



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

FLORIDA CHAPTER

Florida Chapter ACP, Inc.
Legislative Session Update
April 1, 2008

THE WORK IS PAYING OFF

After weeks of inactivity on substantive bills, both the House and Senate finally addressed several of Medicine's key bills over the last ten days, the chief among these being the passage of the Managed Care Reform Bill by both the Senate Health Regulation and Health Policy Committees. Despite a seemingly impossible five Senate references, the bill now must only be passed or withdrawn from Appropriations in order to proceed to the floor. The House companion is awaiting action in the House Health Council.

Years of work on controlled substance websites yielded results, as the Senate Health Regulation combined and approved two bills to address this vital patient care/prescription abuse issue. The Committee also passed a Drug Pedigree law that should keep all prescription drugs out of the hands of those not licensed to prescribe them.

At this point in time, "scope" bills appear to be facing a dim future, as neither the House nor Senate has addressed such issues. Unfortunately, meaningful tort reform also appears to face dim prospects, as the Emergency Services Sovereign Immunity Bill was tabled this week over our objections.

Special thanks go to ACP Governor Kay M. Mitchell, M.D., FACP; and residents Noelle Barrera, D.O., Ricardo Garcia, M.D., and Lior Shamai, D.O., MPH, who participated in both House and Senate committee meetings, and met with their district legislators on March 25 & 26.

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

Thanks to everybody who has been working so hard this Session.