

2007 Session Health Care Issues at a Glance

Direct Access to Physical Therapy- FAILED

HB 1165 & SB 1992 **Relating to Physical Therapy** (Rep Zapata & Senator Justice)

Summary: Revises definitions; removes provision re physical therapy treatments needed beyond 21 days; prohibits unlicensed physical therapists from using letters "D.P.T." to represent themselves. Amends 486.021,.135.

HOUSE **Died** in Healthcare Council

PIP- FAILED

SB 1880 **Relating to Motor Vehicle Insurance** (Posey)

Summary: Requires DFS & Insurance Regulation Office to conduct comprehensive review of Fla. Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law; requires state attorneys in certain judicial circuits to provide information to department concerning violations of said law; abrogates repeal of Fla. Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law as provided for in that section; reenacts specified provisions re Fla. Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, & provides for future review, etc. Reenacts various ss. of Ch. 627. APPROPRIATION: \$3,214,278.

HOUSE **Died** on Calendar

HB 7215 **Relating to Insurance** (Bogdanoff)

Summary: Provides emergency care coverage benefits security requirements for certain motor vehicle owners or registrants; provides exemption for certain military personnel under certain circumstances; provides requirements for proof of required security; provides emergency care coverage requirements; specifies required benefits; provides requirements for payment of benefits; provides criteria for installment payment service charges, etc. Amends & Creates FS.

HOUSE **Died** on Calendar

Moratorium on Free Standing Emergency Departments- PASSED

SB 1758 **Relating to Hospitals/Off-premises Emergency Department** (5/04/07)

Sponsor: Senator **Peaden** (R)

Summary: The bill authorizes hospitals to operate off-premises emergency department; provides that all said departments operating as of certain date may continue to operate in accordance with criteria in effect at time of approval & that said department that has had architectural plans approved by certain date is subject to license criteria in effect at time of submission. Prohibits the licensing of additional emergency departments located off-premises of a licensed hospital until January 1, 2009, with exceptions. The off-premises ED must provide emergency services and care for any emergency medical condition that is within the service capability of the hospital seeking the license.

Amends 395.003.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2007.

Pharmacists & Flu Shots- PASSED

HB 543 Relating to Pharmacist Kevin Coit Memorial Act

(4/30/07)

Sponsor: Representative **Zapata** (R)

Summary: An act relating to immunization services. The bill authorizes pharmacists to administer influenza virus immunizations to adults within the framework of an established protocol under a supervisory Florida-licensed medical or osteopathic physician, or by written agreement with a county health department. Requires that pharmacists authorized to administer influenza virus immunizations provide evidence of current certification by Pharmacy Board to supervising physician; requires that a pharmacist may not enter into a protocol unless he or she maintains at least \$200,000 of professional liability insurance and has completed training in influenza immunizations; creates Task Force for Study of Biotech Competitiveness; provides for expiration of task force; provides staff support for the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development.

Amends 465.003. Creates 465.189.

EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2007.

Physician Workforce Data- PASSED

SB 770 Relating to Physician Workforce Assessment & Development

(5/04/07)

Sponsor: Senator **Atwater** (R)

Summary: The bill creates the Physician Workforce Assessment & Development Office within Health Access & Tobacco Division of Department of Health. Requires each allopathic & osteopathic physician in state to complete a survey concerning the physician's practice as a condition of license renewal; specifies information to be furnished to DOH in physician survey; provides for a non-disciplinary citation to be issued to a physician or osteopathic physician who fails to complete the required survey; requires the department to provide notice of the applicable penalty; creates Physician Workforce Advisory Council within DOH to assist department re physician workforce issues.

Creates 381.4018.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law.

Medical Malpractice Assessment Exemption- PASSED

SB 2498 Relating to Insurance

(5/04/07)

Sponsor: **Rudy Garcia** (R)

Summary: The bill makes changes to the Citizens Property Insurance Corporation ("Citizens") law, such as delaying the repeal of an exemption of medical malpractice insurance premiums from emergency assessments.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon becoming law except as otherwise provided.

Incentives for Physician E-Prescribing- PASSED

SB 1116 Relating to Health Care

(5/04/07)

Sponsor: **Durrell Peaden** (R)

Summary: The bill requires the Department of Health to waive the biennial license renewal fee for up to a specified number of allopathic or osteopathic physicians who implement electronic prescribing systems. Total appropriation: \$2.7 million.

Amends 409.911, .9112, .9113, .9117.
EFFECTIVE DATE: 07/01/2007.

Fabre Fix- Repeal of Joint & Several- FAILED

HB 0733 Relating to Apportionment of Damages (Needelman)

Summary: Provides findings & intent; requires division of total fault for occurrence only among claimant & those who may be held legally liable; deletes provisions providing for allocation of fault to nonparties. Amends 768.81.

HOUSE **Died** in Safety & Security Council

SB 1558 Relating to Comparative Fault/Apportionment of Damages (Ring)

Summary: Requires division of total fault for occurrence only among plaintiff, parties who may be held legally liable, & specified nonparties; provides for joinder of additional parties & allocation of fault to certain nonparties; provides legislative intent; provides for application. Amends 768.81.

SENATE **Died** in Committee on Commerce

Charges for Care to the Uninsured- FAILED

SB 1756 Relating to Health Care Provider/Patient Fees (Posey)

Summary: Requires that health care provider charge certain uninsured patients lowest fee for service that would be accepted if all or portion of payment were made by insurer. Amends 408.50.

SENATE **Died** in Committee on Health Regulation

Clinic Registration for Physicians- FAILED

SB 1882 Relating to Health Care Clinic Act/Licensure (Posey)

Summary: Clarifies certain types of sole proprietorships, group practices, partnerships, corporations, & other legal entities that are not subject to licensure requirements of act; requires certain persons having financial interest in clinic, or having control over certain activities re operations of clinic, to undergo background screening; authorizes AHCA to declare loss of exempt status under certain conditions, etc.

SENATE **Died** in Committee on Health and Human Services Appropriations