

SENATE BILL SUMMARY

Prepared by the Division of Legislative Information for the Senate Bill **AS ORIGINALLY FILED**. For more detail, see Senate Bill Analyses, if available, prepared by the Senate's professional committee staff.

SB 156

Insurance Fraud/Motor Vehicles/Specialty Clinics by Senator Garcia

Prohibits an owner or operator of a motor vehicle from recovering noneconomic damages if the owner or operator cannot establish that he or she maintained proof of financial responsibility for the vehicle at the time of the accident by one of the methods specified by state law. Provides legislative findings that additional regulation of specialty health care clinics is necessary to prevent significant fraudulent practices in the provision of infusion therapy services in this state. Requires specialty clinics to be subject to licensure requirements. Provides grounds for the denial of licensure and penalties for unlicensed operation. Creates a process whereby the agency receives, documents and processes complaints about specialty clinics. Requires the agency to refer to the Department of Financial Services, Office of Fiscal Integrity, any sworn affidavit asserting billing fraud by a specialty clinic. Allows the department to conduct unannounced reviews, investigations, analyses, and audits to investigate complaints of such billing fraud. Provides that all investigators designated by the Chief Financial Officer to perform duties regulating health care clinics and who are certified by the Criminal Justice Standards and Training Commission are law enforcement officers of the state. Designates the Florida Center for Nursing as the "Florida Barbara B. Lumpkin Center for Nursing". Reenacts and extends the repeal of the Florida Motor Vehicle No Fault Law until January 1, 2009. Provides appropriations. (See bill for details)