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AHCA Announces Passage of Transitional Living Facilities Bill (SB 682)

TALLAHASSEE - The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency) announced the passage of Senate bill 682 which consolidates the regulatory oversight and updates client protections for transitional living facilities (TLFs) that serve persons who have brain or spinal cord injuries.

“I want to thank Governor Scott for signing this important bill and for his commitment to ensuring residents in transitional living facilities receive quality care and services,” said Secretary Elizabeth Dudek. “I also want to thank Representative Magar and Senator Grimsley for their unwavering support of this bill and for their efforts to streamline oversight and protect the rights of these residents.”

The bill also updates requirements for admission criteria, client evaluations and treatment plans, background screening of facility employees, and enforcement for violations.

Representative MaryLynn Magar, who championed the bill in the House, shared her support, “This legislation was very important to my constituents and citizens across our state. SB 682 consolidates and coordinates the regulation of transitional living facilities which serve a vulnerable population – those impacted with severe brain and spinal-cord injuries. I am proud of improvements in this bill.”

Senator Denise Grimsley, the Agency’s legislative sponsor for the bill in the Senate, added, “The individuals in TLFs often require extraordinary care to deal with the traumatic injuries. By updating the regulatory framework, we have modernized regulations that allow TLFs to provide appropriate services, while consolidating oversight into a single state agency. These updates enable strong patient protections.”

TLFs provide services to persons with a spinal-cord-injury or head-injury. They specialize in rehabilitative services, community reentry training, aids for independent living, counseling, and other services. Individuals that reside in TLFs need significant care and services to regain their independence. There are currently 14 licensed TLFs in the state.

The Agency for Health Care Administration is committed to better health care for all Floridians. The Agency administers Florida’s Medicaid program, licenses and regulates more than 45,000 health care facilities and 34 health maintenance organizations, and publishes health care data and statistics at www.FloridaHealthFinder.gov. Additional information about Agency initiatives is available via [Facebook \(AHCAFlorida\)](#), [Twitter \(@AHCA_FL\)](#) and [YouTube \(/AHCAFlorida\)](#).

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