

2014 LEGISLATIVE SCORECARD

**A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT ON FHCA'S LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES
AND LAWMAKERS' SUPPORT OF LONG TERM CARE ISSUES**



Florida
Health Care
Association



Florida Health Care Association (FHCA)
is **Florida's first and largest advocacy
organization** for long term care providers
and the elderly they serve. We are a
federation which **represents nearly 1,000
members** and **over 500 facilities** that
provide skilled nursing, post-acute and
sub-acute care, short-term rehab, assisted
living and other services to the frail elderly
and individuals with disabilities in Florida.





Florida Health Care Association is pleased to present its 2014 Legislative Scorecard, which provides an informative overview of the Association's legislative priorities and measures how Florida's Senators and Representatives responded to the issues that impact the long term care profession.

With one of the highest staff-to-resident ratios in the country, Florida's nursing homes now rank second in the nation in the number of facilities earning the top five-star rating. Given that, FHCA made the important connection between quality care and adequate funding a key part of our messaging this session. With both the Governor and the Senate proposed budgets fully funding Medicaid rates for nursing home care, FHCA and its members focused on educating the House, whose budget included the equivalent of a \$64.3 million funding cut to providers' Medicaid rates. Members' active involvement throughout the session resulted in lawmakers adopting a care-centered budget which preserves Medicaid funding for nursing home care and, for the first time in more than 20 years, triples the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents, which will enhance their quality of life.

FHCA also focused on the importance of preserving investment in Florida's nursing homes, particularly at a time when baby boomers are aging and the demand for long term care services are increasing. FHCA successfully advocated for the passage of responsible nursing home litigation reform, which gives Florida's many outstanding nursing homes the assurance that they can continue to provide residents with a high level of care without fear of excessive litigation.

Also on the priority list this year was Certificate of Need reform. The passage of this legislation will help facilities meet the needs of Florida's changing elderly demographics by making enhancements and improvements to aging facilities, technology and other areas of service.

FHCA's tremendous success with our legislative priorities is attributed to the active involvement of our members and the expertise of our staff and lobby team working together to develop comprehensive strategies and a unified message when it comes to educating lawmakers about the challenges that long term care providers face. Nearly 500 members traveled to Tallahassee for FHCA's Lobby Days, taking time to educate legislators about the high quality care being delivered on a daily basis and the impact of critical legislation on facility operations. This important grassroots initiative couldn't have been possible without the support of our advocacy partner, Our Florida Promise, as well as our associate members who stood side-by-side with these caregivers. Special thanks to Bouchard Insurance, PharmScript and Humana for their sponsorship of our Lobby Day activities, and to Bouchard Insurance for sponsoring FHCA's weekly Provider Program.

FHCA is proud to represent its members for the important work they do. On behalf of the entire team at Florida Health Care Association, we want to thank you for the ongoing encouragement, support and resources that allow us to advocate on your behalf.

Best,

J. Emmett Reed, CAE
FHCA/OFP Executive Director

Members' active involvement throughout the session resulted in lawmakers adopting a care-centered budget which preserves Medicaid funding for nursing home care and, for the first time in more than 20 years, triples the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents, which will enhance their quality of life.



Members from Consulate Health Care during FHCA Lobby Days.

Budget

Over the past five years, Florida's nursing homes have experienced significant reductions to state Medicaid funding, losing an average \$21.00 per patient per day (\$500,000 annually). Restoring previous year Medicaid funding cuts was a top priority for FHCA this session, given the important link between adequate funding and high-quality care.

The initial budgets proposed by both the Governor and the Senate fully funded Medicaid rates for nursing home care and included an inflationary increase. The House budget, however, required a reconciliation of prior year nursing home quality assessment payments, which would have been the equivalent of a \$64.3 million funding cut to providers' Medicaid rates. Early into the budget conference, however, the House receded to the Senate position and the funding cut was averted.

In the end, the collective work of the FHCA members, staff and lobby team paid off. The 2014 Legislature made long term care residents a priority by adopting a care-centered budget that preserves Medicaid funding for nursing home care and triples the personal needs allowance for nursing home residents, which will enhance their quality of life. The final \$77.1 billion budget (**HB 5001**) provides \$3.12 billion for nursing home care, which reflects full funding of workload and price level increases (inflation). In addition, the Nursing Home Quality Assessment increases by approximately \$40.5 million to a total of \$470.7 million, supporting facilities' ability to "buy back" some of the previous years' Medicaid rate reductions. The budget also includes an additional \$35.4 million to increase the personal needs allowance from \$35 to \$105 per month for long term care residents, effective July 1, 2014.

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Nursing Home Litigation Reform



Cindy Mitchell of Marianna Health & Rehabilitation Center gave the caregiver perspective during testimony about the importance of nursing home litigation reform.

CS/CS/SB 670 by Sen. John Thrasher (R-6) and Rep. Matt Gaetz (R-4) focused on responsible nursing home litigation reform. The legislation was the result of an historic agreement between FHCA and the Florida Justice Association and had the support of consumer and business advocacy groups, including AARP, the Florida Chamber of Commerce and Associated Industries of Florida.

The bill introduced realistic and responsible limits to lawsuits against nursing homes and will:

- Ensure that residents can pursue lawsuits against those directly at fault for negative events, while preventing claims against passive investors and others who have nothing to do with the incident.
- Require a trial court to hold a hearing and weigh admissible evidence before a punitive damage motion can move forward and clarifies the process.
- Utilize the regulatory process to ensure that judgments are paid by giving the state Agency for Health Care Administration the authority to revoke the license of any nursing home operator who doesn't pay a final judgment, arbitration award or settlement.
- Establish a workable framework for providing appropriate medical records to family members.

Related legislation also passing the Legislature was CS/CS/SB 1012 by Sen. Garrett Richter (R-23). One provision of this legislation created a new section of law stating that a financial institution is not civilly liable to a third party for the actions or operations of a person solely by virtue of extending a loan or a line of credit to such person.



Summit Care facility representatives prepare for visits with legislators during FHCA Lobby Day.

Certificate of Need



FHCA Executive Director Emmett Reed (left) with HB 287 bill sponsor Rep. Frank Artiles, R-Miami.



Certificate of Need (CON) reform was a priority for FHCA, given that the current CON law was set to expire in March of 2014, when the Statewide Long Term Care Managed Care Program became fully effective.

CS/CS/HB 287 by Rep. Frank Artiles (R-118)/Sen. Denise Grimsley (R-21) passed unanimously out of both chambers. The legislation provides greater flexibility for nursing homes to move beds to follow population trends and creates incentives for nursing home providers to replace older nursing homes with modern buildings to meet the needs of Florida’s elder population.



Specifically, the bill requires CON rule changes to encourage the construction of new nursing homes and to provide for flexibility in creating new facility construction. It makes statutory changes that modify and/or add provisions for projects that are subject to either expedited CON review or are exempt from CON review. It establishes a new limitation on nursing home certificates of need and deletes the statutory language related to the moratorium on the construction of new nursing home beds which is repealed per current statute upon statewide implementation of the Medicaid managed care program.



Caregivers from Gulf Coast Health Care facilities at the state Capitol.

Assisted Living Facilities

Assisted Living Facility reform failed to pass the Legislature for the third year in a row. The Senate (**SB 248** by Sen. Eleanor Sobel, D-33) and House (**HB 573** by Rep. Larry Ahern, R-66) had conflicting language, and lawmakers were unable to work out their differences before the 2014 session drew to a close.

FHCA made this issue a priority this year, and we are grateful to our members for taking an active role in advocating for this legislation and helping to raise the public's awareness about the importance of this issue. Legislators will revisit ALF reform in 2015. In the meantime, FHCA's ALF members will continue their focus of providing Florida's seniors high-quality care that respects their desire to age with dignity.

Proposals That Could Have Hindered Resident Care

This year, the Senate Committee on Children, Families and Elder Affairs took up the issue of medically fragile children, with particular discussion surrounding children who are cared for in pediatric nursing facilities. FHCA was able to prevent unfriendly amendments which would have impeded on a parent's right to choose the setting in which their child would receive services, including those facilities which specialize in caring for medically fragile children.

Additionally, **SB 1154** by Sen. Darren Soto (D-14)/**HB 787** by Rep. Joe Saunders (D-49) would have required nursing homes to display posters and send letters to family members indicating they are on the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) "Watch list." **SB 400** by Sen. Dwight Bullard (D-39)/**HB 563** by Rep. Hazel Rogers (D-95) would have mandated AHCA to impose a \$1 million civil penalty should the agency have determined that a resident died as a result of abuse and neglect; however, these bills failed to get any traction this year as well. FHCA was able to prevent these unfavorable bills from advancing, thanks to our members' success with educating legislators about the challenges they would have imposed.

2014 Legislative Scorecard Overview

Florida Health Care Association's Legislative Scorecard reports on the Association's 2014 legislative priorities. Legislators are assessed on their sponsorship/co-sponsorship of pro-long term care legislation, their voting record and overall support or non-support related to issues or bill(s) that impact the profession. Outside a floor vote on Tort or CON, if no action on an issue/bill was taken, the record is left blank.

Legislation Reference Key

SB 248	Related to Assisted Living Facilities	HB 573	Related to Assisted Living Facilities
SB 268	Related to Certificate of Need	HB 287	Related to Certificate of Need
SB 400	Related to Nursing Homes	HB 563	Related to Nursing Homes
SB 508	Related to State Ombudsman Program	HB 91	Related to State Ombudsman Program
SB 670	Related to Nursing Home Litigation	HB 569	Related to Nursing Home Litigation
SB 1012	Related to Financial Services	HB 673	Related to Financial Services
SB 1042	Related to Nursing Home Records	HB 831	Related to Nursing Home Records
SB 1154	Related to Nursing Home Guide Watch List	HB 787	Related to Nursing Home Guide Watch List
		HB 1149	Related to Nursing Home Administration
		HB 7111	Related to Recovery Care Services

SENATE

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Abruzzo, Joseph - 25 (D)			
Altman, Thad - 16 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Bean, Aaron - 4 (R)			Placed FHCA priority bills on agenda; Filed FHCA supported amendments; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Benacquisto, Lizbeth - 30 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Bradley, Rob - 7 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on the floor
Brandes, Jeff - 22 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Braynon, Oscar - 36 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee with recommendations to improve it
Bullard, Dwight - 39 (D)			Sponsored SB 400; Held anti-nursing home press conference

SENATE, *continued*

Clemens, Jeff - 27 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Dean, Charlie - 5 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Detert, Nancy - 28 (R)			Sponsored SB 508; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Diaz de la Portilla, Miguel - 40 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee; Supported FHCA position on Pediatric Nursing Home Care; Co-sponsored SB 268
Evers, Greg - 2 (R)			1 of 2 Republican Senators to vote against SB 670
Flores, Anitere - 37 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Gaetz, Don - 1 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills; Advocated for increase in personal needs allowance; Rejected \$64M provider assessment reconciliation
Galvano, Bill - 26 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor; Sponsored favorable child advocacy legislation
Garcia, René - 38 (R)			Filed FHCA supported amendments; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Gardiner, Andy - 13 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Gibson, Audrey - 9 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Grimsley, Denise - 21 (R)			Sponsored SB 268; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda; Rejected \$64M provider assessment reconciliation; Included increase in personal needs allowance in Senate Budget; Filed FHCA supported amendments; Did not support Governor's proposed RUGS study
Hays, Alan - 11 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Hukill, Dorothy - 8 (R)			1 of 2 Republican Senators to vote against SB 670; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Joyner, Arthenia - 19 (D)		N/A	Spoke against FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke against FHCA priority bill on floor; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Latvala, Jack - 20 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Lee, Tom - 24 (R)			Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Legg, John - 17 (R)			Agreed to FHCA supported amendments to Adult Day Care bill
Margolis, Gwen - 35 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Montford, Bill - 3 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Negron, Joe - 32 (R)			Champion for FHCA Budget issues; Rejected \$64M provider assessment reconciliation; Advocated for increase in personal needs allowance; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda
Richter, Garrett - 23 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Filed banking liability protection amendment on SB 1012

SENATE, *continued*

Ring, Jeremy - 29 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Sachs, Maria Lorts - 34 (D)			
Simmons, David - 10 (R)			
Simpson, Wilton - 18 (R)			
Smith, Christopher - 31 (D)			Provided access to minority caucus to educate members about LTC issues; Supported FHCA priority issues; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Sobel, Eleanor - 33 (D)			Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Sponsored SB 248 and worked closely with FHCA to advance ALF legislation; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Introduced then withdrew SB 1042 after meeting with FHCA
Soto, Darren - 14 (D)			Sponsored SB 1154; Supported SB 670 in committee despite Union pressure
Stargel, Kelli - 15 (R)			
Thompson, Geraldine - 12 (D)			Withdrew unfavorable pediatric SNF amendment after meeting with FHCA
Thrasher, John - 6 (R)			Sponsored SB 670; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Supported FHCA priority bill on floor; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor

HOUSE

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Adkins, Janet - 11 (R)			
Ahern, Larry - 66 (R)			Sponsored HB 573 and worked closely with FHCA to advance legislation; Removed anonymous website from other ALF legislation; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Albritton, Ben - 56 (R)			
Antone, Bruce - 46 (D)			
Artiles, Frank - 118 (R)			Sponsored HB 287; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Baxley, Dennis - 23 (R)			Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Berman, Lori - 90 (D)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Beshears, Halsey - 7 (R)			Advocated for anonymous website for ALFs
Bileca, Michael - 115 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee

HOUSE, continued

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Boyd, Jim - 71 (R)			
Bracy, Randolph - 45 (D)			Did not advance HB 1149 after meeting with FHCA staff
Brodeur, Jason - 28 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Filed FHCA supported amendments; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda
Broxson, Doug - 3 (R)			Filed Banking Liability Protection amendment in HB 673
Caldwell, Matt - 79 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Campbell, Daphne - 108 (D)			Co-sponsored HB 287; Co-sponsored HB 569; Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Castor Dentel, Karen - 30 (D)			
Clarke-Reed, Gwyndolen - 92 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Clelland, Mike - 29 (D)			Spoke against FHCA priority bill in committee
Coley, Marti - 5 (R)			
Combee, Neil - 39 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Corcoran, Richard - 37 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda
Crisafulli, Steve - 51 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Cruz, Janet - 62 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bills in Democratic Caucus; Spoke in support of nursing home budget in committee
Cummings, Travis - 18 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bill in committee
Danish, Mark - 63 (D)			
Davis, Daniel - 15 (R)		N/A	Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Diaz, Jose Felix - 116 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Diaz, Manny - 103 (R)			
Dudley, Dwight - 68 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Eagle, Dane - 77 (R)			
Edwards, Katie - 98 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Eisnaugle, Eric - 44 (R)		N/A	
Fitzenhagen, Heather - 78 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee

HOUSE, continued

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Fresen, Erik - 114 (R)			Sponsored favorable child advocacy legislation
Fullwood, Reggie - 13 (D)			
Gaetz, Matt - 4 (R)			Sponsored HB 569; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor
Gibbons, Joe - 100 (D)		N/A	Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Co-sponsored HB 287
Gonzalez, Eddy - 111 (R)			
Goodson, Tom - 50 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Grant, James - 64 (R)			
Hager, Bill - 89 (R)	N/A		Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Harrell, Gayle - 83 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Supported pediatric SNF issue; Co-sponsored HB 287; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Hill, Mike - 2 (R)			Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee; Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor; Co-sponsored HB 287
Holder, Doug - 74 (R)			Supported banking liability protection language in HB 673
Hood, Dave - 25 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Hooper, Ed - 67 (R)			
Hudson, Matt - 80 (R)	N/A		Receded from House position on \$64M provider assessment reconciliation; Did not support Governor's proposed RUGS study
Hutson, Travis - 24 (R)			
Ingram, Clay - 1 (R)			
Jones, Mia - 14 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Jones , Shevrin - 101 (D)		N/A	Co-sponsored HB 287
Kerner, Dave - 87 (D)	N/A		A trial lawyer who spoke in support of HB 569
La Rosa, Mike - 42 (R)			
Lee Jr., Larry - 84 (D)			
Magar, MaryLynn - 82 (R)			
Mayfield, Debbie - 54 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287

HOUSE, continued

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
McBurney, Charles - 16 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
McGhee, Kionne - 117 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
McKeel, Seth - 40 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Receded from House position on \$64M provider assessment reconciliation; Supported Senate proposal to increase personal needs allowance
Metz, Larry - 32 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Placed FHCA priority bill on agenda; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Moraitis, George - 93 (R)			
Moskowitz, Jared - 97 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Murphy, Amanda - 36 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Agreed to FHCA supported amendment to Adult Day Care bill
Nelson, Bryan - 31 (R)			
Núñez, Jeanette - 119 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Oliva, Jose - 110 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Sponsored expansion of ARNP scope of practice bill
O'Toole, Marlene - 33 (R)			
Pafford, Mark - 86 (D)			Spoke in support of FHCA priority bills in Democratic Caucus
Passidomo, Kathleen - 106 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Patronis, Jimmy - 6 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Perry, Keith - 21 (R)			
Peters, Kathleen - 69 (R)	N/A		
Pigman, Cary - 55 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Filed FHCA supported amendments; Refused to file unfavorable CON bill after conferring with FHCA
Pilon, Ray - 72 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Porter, Elizabeth - 10 (R)			
Powell, Bobby - 88 (D)			
Pritchett, Sharon - 102 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Co-sponsored HB 287
Raburn, Jake - 57 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Rader, Kevin - 81 (D)			

HOUSE, continued

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Rangel, Ricardo - 43 (D)			 Supported FHCA priority bills over Union lobbying
Raschein, Holly Merrill - 120 (R)			
Raulerson, Daniel - 58 (R)			
Ray, Lake - 12 (R)			
Reed, Betty - 61 (D)			
Rehwinkel Vasilinda, Michelle - 9 (D)			
Renuart, Doc - 17 (R)			 Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Richardson, David - 113 (D)			 Co-sponsored HB 287
Roberson , Kenneth - 75 (R)			 Supported FHCA priority bills in committee;  Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee;  Sponsored HB 91;  Filed FHCA supported amendments
Rodrigues , Ray - 76 (R)			 Introduced then withdrew HB 831 after meeting with FHCA;  Co-sponsored HB 287
Rodríguez, José - 112 (D)			 Spoke against FHCA priority bill in committee
Rogers, Hazel - 95 (D)			 Sponsored HB 563
Rooney, Patrick - 85 (R)			
Rouson, Darryl - 70 (D)			
Santiago, David - 27 (R)			
Saunders, Joe - 49 (D)			 Sponsored HB 787
Schenck, Robert - 35 (R)			
Schwartz, Elaine - 99 (D)			
Slosberg, Irving - 91 (D)			
Smith , Jimmie - 34 (R)			 Co-sponsored HB 287
Spano, Ross - 59 (R)			 Supported FHCA priority bills in committee;  Worked with FHCA to clarify language in HB 569;  Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Stafford, Cynthia - 109 (D)			 Voted against HB 569 in committee
Stark, Richard - 104 (D)			

HOUSE, continued

NAME - DISTRICT (PARTY)	TORT	CON	COMMENTS
Steube, Greg - 73 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Agreed to FHCA supported amendment to HB 7111; Co-sponsored HB 287
Stewart, Linda - 47 (D)			
Stone, Charlie - 22 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee
Taylor, Dwayne - 26 (D)			
Thurston, Perry - 94 (D)			Provided access to Democratic caucus to educate members about LTC issues; Assisted in getting Democratic support for FHCA priorities
Tobia, John -53 (R)			
Torres, Victor - 48 (D)			
Trujillo, Carlos - 105 (R)			
Van Zant, Charles - 19 (R)			Co-sponsored HB 569
Waldman, James - 96 (D)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill in committee
Watson, Barbara - 107 (D)			
Watson, Clovis - 20 (D)			
Weatherford, Will - 38 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills; Supported Senate proposal to increase personal needs allowance; Receded on \$64M provider assessment reconciliation
Williams, Alan - 8 (D)			Co-sponsored HB 287
Wood, John - 41 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bill on floor; Withdrew unfavorable CON amendment after meeting with FHCA
Workman, Ritch - 52 (R)			
Young, Dana - 60 (R)			Supported FHCA priority bills in committee; Provided leadership support for FHCA priority bills; Spoke in support of FHCA priority bills in committee
Zimmermann, Carl - 65 (D)			

FHCA Government Affairs Team

Legislators, their staff and interested parties are encouraged to contact the Florida Health Care Association to learn more about the Association's position on issues impacting Florida's long term care provider community and the frail elders they serve.



J. Emmett Reed, CAE
Executive Director



Bob Asztalos
FHCA Chief Lobbyist



Peggy Rigsby
Director of Government Affairs



Tony Marshall
Senior Director of Reimbursement



Carol Berkowitz
Associate Director of Government Affairs



Melody Selis
Government Affairs Manager



LuMarie Polivka-West
Senior Director of Policy



Lee Ann Griffin
Director of Quality & Regulatory Services



Teresa Hamlin
Government Affairs Support Administrator



Kristen Knapp
Director of Communications

FHCA Lobbyists

In addition to our internal team, FHCA works with some of the most experienced contract lobbyists in Florida. They include:

Travis Blanton, Johnson & Blanton, LLC
Melanie Brown, Johnson & Blanton, LLC
Matt Bryan, Smith, Bryan & Myers
Allison Carvajal, Ramba Consulting Group
Amy Christian, Johnson & Blanton, LLC
Carlos Cruz, Cruz and Company
Jeff Hartley, Smith, Bryan & Myers
Brian Jogerst, BH & Associates, Inc.
Jon Johnson, Johnson & Blanton, LLC
Doug Mannheimer, Broad and Cassel
Joe McCann, Smith & Ballard
Michael McQuone, Florida Catholic Conference
Julie Myers, Smith, Bryan & Myers
Sean Pittman, The Pittman Law Group
Evan Power, Strategic Access Group
David Ramba, Ramba Consulting Group

Advocacy Resources

www.fhca.org

The Advocacy section of FHCA's website is your entryway to all of the Association's legislative information, including:

- Legislative Session Priorities and Scorecard
- Issue Briefs and Communication Tools
- Grassroots Guide and Facility Tour Resources
- Press Releases and Social Media Updates
- Email Links to Legislators and more!

