

Florida Assisted Living Association

Legislative Update

April 18, 2008

Week 7

On Tuesday, Governor Crist signed the "Take Your Guns to Work" bill. The Florida Chamber announced this week that they and the Florida Retail Federation have retained Barry Richard of Greenberg Traurig to lead their legal fight to invalidate the law. They will be filing a legal challenge to this legislation in the very near future.

The following members have been named to the Health and Human Services Appropriations Budget Conference Committee: Senators Peadar (Chair), Rich, Gaetz, Saunders, Storms, and Wilson and Representatives Bean (Chair), Gibson (H), Ausley, Galvano, Garcia (R), Harrell, Hays, Hudson, Patronis, Roberson, Skimore and Waldman.

House Bill 1401

Sponsored by Rep. Hugh Gibson (R-The Villages)

[House Bill 1401](#) was withdrawn from House Policy and Budget Committee and is now on the House calendar.

This bill outlines requirements for notices of terminations and relocations and gives the acceptable reasons for a facility initiated termination. The bill also requires that a copy of the resident notice be sent to the State Long Term Care Ombudsman. They will then compile this information and include in their annual report.

When you contact your Representative please tell them the following:

Please support the language currently in House Bill 1401 that provides discharge procedures for assisted living facilities and reject any additions that will create undue costs and administrative processes that will divert staff from the real work of caring for our residents.

Senate Bill 2216

Sponsored by Senator Ronda Storms (R-Brandon)

[Senate Bill 2216](#) is now in House Messages. This means that it could be sent to committee or sent directly to the floor. We have been asking House members to vote no on this bill and support Representative Gibson's bill, House Bill 1401. One thing to keep in mind is that this bill is much better now than when it began.

Other Bills on the Tracking List

[House Bill 0153](#) sponsored by Rep. Cusack (D-Deland)
HIV/AIDS Education glitch bill

This bill has been laid on the table and the Senate Bill 646 is now scheduled to be heard on third reading in the House.

[House Bill 1283](#) sponsored by Rep. Cannon (R-Winter Park)
Ad Valorem Tax Assessment Value Challenges

[Senate Bill 1668](#) sponsored by Sen. Jones (R-Seminole)
Transparency bill - requires additional information be submitted with license applications. Companion bill is House Bill 1335. There has still been no movement on HB 1335. However, SB 1668 just barely passed out of the House Health Regulation Committee on Tuesday. It still has three more committees of reference.

Legislative Update Conference Call

Every Friday at 11:00am

Every Friday at 11:00am we will have a conference call to discuss the events of the week and discuss strategy. This call is a "*Members Only*" benefit and allows you to be more closely involved with the process, ask questions, make suggestions, etc. If you would like to participate, please contact me by email at patl@falmail.org for the call in number and passcode.

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