

CS/CS/HB 455 — Organ and Tissue Donation

by Policy and Budget Council; Healthcare Council; and Rep. Cretul and others (CS/CS/SB 1350 by Governmental Operations Committee; Health Policy Committee; and Senators Oelrich, Dockery, and Lynn)

The bill transfers responsibility for maintaining the organ and tissue donor registry from the Agency for Health Care Administration to the Florida Coalition on Donation, Inc., an existing private non-profit corporation established by Florida's certified organ procurement organizations. Costs to maintain the registry and for educational purposes aimed at increasing the number of organ and tissue donors are paid for by funds from the voluntary contribution of \$1 from driver's license applicants and operators of motor vehicles, mopeds, motorized bicycles, and mobile homes, collected by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

The bill designates the organ and tissue donor registry required to be maintained by the coalition as the "Joshua Abbott Organ and Tissue Donor Registry." The bill provides specific duties for the coalition including operating and maintaining the donor registry and developing and implementing, with the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, a coordinated program to allow individuals to make anatomical gifts. The bill requires the coalition to comply with Florida's Open Government laws.

The bill clarifies the criteria under which persons may make anatomical gifts and provides technical revisions to the Uniform Donor Card. The bill requires the agency to continue to maintain oversight and certification responsibilities regarding organ procurement organizations and to assess fees for this purpose. The bill renames the Florida Organ and Tissue Donor Education and Procurement Trust Fund as the Florida Organ and Tissue Procurement Trust Fund.

The bill appropriates \$607,000 in nonrecurring funds from the Florida Organ and Tissue Procurement Trust Fund to the Agency for Health Care Administration to contract with the Florida Coalition on Donation for the orderly transition of the organ donor registry.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 108-0

CS/CS/SB 2260 — State Surgeon General

by Governmental Operations Committee; Health Policy Committee; and Senator Peadar

The bill designates the head of the Department of Health as the State Surgeon General. The bill deletes references to the Secretary of Health, replacing them with the title "State Surgeon General." The State Surgeon General must serve as the leading voice on wellness and disease prevention efforts, including the promotion of healthful lifestyles, immunization practices, health literacy, and the assessment and promotion of the physician and health care workforce in order to

meet the health care needs of the state. The State Surgeon General must focus on advocating healthful lifestyles, developing public health policy, and building collaborative partnerships with schools, businesses, health care practitioners, community-based organizations, and public and private institutions in order to promote health literacy and optimum quality of life for all Floridians.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 112-0

CS/HB 1269 — Infant Mortality

by Healthcare Council and Rep. Reed and others (SB 2120 by Senators Joyner, Lawson, Bullard, Wilson, Crist, Dawson, and Hill)

The bill creates the black infant health practice initiative to identify factors that contribute to higher African-American infant mortality rates and to develop interventions to address these higher infant mortality rates.

The bill authorizes the Department of Health to distribute annual grants to local healthy start coalitions for participation in the initiative. The department must distribute at least two grants related to the initiative: one to a coalition that represents an urban county and one to a coalition that represents a rural county. These grants must be awarded based on the severity of the infant mortality rate in the coalition's service area.

The bill requires participating coalitions to use specific infant mortality data collection and review methodologies as developed by a public university or college with expertise in public health, and requires the department to annually evaluate and make recommendations to modify the initiative. All participating coalitions are required to produce a report of their findings and recommendations to the Governor, Legislature, and Secretary of Health by January 1, 2010.

The bill clarifies that the participating coalitions, their professional staff, and review team members are immune from civil liability pursuant to section 766.101, F.S.

The bill appropriates \$1 million in non-recurring general revenue funds to the Department of Health for FY 2007-2008 to implement provisions of the bill.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect on July 1, 2007.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 116-0

CS/SB 1732 — Primary Care Access Network

by Health and Human Services Appropriations Committee and Senators Webster, Fasano, and Crist

The bill creates two 1-year pilot programs to provide extended operating hours for the purpose of offering health care services at overcrowded clinics in the Primary Care Access Network

(PCAN) in Orange and Pasco counties and Manatee, Sarasota and DeSoto counties. The Agency for Health Care Administration is directed to develop procedures for operating the pilot program. The agency is required to submit an annual report on the successes and outcomes of the pilot program and recommendations on continuation, termination, or expansion of the program. The report must be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The bill makes an appropriation of \$3.5 million in nonrecurring funds from the General Revenue Fund to the agency for FY 2007-2008 to implement the pilot programs.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2007.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 117-0

CS/HB 1 — Drug-related Task Forces

by Safety and Security Council and Rep. Peterman (CS/SB 270 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senator Lynn)

The bill creates a nine member Drug Paraphernalia Abatement Task Force in the Executive Office of the Governor for the purpose of recommending strategies and actions for abating access to and the use and proliferation of drug paraphernalia. The bill specifies the membership and duties of the task force.

The Drug Paraphernalia Abatement Task Force must submit a preliminary draft report of its findings and recommendations at least 45 days before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature. The task force's final report must be filed with the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least 30 days before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session. The final report must include a draft of any proposed rules and proposed legislation that are relevant for any recommendations of the task force.

The bill creates a thirteen member Task Force for the Remediation of Illicit Drug Labs in the Executive Office of the Governor for the purpose of recommending strategies and actions for reducing or eliminating health risks from buildings in Florida where methamphetamine or other contraband has been illegally manufactured. The bill specifies the membership and duties of the task force.

The Task Force for the Remediation of Illicit Drug Labs must submit a preliminary draft report of its findings and recommendations at least 90 days before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session of the Legislature. The task force's final report must be filed with the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least 30 days before the first day of the 2008 Regular Session. The final report must include a draft of any proposed rules and proposed legislation that are relevant for any recommendations of the task force.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect upon becoming law.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House 110-0

CS/SM 1506 — State Children’s Health Insurance Program

by Health Policy Committee and Senators Peadar, Dockery, and Crist

The bill is a memorial to the Congress of the United States urging members of the Florida delegation to Congress to ensure that Congress reauthorizes the State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP) to continue to provide federal funding for the Florida Kidcare program. The memorial also:

- Urges the Governor to use his best efforts to work with the Florida congressional delegation to ensure that the SCHIP is timely reauthorized;
- Urges the Governor to use his best efforts to provide meaningful assistance to help identify and enroll children who qualify for Medicaid or the Florida Kidcare program; and
- Recognizes that all components of state government should work together with educators, health care providers, social workers, and parents to ensure all available public and private assistance for providing health benefits to uninsured children is used to the maximum extent possible.

Finally, the memorial requires that copies of this memorial be dispatched to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

Vote: Senate 39-0; House adopted by voice vote