

# Florida Assisted Living Association

## Legislative Update

April 4, 2008

### Week 5

Even though the focus has been on SB 2216 and HB 1401, we are tracking a number of bills this session. Click on the bill number to pull up the bill.

[House Bill 0153](#) sponsored by Rep. Cusack (D-Deland)

HIV/AIDS Education glitch bill

[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

### House Bill 1401

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

[House Bill 1401](#) had no activity this week. However, there is still time for it to make it through all of the referenced committees. The 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.

FALA worked with Representative Gibson and other stakeholders on improving the language in this bill and is supportive of its passage.

### Senate Bill 2216

*Sponsored by Senator Ronda Storms (R-Brandon)*

[Senate Bill 2216](#) was heard in the Senate on 2nd reading on Wednesday and because of concerns of the Democratic Caucus, the bill was temporarily postponed until Thursday where it passed with two amendments dealing with employee background screening. The bill will travel to the House next week. However, it's not over yet and we are still working behind the scenes on the bill language.

The bill as it is now is much better than it was in its original form. We still have concerns about this bill and how it will affect you and your residents.

FALA does not support this legislation.

### Medicaid Reform Expansion

#### Call to Action

On Thursday, April 3rd the House Policy and Budget Council passed the health care appropriation bill that delays Medicaid reform expansion to Miami-Dade, Monroe, Pasco, Pinellas, Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Polk, and Manatee counties until

2010. Additionally, the council passed an amendment which allows the Governor, Senate President, and Speaker of the House to appoint workgroups to proposed alternatives to health and long term care reforms.

This amendment still needs to be added to the Senate Bill. Please consider reaching out to Senator Peaden (Health & Human Services Appropriations Chair) to encourage him to include the language for the workgroups. The deadline for amendments is 5:00pm on Monday, April 7, 2008.

Senator Durell Peaden, Jr.  
850-487-5000  
[Peaden.durell.web@flsenate.gov](mailto:Peaden.durell.web@flsenate.gov)

## 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@falamail.org](mailto:patl@falamail.org) for the call in number and passcode.

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