. A description of the accommodation requested and the specific regulation or policy from which relief is sought.

(c) The ordinance may establish additional requirements for the review or approval of reasonable accommodation requests for establishing a certified recovery residence, provided such requirements are consistent with federal law and do not conflict with this subsection.

(d) The ordinance may not require public hearings beyond the minimum required by law to grant the requested accommodation.

(e) The ordinance may include provisions for the revocation of a granted accommodation of a certified recovery residence for cause, including, but not limited to, a violation of the conditions of approval or the lapse, revocation, or failure to maintain certification or licensure required under this section, if not reinstated within 180 days.

(f) The ordinance and establishment of a reasonable accommodation process does not relieve the local government from its obligations under the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, 42 U.S.C. ss. 3601 et seq., and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. ss. 12131 et seq. The

regulation for which the applicant is seeking a reasonable accommodation must not facially discriminate against or otherwise disparately impact the applicant.

(16) The application of this section does not supersede any current or future declaration or declaration of condominium adopted pursuant to chapter 718; any cooperative document adopted pursuant to chapter 719; or any declaration or declaration of covenant adopted pursuant to chapter 720.

Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section 397.4871, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

397.4871 Recovery residence administrator certification.—

(8)

(c) Notwithstanding paragraph (b), a Level IV certified recovery residence operating as community housing as defined in s. 397.311(9), which residence is actively managed by a certified recovery residence administrator approved for 100 residents under this section and is wholly owned or controlled by a licensed service provider, may:

1. Actively manage up to 150 residents so long as the licensed service provider maintains a service provider personnel-to-patient ratio of 1 to 8 and maintains onsite supervision at the residence during times when residents are at the residence 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, with a personnel-to-resident ratio of 1 to 10.

2. Actively manage up to 300 residents, so long as the licensed service provider maintains a service provider personnel-to-patient ratio of 1 to 8 and maintains onsite supervision at the residence during times when residents are at the residence with a personnel-to-resident ratio of 1 to 6.

A certified recovery residence administrator who has been removed by a certified recovery residence due to termination, resignation, or any other reason may not continue to actively manage more than 50 residents for another service provider or certified recovery residence without being approved by the credentialing entity.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.

Approved by the Governor June 25, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 25, 2025.