



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

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Florida Chapter ACP, Inc.
Legislative Session Update
April 18, 2008

~IT AIN'T OVER TILL IT'S OVER~

Despite having only two weeks left in the Legislative Session, members of both the House and Senate continue to scramble to push initiatives through committees that have vowed not to meet again.

For instance, the Drug Pedigree Bill, designed to correct "glitches" in how prescription drugs are distributed, as passed the House, but must still pass the Senate Judiciary and Health and Human Services Appropriations Committees. In a rare accommodation, both committees are scheduled to hear the bill next week. Likewise, the Controlled Substance Database Bill, bottled up in the House, has nevertheless continued in the Senate, where it also is scheduled for two hearings next week. In the House, the Policy and Budget Council will meet again Monday despite having previously indicated that no further bills would be discussed; as a result, several "dead" bills have new life.

Finally, Representative Grimsley's Electronic Health Record bill (HB 637) passed the House and goes to the Senate, where it will meet up with its Senate companion (SB 1998), which passed the Banking and Insurance Committee and is scheduled to be heard Tuesday in Government Operations.

Meanwhile, the Managed Care Reform Bill has progressed this week, passing the House Policy and Budget Council and being placed on the Senate's Special Order Calendar next Wednesday. We met with the FMA, Blue Cross, and Representative Galvano, and prospects for this bill now appear promising.

The next two weeks promise to be a circus, but we continue to keep you informed on events in each of the three rings.

As always, thanks to those members who continue to support the Chapter's efforts by contacting their legislators in support of the Chapter's legislative agenda.

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