



**Florida Academy of Family Physicians  
2022 Legislative Session  
March 14, 2022 – Week 9 – Final Report**

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The 1970's band, The Chairmen of the Board, released a song titled, *Give Me Just A Little More Time*. And that's what the Florida Legislature needed this year to complete its work. On Friday, the scheduled date for the session to adjourn, legislators wrapped up their policy work, but they needed *just a little more time* to finish their work on the budget. The Florida Constitution mandates a 72-hour cooling off period between when the budget is published and its final approval. That deadline expired on Sunday. The legislature returned today, adopted the \$112 billion budget, the largest in state history and adjourned "sine die" at 1:03pm. A final report specific to issues important to family medicine is forthcoming, but the overview is provided below.

**2022 Doctor of the Day Program**



Rounding out the 2022 legislative session for FAFP Doctors of the Day was FAFP Board member and Government Relations Committee Chair Dr. Michael Swartzon (top left), sponsored by Rep. Tom Fabricio who served on Tuesday March 8. FAFP President Elect Dr. Christy Cavanagh, pictured far right with sponsor Rep. Jenna Persons and Lee Health family medicine resident Dr. Shane Geffe, served the following day on Wednesday March 9. The FAFP wishes to thank all twelve members who dedicated their personal time to serve as Doctor of the Day in 2022 thus ensuring family medicine was well represented throughout the nine week session. Anyone interested in serving in future years should contact Jay Millson at [jmillson@fafp.org](mailto:jmillson@fafp.org).

## **Bills Approved by the Legislature** *(alphabetically)* \*Denotes FAFP Priorities

### **Abortion Rights | MONITOR**

[HB 5](#) by Rep. Erin Grall (R-Vero Beach) prohibits physicians from performing an abortion if the gestational age of fetus is determined to be more than 15 weeks. The bill also requires certain physician and directors of certain medical facilities to submit a monthly report to the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) regarding the number of abortions performed. Lastly, it requires the Department of Health (DOH) to contract with local healthy start coalitions to create fetal and infant mortality review committees.

*HB 5 was approved by the Legislature on 3/4/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it would take effect 7/1/22.*

### **Administration of Vaccines | MONITOR**

[HB 1209](#) Rep. Kaylee Tuck (R-Sebring) authorizes certified pharmacists and registered pharmacy technicians to administer specified vaccines. The bill also revises immunizations or vaccines certified pharmacists, registered interns, and registered pharmacy technicians may administer to adults and amend the continuing education requirements for registered pharmacy technicians. This bill does not expand the ability of pharmacists to administer vaccines to children. Lastly, the bill allows the Board of Pharmacy may authorize by rule staffing ratios for registered pharmacy technician to administer immunizations or vaccines.

*HB 1209 was approved by the Legislature on 3/11/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

### **COVID-19-Related Claims Against Health Care Providers | SUPPORT**

[SB 7014](#) by the Senate Judiciary Committee extends the duration of the liability protections provided to health care providers against COVID-19-related claims from March 29, 2022, to June 1, 2023.

*The Governor signed HB 7014 into law on 2/24/22 and it took effective immediately.*

### **\*Emergency Medical Care & Treatment of Minors - Parental Consent | SUPPORT**

[HB 817](#) by Rep. Ralph Massullo (R-Lecanto) allows physicians to render emergency medical care without parental consent.

*HB 817 was approved by the Legislature 3/2/22 and it will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect on 7/1/22.*

### **Department of Health | MONITOR**

[SB 768](#) by Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral) updates the Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women Act (TOPWA) Program to account for medication options, information on HIV, and mental health issues that may lead to a high-risk pregnancy. The bill also requires medical marijuana treatment centers (MMTCs) to recall marijuana not meeting safety and potency requirements and authorize DOH to test samples from MMTCs. Further, the bill authorizes DOH to deny a nursing application or discipline a nurse under certain circumstances; revises education, training, and temporary certification requirement for midwives; revises educational requirements for psychologists applying for licensure by endorsement; allows DOH to continue issuing marriage and family therapy licensed until July 1, 2026; and, requires allopathic and osteopathic physicians to provide proof of payment of NICA assessments as a condition of licensure. Lastly, the bill designates DOH, rather than CMS, as the lead coordinator of local health care providers in developing a plan for staffing and medical management of pediatric special needs shelters.

The bill was amended late in session with two provisions. One increases the number of members on the Rare Disease Advisory Council. Another provision enacts an information sharing agreement with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to monitor compounded drug products. It requires, annually, and within 90 days after the beginning of the calendar year, all licensees shipping compounded human drug products interstate to report to the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy Information-Sharing Network (NABPISN) the information required by the Memorandum of Understanding Addressing Certain Distributions of Compounded Human Drug Products between the department and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration

*SB 768 was approved by the Legislature on 3/10/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

### **Managed Care Plan Performance | SUPPORT**

[HB 855](#) by Rep. Robin Bartelman (D-Weston) changes the data collected by health plans in the Managed Medical Assistance (MMA) program. Currently, plans must collect and report to AHCA certain performance measures from the Adult and Child Core Sets developed by Centers for Medicaid and Medicare (CMS). The bill requires MMA plans, beginning in calendar year 2025, to collect and report all of the Adult Core Set behavioral health measures not currently required by AHCA. Beginning in 2026, the plans must stratify all performance measure data by recipient age, race, ethnicity, primary language, sex, and disability status.

*HB 855 was approved by the Legislature on 3/9/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

### **\*Medical Education Reimbursement and Loan Repayment Program | SUPPORT**

[HB 657](#) by Rep. Kamia Brown (D-Ocoee) and [SB 1422](#) by Sen. Shevrin Jones (D-Miami Gardens) did not receive a hearing this session; however, the Legislature funded the program at \$6,390,501 for FY 2022-23 in its [conference report](#) for HB 5001. The statute for this program can be found [here](#).

*HB 5001 was approved on 3/14/22 and will now head to the Governor. The Governor has line item veto authority on the budget. If approved, the funding provision would take effect 7/1/22.*

### **Newborn Screening | MONITOR**

[SB 292](#) by Sen. Tina Polsky (D-Boca Raton) requires a hospital or other state-licensed birthing facility to administer a test on a newborn to screen for congenital CMV should the newborn fail his or her screening for hearing loss. The test must be administered before the newborn becomes 21 days of age or before discharge, whichever is earlier. The bill also requires licensed birth centers and the health care provider in attendance for at-home births to refer newborns for hearing screenings within 7 days after discharge. If a provider is not in attendance for an at-home birth, the primary care physician must refer the newborn for a hearing screening. If the child fails the screening, their primary health care provider must refer them for congenital CMV testing. Lastly, the bill requires the results of a newborn hearing screening and congenital CMV and any related diagnostic testing to be reported to DOH within 7 days after receipt of such results.

*SB 292 was approved by the Legislature on 3/9/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 1/1/23.*

### **Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program | MONITOR**

[SB 1950](#) by Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Lake Mary) amends the Statewide Medicaid Managed Care Program (SMMC). The current managed care contracts under the SMMC are scheduled to expire December 2024. The Agency for Health Care Administration will conduct a procurement in 2022-23 for new contracts that commence at the end of 2024.

*SB 1950 was approved by the Legislature on 3/11/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

**Step-therapy Protocols | SUPPORT**

[HB 459](#) by Rep. Matt Willhite (D-Wellington) requires health insurers to publish on their websites and provide to their insureds with step-therapy protocol exemption procedures.

*HB 459 was approved by the Legislature on 3/8/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

**\*Telehealth Expansion |**

[SB 312](#) by Sen. Manny Diaz (R-Hialeah) allows a telehealth provider to issue a renewal prescription for a Schedule III, IV or V controlled substance through telehealth, within the scope of their practice.

*SB 312 was approved by the Legislature on 3/11/22 and will now head to the Governor. If approved, it will take effect 7/1/22.*

**Bills Not Approved by the Legislature (alphabetically)**

**ARNPs Autonomous Practice | OPPOSE**

[SB 1686](#) by Sen. Anna Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral)

**Clinician-Administered Drugs | SUPPORT**

[SB 748](#) by Sen. Manny Diaz (R-Hialeah)

**Collaborative Practice in Health Care | OPPOSE**

[SB 986](#) by Sen. Manny Diaz (R-Hialeah) and [HB 437](#) by Rep. Bob Rommel (R-Naples)

**Electrocardiograms for Student Athletes | OPPOSE**

[HB 59](#) by Rep. Fred Hawkins (R-St. Cloud) and [SB 1590](#) by Sen. Dennis Baxley (R-Lady Lake)

**Florida Birth-Related Neurological Injury Compensation Fund | SUPPORT**

[SB 1050](#) by Sen. Lauren Book (D-Plantation)

**Free Speech of Health Care Practitioners | MONITOR**

[HB 687](#) by Rep. Brad Drake (R-Defuniak Springs) and [SB 1184](#) by Sen. Doug Broxson (R-Pensacola)

**Health Care Cost Savings | SUPPORT**

[HB 1325](#) by Rep. Juan Fernandez-Barquin (R-Miami) and [SB 252](#) by Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Sanford)

**Health Insurance Prior Authorization | SUPPORT**

[HB 564](#) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) and [HB 633](#) by Rep. Allison Tant (D-Tallahassee)

**Impaired Practitioner Program | SUPPORT**

[SB 1946](#) by Sen. Aaron Bean (R-Jacksonville)

**In-Hospital Medical Staff Committees/Public Records | SUPPORT**

[HB 869](#) by Rep. Alex Rizo (Hialeah) and [SB 1350](#) by Sen. Manny Diaz (Hialeah Gardens)

**Invalid Restrictive Covenants in Health Care | SUPPORT**

[SB 842](#) by Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Lake Mary) and [HB 1449](#) by Rep. Kaylee Tuck (R-Sebring)

**Medicaid Modernization | SUPPORT**

[SB 330](#) by Sen. Jason Brodeur (R-Lake Mary)

**Medical Specialty Designations | MONITOR**

[HB 861](#) by Rep. Ralph Massullo (R-Lecanto) and [SB 1192](#) by Sen. Anna Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral)

**Overpayment of Claims | SUPPORT**

[SB 440](#) by Sen. Gayle Harrell (R-Stuart) and [HB 805](#) by Rep. David Smith (R-Winter Springs)

**Patient Specific Prescription Drug Coverage Transparency | OPPOSE**

[HB 947](#) by Rep. Alex Andrade (R-Pensacola) and [SB 1290](#) by Sen. Joe Gruters (R-Sarasota)

**PIP Repeal | MONITOR**

[HB 1525](#) by Rep. Erin Grall (R-Vero Beach) and [SB 150](#) by Sen. Danny Burgess (R-Zephyrhills)

**Prescription Drug Formularies | SUPPORT**

[SB 1100](#) by Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral)

**Protections of Medical Conscience | MONITOR**

[HB 747](#) by Rep. John Snyder (R-Stuart) and [SB 1820](#) by Sen. Dennis Baxley (R-Lady Lake)

**Psychologist Prescribing | OPPOSE**

[HB 319](#) by Rep. Ramon Alexander (D-Tallahassee) and [SB 540](#) by Sen. Jeff Brandes (R-St. Petersburg)

**Recovery of Damages in Medical Negligence Claims | OPPOSE**

[HB 6011](#) by Rep. Spencer Roach (R-North Fort Myers) and [SB 262](#) by Sen. Ana Maria Rodriguez (R-Doral)

**Telehealth Payment | SUPPORT**

[SB 726](#) by Sen. Loranne Ausley (D-Tallahassee) and [HB 1087](#) by Rep. Anthony Rodriguez (R-Miami)