



Florida Chapter Advocate E-News



Michelle L. Rossi, MD FACP, President/Governor * John G. Langdon, MD FACP, Governor

March 9, 2015

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Legislative Update March 9, 2015

First Week of Session - March 3-6, 2015
Christopher L. Nuland, Esq.
General Counsel

The 2015 Legislative Session began on Tuesday, March 3rd with the traditional State of the State speech by Governor Rick Scott. Instead of a full day of pleasantries, however, the House of Representatives immediately began its business in earnest, with the House Health Appropriations Committee quickly passing HB 411, which should better enable nursing homes to administer pneumonia vaccines. Later that same afternoon, the House Innovation Committee heard testimony on Direct Primary Care bill and opted to introduce it as HB 7047 later that day.

On Wednesday, March 4th it was a day of immense activity, with the Senate Banking and Insurance Committee unanimously passing Senator Don Gaetz Step Therapy Bill (SB 784), while the House Health Quality Committee was passing the Needle Exchange Pilot Program (HB 475), Increased Authority for the Surgeon General to Respond to Public Health Threats (HB 497), and Reauthorization of the State's Pain Clinic Law (HB 4017).

Major issues will be heard during the week of March 9th on Tuesday morning the House Insurance and Banking Committee likely will debate HB 681, which would prevent emergency providers from balance billing patients. This bill will jeopardize the availability of on-call providers and inadequately compensate those who do accept such responsibilities. Any physician who would like to testify is urged to contact me, and we can get you on the schedule.

Also on Tuesday, the Senate Health Policy Committee will consider the Senate version of the Epidemic Response Bill (SB 950), as well as legislation to provide sovereign immunity to those providers serving the State.

Special thanks go out to Florida Chapter ACP Delegation led by Governor-Elect Designee Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP, and resident Shivan Shah MD who took time away from their busy schedules to participate in the Chapter's Health Policy/Advocacy Program at the Capitol. Thank you for your service to your Chapter, your profession, and your patients.

Should you have any questions regarding specific legislation please contact me at nulandlaw@aol.com.



Shivan Shah, MD, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP, and Jason M. Goldman, MD ACP

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MEMBERS IN ACTION

Representative Kevin Radar



Christopher L. Nuland, Esq, Dawn Moerings, Shivan Shah, MD, Representative Kevin Radar, Jason Goldman, MD FACP, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Senator Jeremy Ring



Dawn Moerings, Shivan Shah, MD, Senator Jeremy Ring, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Representative Lori Berman



Dawn Moerings, Shivan Shah, MD, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Representative Lori Berman, Christopher L. Nuland, Esq, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Representative Mark Pafford



Shivan Shah, MD, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Representative Mark Pafford, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Representative Jared Evan Moskowitz



Dawn Moerings, Shivan Shah, MD, Representative Jared Evan Moskowitz, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Representative Ronald Renuart



Dawn Moerings, Shivan Shah, MD, Representative Ron Renuart, MD FACP, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP

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Senator Anitere Flores



Shivan Shah, MD, Senator Anitere Flores, Himangi Kaushal, MD FACP, Jason M. Goldman, MD FACP, Dawn Moerings

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