



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CS/HB 253 Signed Into Law

Tallahassee, FL – Yesterday, Governor DeSantis signed **CS/HB 253 – Veterans Dental Care Grant Program** into law.

Sponsored by **Representative Jervonte Edmonds** and carried in the Senate by **Senator Barbara Sharief (D-Davie)**, the legislation expands access to dental care services for Florida veterans. CS/HB 253 creates the Veterans Dental Care Grant Program within the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs to assist eligible veterans in obtaining needed dental care through participating providers.

“I have seen firsthand the impact that access to care can have on a person’s quality of life,” said **Senator Sharief**. “This program represents an important investment in the health and well-being of Florida’s veterans, who have sacrificed so much in service to our nation.”

Research consistently shows a strong connection between oral health and overall physical well-being. This dedicated grant program seeks to improve access to preventative and restorative dental care for eligible veterans who may otherwise struggle to obtain treatment.

Representative Edmonds added:

“Dental care is health care. Our veterans have sacrificed for our country, and they deserve access to the care that allows them to live healthier, more confident lives.”

CS/ HB 253 takes effect on July 1, 2026.

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