

**Florida Academy of Family Physicians**

**2025 Legislative Session Update – Week 4 of 9**

March 28, 2025

The legislature worked on a parallel track this week to proceed with initial budget proposals and maintain a hectic schedule of substantive committee meetings. A flurry of bills, 381 to be exact, spanning the policy gamut moved through the legislative process--healthcare, transportation, education, legal affairs, environment and more--as bill sponsors and advocates push to ensure their proposals are considered before legislative committees cease meeting. On the budget front, the House and Senate released their proposed budgets after weeks of closely reviewing and analyzing current government spending. Additionally, Speaker Danny Perez presented a bold plan to reduce the state sales tax by .75%, the largest tax decrease in state history. In his comments accompanying this proposal, the Speaker candidly assessed the state government's size and growth and the need for systemic change. This proposal will directly impact the next few weeks of the legislative session as budget negotiations between the House and Senate officially commence.

**FAFP #1 Legislative Priority!**

**Support - Invalid Restrictive Covenants with Physicians -** [HB 485](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/485) by Rep. Kelly Skidmore (D-Delray Beach) and [SB 942](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/942) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) provide that certain restrictive covenants which prohibit physician from practicing medicine within specified area for certain period of time are void and unenforceable.

The following is a summary of the legislation being monitored by the FAFP

**Legislation of Interest (listed alphabetically)**

**Actions for Recovery of Damages for Wrongful Death** – [HB 6017](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/6017) by Rep. Dana Trabulsky (R-Fort Peirce), [SB 734](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/734) by Sen. Clay Yarborough (R-Jacksonville), and [SB 616](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/616) by Sen. Jonathan Martin (R-Fort Myers), delete a provision prohibiting the recovery of certain damages by specified parties related to the decedent in wrongful death proceedings.

HB 6017 passed the House 104-6 on Wednesday, 3/26 and is now in Senate messages.

SB 734 was approved by the Senate Rules Committee on Wednesday, 3/26 and now goes to the Senate floor.

**OPPOSE - Acupuncture** - [HB 803](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/803) by Rep. Jose Alvarez (D-Kissimmee) and [SB 1722](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1722) by Sen. Tom Wright (R-Port Orange) revise the licensure requirements for acupuncturists and broadens the definition of the practice of acupuncture.

HB 803 was approved by the House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/31.

**OPPOSE - Autonomous Practice by Certain Psychiatric Nurses** – [HB 883](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/883) by Rep. Jason Shoaf (R-Port St. Joe) and [SB 758](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/758) by Sen. Corey Simon (R-Tallahassee) authorize advanced practice registered nurses who are psychiatric nurses to engage in the autonomous practice.

HB 883 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

**OPPOSE - Autonomous Practice by a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist** – [HB 649](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/649) by Rep. Mike Giallombardo (R-Cape Coral) and [SB 718](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/718) by Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral) allow licensed advanced practice registered nurse anesthetists to practice autonomously.

HB 649 was approved by the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/24and will be heard on the House Special Order Calendar Thursday, 4/3.

**Child Abuse Investigations** – [HB 511](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/511) by Rep. Robin Bartleman (D-Weston) and [SB 304](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/304) by Sen. Barbara Sharief (D-Davie) create "Patterson's Law" and require child protective investigators to inform subjects of their investigations of the right to request specified examinations of the alleged victim and authorize an alleged perpetrator of child abuse to request that the alleged victim be examined by a licensed physician or APRN who did not perform the initial examination.

HB 511 was approved by the House Human Services Subcommittee on Tuesday, 3/25

SB 304 was approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, 3/25 and will be heard in the Senate Rules Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Children with Developmental Disabilities** – [HB 591](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/591) by Rep. Randy Maggard (R-Zephyrhills) and [SB 112](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/112) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) expand services and funding opportunities for children with autism spectrum disorder and other developmental disabilities. The bills aim to improve early intervention and school readiness including authorizing the Department of Health (DOH) to implement the Early Steps Extended Option allowing a child to remain in the Early Steps Program until the child’s 4th birthday.

HB 591 was approved by the House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27.

SB 112 passed the Senate 38-0 on Wednesday, 3/12 and is now in House messages.

**OPPOSE - Chiropractic Medicine** – [HB 849](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/849) by Rep. Chase Tramont (R-Port Orange) and [SB 564](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/564) by Sen. Joe Gruters (R-Sarasota) revise the definition of the term “practice of chiropractic medicine” to include the ordering, storing, possessing, prescribing, and administering of articles of natural origin under certain circumstances by certain chiropractic physicians, authorize pharmacists to fill the orders of such chiropractic physicians, and revise limitations on medical benefits in insurance policies providing personal injury protection.

**Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn** **Child** – [HB 1517](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1517) by Rep. Sam Greco (R-Palm Coast) and [SB 1284](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1284) by Sen. Erin Grall (R-Fort Pierce) prohibit a right of action against a mother for the wrongful death of her unborn child and authorize the parents of an unborn child to recover certain damages.

SB 1284 will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Collaborative Pharmacy Practice for Chronic Health Conditions** – [HB 689](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/689) by Rep. Rachel Saunders Plakon (R-Longwood) and [SB 294](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/294) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) revise the definition of the term “chronic health condition” to exclude specified heart conditions for purposes of collaborative pharmacy practice for chronic health conditions.

SB 294 passed the Senate 38-0 on Wednesday, 3/19 and is in House messages.

**Continuous Glucose Monitors** – [HB 1465](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1465) by Rep. Gallop Franklin (D-Tallahassee) and [SB 1182](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1182) by Sen Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) revise the definition of "continuous glucose monitor," and require the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) to provide coverage for continuous glucose monitors; provides requirements for such coverage & reimbursement.

HB 1465 was approved by the House Health Care Facilities and Systems Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27.

SB 1182 will be heard in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Coverage for Colorectal Cancer Screening and Diagnosis** – [HB 1335](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1335) by Rep. Karen Gonzalez Pittman (R-Tampa) and [SB 1542](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1542) by Sen. Jay Trumbull (R-Panama City) revise colorectal screening requirements for specified plans under Cover Florida Health Care Access Program, require certain health insurers to provide coverage for colorectal cancer screening tests, procedures, and examinations, and prohibit such policies and contracts from imposing any cost sharing for the coverage.

HB 1335 was approved by the House Health Care Facilities and Systems Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27.

**Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services** – [HB 651](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/651) by Rep. Kaylee Tuck (R-Sebring) and [SB 700](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/700) by Sen. Keith Truenow (R-Tavares) are comprehensive agriculture bills that includes a water quality provision that would prevent the use of certain additives (fluoride) in a water system which do not meet the definition of water quality additive or certain other additives is prohibited.

HB 651 was approved by the House Criminal Justice Subcommittee on Wednesday, 3/26 and will be heard in the House Agriculture and Natural Resources Budget Subcommittee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 700 was approved by the Senate Appropriation Committee on Agriculture, Environment, and General Government on Wednesday, 3/26.

**Department of Health** – [HB 1299](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1299) by Rep. Taylor Yarkosky (R-Clermont) and [SB 1270](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1270) by Sen. Jay Collins (R-Tampa) reinstate the definition of “messenger ribonucleic and vaccine” from repeal, expand the Patient Bill of Rights to prohibit discrimination based on vaccination status, require additional reporting of medical marijuana treatment centers and medical marijuana testing laboratories, revise eligibility criteria for licensure by endorsement under MOBILE Act, and repeal provisions related to specified advisory and coordinating councils, and boards.

HB 1299 was approved by the House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27.

SB 1270 will be heard in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Diabetes Early Detection Program** – [HB 723](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/723) by Rep. Allison Tant (D-Tallahassee) and [SB 958](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/958) by Sen. Mack Bernard (D-West Palm Beach) require the DOH in collaboration with school districts throughout state to develop informational materials for early detection of Type 1 diabetes for parents and guardians of students.

HB 723 was approved by the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/24 and now goes to the House floor.

SB 958 was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services on Wednesday, 3/26.

**Diabetes Management In Schools** – [HB 597](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/597) by Rep. Toby Overdorf (R-Stuart) and [SB 772](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/772) by Sen. Alexis Calatayud (R-Miami) authorize school districts or charter schools to annually request and acquire a supply of undesignated glucagon to treat students with diabetes who experience a hypoglycemic emergency or whose prescribed glucagon is not available on site or has expired.

SB 772 will be heard in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Electronic Prescribing** – [HB 1297](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1297) by Rep. Bil Partington (R-Daytona Beach) and [SB 1568](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1568) by Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Lake Mary) require health care practitioners to electronically transmit prescriptions with few exceptions.

HB 1297 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 1568 was approved by the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 3/25.

**Employment Agreements** – [HB 1219](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1219) by Rep. Traci Koster (R-Safety Harbor) and [SB 922](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/922) by Sen. Tom Leek (R-St. Augustine) create “The Florida Trade Secret Protection Act.” The bills provide that certain covered garden leave agreements are not a restraint of trade or an attempt to monopolize trade or commerce. The bill does not apply to medical professionals.

SB 922 will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Evidence of Damages to Prove Medical Expenses in Personal Injury or Wrongful Death** **Actions** – [HB 947](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/947) by Rep. Omar Blanco (R-Miami) and [SB 1520](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1520) by Sen. Erin Grall (R-Fort Pierce) provide for evidence that is admissible to demonstrate past and future medical expenses in personal injury and wrongful death actions.

HB 947 was approved by the House Judiciary Committee on Wednesday, 3/26 and will be heard on the House Special Order Calendar on Thursday, 4/3.

**Florida Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases** – [HB 907](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/907) by Rep. Adam Anderson (R-Tarpon Springs) and [SB 1356](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1356) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) establish the Florida Institute for Pediatric Rare Diseases within FSU College of Medicine, provide goals of institute, and establish the Sunshine Genetics Pilot Program and Sunshine Genetics Consortium. There is a $25,000,000 attached to the bill.

HB 907 was approved by the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/24.

SB 1356 was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services on Wednesday, 3/26.

**Health Care Practitioner Identification** – [HB 1341](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1341) by Rep. Karen Gonzalez Pittman (R-Tampa) and [SB 172](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/172) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) prohibit the use of specified titles and designations by health care practitioners not licensed as physicians.

SB 172 was approved by the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 3/25 and will be heard in the Senate Rules Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Health Coverage by Nonprofit Agricultural Organizations** – [HB 497](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/497) by Rep. J.J. Grow (R-Inverness) and [SB 480](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/480) by Sen. Nick DiCeglie (R-St. Petersburg) authorize nonprofit agricultural organizations to offer health coverage to their members and provides that such health coverage is not insurance for purposes of Florida Insurance Code.

HB 497 will be heard in the House Commerce Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 480 was approved by the Senate Rules Committee on Wednesday, 3/26 and now goes to the Senate floor.

**Health Insurance Coverage for Individuals with Developmental Disabilities** – [HB 377](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/377) by Rep. Allison Tant (D-Tallahassee) and [SB 756](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/756) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) revise the definition of term "autism spectrum disorder" to have the same meaning as defined in the most recent edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders of the American Psychiatric Association. The bills also revise the definition of term "eligible individual" to mean person of any age who has been diagnosed as having developmental disability, thus removing any age restrictions.

**Insurance Claims Payments to Physicians** – [HB 1231](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1231) by Rep. Dean Black (R-Jacksonville) and [SB 1526](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1526) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) prohibit contracts between certain physicians and health insurers from specifying credit card payments to physicians as the only acceptable method for payments, authorize the use of electronic funds transfers by health insurers and HMOs for payments to physicians, prohibit health insurers from charging fees for automated clearinghouse transfers as claims payments to physicians, and prohibit health insurers and HMOs from denying claims subsequently submitted by physicians for procedures that were included in prior authorizations.

**Motor Vehicle Insurance** – [HB 1181](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1181) by Rep. Alvarez and [SB 1256](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1256) by Sen. Erin Grall (R-Fort Pierce) repeal provisions relating to the application of the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law.

HB 1181 was approved by the House Civil Justice and Claims Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27.

**OPPOSE - Naturopathic Medicine** – [HB 533](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/533) by Rep. David Smith (R-Winter Springs) and [SB 470](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/470) by Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral) redesignate the title of ch. 462, F.S., from “Naturopathy” to “Naturopathic Medicine,” create the Board of Naturopathic Medicine within DOH, and provide for the licensure of naturopathic physicians.

**Newborn Screenings** – [HB 1089](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1089) by Rep. Erika Booth (R-Orlando) and [SB 524](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/524) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) require the Department of Health’s rules on newborn screening to include screening for Duchenne muscular dystrophy beginning January 1, 2027.

SB 524 was approved by the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 3/25.

**OPPOSE - Optometry** - [HB 449](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/449) by Rep. Alex Rizo (R-Hialeah) allows the board to establish a negative drug formulary of ocular agents that may not be prescribed or administered by an optometrist, authorizes an optometrist certified in ophthalmic procedures to perform certain procedures, prohibits a commercial or mercantile establishment from having any control over the manner in which a licensee practices optometry, removes a provision prohibiting surgery of any kind, authorizes specified titles and abbreviations for certified optometrists, and provides requirements for demonstration of financial responsibility as term of licensure.

**Out-of-network Providers** – [HB 1101](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1101) by Rep. Jon Albert (R-Winter Haven) and [SB 1842](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1842) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) require a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing upon referring the patient to certain providers, and require certain health insurers to apply payments for services provided by nonpreferred providers toward insureds’ deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums if specified conditions are met.

HB 1101 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 1842 was approved by the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 3/25.

**Parental Rights** - [HB 1505](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1505) by Rep. Rachel Saunders Plakon (R-Longwood) and [SB 1288](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1288) by Sen. Erin Grall (R-Fort Pierce) delete exceptions for certain parental rights, create the parental right to review and consent to a survey or questionnaire provided to his or her minor child, revise exceptions for specified requirements of parental consent, prohibit the use of a biofeedback device on a minor child without written permission from the minor child’s parent or guardian, and define the term “biofeedback device.”

HB 1505 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 1288 was approved by the Senate Education Pre-K-12 Committee on Tuesday, 3/25 and will be heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Parkinson's Disease Research Funding** – [HB 1545](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1545) by Rep. Demi Busatta (R-Coral Gables) and [SB 1800](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1800) by Sen. Alexis Calatayud (R-Miami) establish the Parkinson's Disease Research Program and require DOH to establish the Parkinson's Disease Research Advisory Board. [HB 1547](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1547) by Rep. Busatta and [SB 1802](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1802) by Sen. Calatayud provide public records exemptions for the information held in the Parkinson’s Disease Research Program Registry.

HB 1545 was approved by the House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/31.

SB 1800 will be heard in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**Patient Access to Records** – [HB 1083](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1083) by Rep. Erika Booth (R-Orlando) and [SB 1606](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1606) by Sen. Erin Grall (R-Fort Pierce) require certain licensed facilities and health care practitioners to furnish and provide access to records and reports within specified timeframes after receiving request for such records.

HB 1083 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 1606 was voted down on a tie vote in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 3/25. The bill will be reconsidered and has been placed back on the Senate Health Policy Committee agenda on Tuesday 4/1.

**Physician Assistant and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Services** – [HB 647](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/647) by Rep. Dana Trabulsky (R-Fort Pierce) and [SB 998](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/998) by Sen. Alexis Calatayud (R-Miami) authorize physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses under a physician protocol to provide specified care to hospice patients.

HB 647 was approved by the House Health Professions and Programs Subcommittee on Thursday, 3/27. SB 998 will be heard in the Senate Health Policy Committee on Tuesday, 4/1.

**OPPOSE - Physician Assistants** – [SB 1540](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1540) by Sen. Jay Collins (R-Tampa) allows a physician assistant to practice without physician supervision.

**OPPOSE - Prescriptive Authority Certification for Psychologists** – [HB 23](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/23) by Rep. Gallop Franklin (D-Tallahassee) and [SB 250](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/250) by Sen. Corey Simon (R-Tallahassee) allow psychologists to prescribe medicine if they meet specified criteria.

**Prohibitions and Limitations on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Requirements for Medical Institutions of Higher Education** – [HB 731](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/731) by Rep. Lauren Melo (R-Naples) and [SB 1710](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1710) by Sen. Nick DiCeglie (R-St. Petersburg) prohibit state agencies from expending certain funds for diversity, equity, and inclusion offices or officers, authorize the Attorney General to file suit for writ of mandamus compelling the state agency to comply, prohibit a person from being excluded on examining or licensing board based on the grounds of race, color, ethnicity, gender, or sex, prohibits examining or licensing board from establishing or effectuating race-based policies, including affirmative action, create a private cause of action, requires health care providers and medical institutions of higher education to provide specified certification to their governing boards, require the Florida Board of Medical Examiners to publish on its website list of providers and institutions that provide such certification, prohibits health care-related professional licensing boards from certain actions relating to diversity, equity, and inclusion, requires medical institutions of higher education to provide letter grade-based assessments for required courses, and require specified standardized test for admission to medical institutions of higher education.

HB 731 was approved by the House Government Operations Subcommittee on Tuesday, 3/25

Update: HB 731 was amended to require medical institutions of higher education within the State University System to implement a standardized admissions test as a condition for entry into a health care-related degree program, certification program, or training. The test must evaluate applicants’ knowledge of, and critical thinking skills for, science and medical training.

**Rural Communities** – [HB 1427](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1427) by Rep. Griff Griffits (R-Panama City) and [SB 110](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/110) by Sen. Corey Simon (R-Tallahassee) require the state land planning agency to give preference for technical assistance funding to local governments located in a rural area of opportunity, authorize eligible counties to receive a distribution of sales and use tax revenue, The bills also create the Rural Access to Primary and Preventative Care Grant Program within the DOH to provide incentive funding for primary care physicians, physician assistants, and autonomous Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to open new practice locations in rural and underserved areas of the state. The bills have an appropriation of $197,343,293.

HB 1427 was approved by the House Commerce Committee on Monday, 3/24.

SB 110 passed the Senate 39-0 on Wednesday, 3/19 and is in House messages.

**OPPOSE - Sickle Cell Care Management and Treatment Education** – [HB 333](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/333) by Rep. Felicia Simone Robinson (D-Miami Gardens) and [SB 522](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/522) by Sen. Darryl Rouson (D-St. Petersburg) require physicians and nurses to complete a 2 hour continuing education course on sickle cell disease care management as part of the initial licensure or certification renewal.

**Spectrum Alert** – [HB 711](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/711) by Rep. David Borrero (R-Doral) and [SB 500](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/500) by Sen. Bryan Avila (R-Hialeah Gardens) require the Department of Law Enforcement, in cooperation with the Department of Transportation, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the Department of the Lottery, and local law enforcement agencies, to establish and implement the Spectrum Alert for missing children with autism spectrum disorder which is compatible with existing alert systems.

HB 711 will be heard in the House Health and Human Services Committee on Monday, 3/31.

SB 500 was approved by the Senate Criminal Justice Committee on Tuesday, 3/25.

**SUPPORT - Step-therapy Protocols** – [HB 721](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/721) by Rep. Karen Gonzalez Pittman (R-Tampa) and [SB 264](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/264) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) require AHCA to remove certain step therapy requirements for prescription drugs used to treat individuals with serious mental illness.

**Veterans** – [HB 1043](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1043) by Rep. Rachel Saunders Plakon (R-Longwood) and [SB 116](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/116) by Sen. Danny Burgess (R-Zephyrhills) require the Department of Veterans’ Affairs to conduct a study that includes a survey evaluating awareness of certain existing programs or services, require the department to ensure coordination to the greatest extent possible with the United States Department of Defense, revise the purpose of the Veteran Suicide Prevention Training Pilot Program to include specialized mental health training, and require the Department of Veterans’ Affairs to develop a plan to establish adult day health care facilities across this state to serve veterans and their families.

SB 116 passed the Senate 39-0 on Wednesday, 3/19 and is now in House messages.

**Voluntary Nonopioid Advance Directive Forms** – [HB 1081](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/1081) by Rep. Randy Maggard (R-Zephyrhills) and [SB 714](https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2025/714) by Sen. Colleen Burton (R-Winter Haven) require health care facilities to create a voluntary nonopioid advanced directive form, authorize individuals to revoke the form for any reason by specified means, and provide immunity from civil and criminal liability for health care practitioners.