

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 12, 2026

CONTACT

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MEDIA ADVISORY — Monday, January 12, 2026 @ 2:30 p.m.

Senator Sharief and Representative Maney to Host Press Conference on SB 42/HB 47

Specific Medical Diagnoses in Child Protective Investigations

TALLAHASSEE, FL — On Monday, **Senator Barbara Sharief** and **Representative Patt Maney** will host a press conference on **Senate Bill 42 / House Bill 47**, legislation addressing the consideration of specific medical diagnoses in child protective investigations.

SB 42 focuses on improving medical accuracy and fairness in cases involving children with complex or rare medical conditions, while maintaining strong protection for child safety. The legislation has generated bipartisan interest as lawmakers consider reforms that balance due process, medical expertise, and the well-being of children and families.

Families impacted by medically complex child welfare cases will be in attendance to underscore the real-life implications of the bill and the importance of thoughtful policymaking.

“SB 42 is about ensuring that decisions affecting children and families are informed by medical expertise and guided by fairness,” said **Senator Sharief**. “As this bill reaches its first committee stop, it is important to have a transparent and informed discussion about how we protect children while respecting families.”

The press conference will take place prior to the bill’s first committee stop and will provide context ahead of legislative consideration.

EVENT DETAILS

WHAT: Press Conference on SB 42 – Specific Medical Diagnoses in Child Protective Investigations

WHO: Senator Barbara Sharief; Representative Patt Maney; families and advocates

WHEN: Monday, January 12, 2026 at 2:30 p.m. (EST)

WHERE: Florida Capitol Rotunda, 4th Floor

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