

Committee on Appropriations

HB 5203 — Cancer Centers

by Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee and Representative Hudson

The bill provides that:

- The Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers (NCI) Program is added to the list of cancer research programs that the Biomedical Research Trust Fund (BRTF) is authorized to fund.
- Statutory language currently requiring that \$5 million each be appropriated annually from the BRTF to the Moffitt Cancer Center, the Sylvester Cancer Center, and the Shands Cancer Hospital, is repealed.
- The Florida Consortium of National Cancer Institute Centers Program is created within the Department of Health (DOH) as a competitive grant program, to provide funding to Florida-based cancer centers recognized as NCI-designated comprehensive cancer centers, NCI-designated cancer centers, and cancer center working to achieve NCI-designation.
- Under the program, the allocation for each cancer center receiving funds includes the following variables:
 - Reportable Cases (40 percent weight): The number of cancer cases in which a cancer center is involved in the diagnosis, evaluation of the extent of cancer spread at time of diagnosis, or the administration of any part of the first course of therapy;
 - Peer-Review Costs (30 percent weight): Annual direct costs for peer-reviewed cancer research projects; and
 - Biomedical Education/Training (30 percent weight): Amount of biomedical research instruction offered to students at an affiliated medical school or graduate school.
- Any cancer center receiving funds under the program will receive a minimum of \$16 million annually.
- The DOH and participating cancer centers are required to report specific metrics relating to cancer mortality and external funding for cancer-related research to Florida's Cancer Control and Research Advisory Council.
- Aggregate funding for the consortium program is subject to annual legislative appropriations.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2014.

Vote: Senate 40-0; House 117-0