

**STORAGE NAME:** h3057.cjc  
**DATE:** March 31, 1998

**Florida House of Representatives  
Committee on Civil Justice & Claims  
Summary Claim Bill Reports**

**Bill #:** HB 3057  
**Sponsor(s):** Representative Ritter  
**Reference:** Civil Justice & Claims  
**Companion Bill(s):** SB 60 by Gutman

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**A. Basic Information**

1. **Claimant:** Jeannette Alonso
2. **Respondent:** Dade County
3. **Amount Requested:** \$3.8 Million
4. **Type of Claim:** EXCESS JUDGMENT / SETTLEMENT
5. **Respondent's Posture:** Dade County consents to the claim bill
6. **Collateral Sources:** \$100,000 from University of Miami
7. **Prior Legislative History:** None

**B. Procedural Summary:** A medical malpractice action was instituted against the Dade County Public Health Trust that operates Jackson Memorial Hospital for negligent treatment and diagnosis of the infant claimant. Prior to Trial the matter was settled and Dade County agreed to a judgment of \$4,000,000 of which the statutory cap of \$200,000 has been paid. A claim against the University of Miami was settled for \$100,000.

**B. Facts of the Case:** On September 13, 1990, two weeks after her birth, claimant Jeanette Alonso was admitted to Jackson Memorial Hospital's pediatric unit. At the time of admission claimant suffered flu-like symptoms of fever, cough, constipation, lethargy, and decreased appetite. After several days her condition deteriorated, she suffered seizures and respiratory disorders. As a result, claimant sustained extensive, irreversible brain damage. She is now seven years old, profoundly mentally handicapped, non-ambulatory, and has limited vision. She will require total care for the remainder of her life.

**SM:** \_\_\_\_\_ **LRD:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** March 7, 1998 **Richard**  
**Hixson** **Richard Hixson**