



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 14, 2026

CONTACT

Jorge Collazo

Office of Senator Barbara Sharief

Collazo.Jorge@flsenate.com

(954) 424-6674

SB 42 – Specific Medical Diagnoses in Child Protective Investigations Advances Out of First Committee Stop

TALLAHASSEE, FL — Senate Bill 42, sponsored by **Senator Barbara Sharief**, has passed its first committee stop in the Senate Children, Families, and Elder Affairs Committee.

The bill addresses procedures in child protective investigations involving certain medical diagnoses by requiring consultation with qualified medical professionals and clarifying parental notification and examination processes, while maintaining existing child safety requirements.

“Today’s vote reflects the importance of accuracy and transparency in complex child welfare cases,” said **Senator Sharief**. “SB 42 helps ensure that medical expertise is appropriately considered while continuing to prioritize child safety.”

If passed, this legislation would take effect on July 1, 2026.

###