



AMERICAN COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS
INTERNAL MEDICINE | *Doctors for Adults*

FLORIDA CHAPTER

**Florida Chapter ACP, Inc.
Tallahassee Update
March 17, 2008**

The continuing fiscal crisis stalled most bills last week, although the Chapter's #1 priority, the Managed Care Bill (HB 405 and SB 1012) did pass the Senate Commerce Committee. The Bill now must pass the House Health Care Council and Policy and Budget Council, as well as the Senate Health Policy and General Government Appropriations Committees, before proceeding to the respective chamber floors.

More bills will be heard this week. From the Chapter's perspective, none is more important than HB 1011, the Controlled Substance Database bill, which the Chapter has worked on for several years. This bill would provide a mechanism for physicians to determine if patients were "doctor shopping" and receiving inappropriate amounts of controlled substances from various physicians. The bills will be heard in Health Policy on Tuesday morning, after which the Health Care Council will address the health care funding crisis. Also of interest will be Wednesday's Health Regulation Committee in which the first part of the Governor's ambitious health care plan, the dental access portion, receives its first airing in a legislative committee.

Although the Managed Care Bill is not on this week's agenda, we will continue to actively lobby it, as well as, the need for adequate Medicaid funding and end to scope of practice expansions.

Chapter members with legislative issues or questions may contact our lobbyist, Christopher L. Nuland, via e-mail at nulandlaw@aol.com. Thank you.