

By Representative Ritter

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Dade County; providing for
3 the relief of Jeanette Alonso, a minor, for
4 injuries sustained as a result of the conduct
5 of the Public Health Trust of Dade County,
6 d.b.a. Jackson Memorial Hospital; providing for
7 payment by the Public Health Trust of Dade
8 County, d.b.a. Jackson Memorial Hospital;
9 providing an effective date.
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11 WHEREAS, on September 13, 1990, two-week-old Jeanette
12 Alonso was taken by her mother to Jackson Memorial Hospital
13 for care and treatment of an infection, and
14 WHEREAS, Jeanette Alonso was admitted with a diagnosis
15 of "rule out sepsis," and
16 WHEREAS, Jeanette Alonso, while a patient in Jackson
17 Memorial Hospital, suffered from documented hyponatremia or
18 low blood-sodium levels for prolonged periods of time and from
19 uncontrolled and untreated seizures, and
20 WHEREAS, Jeanette Alonso has suffered irreversible
21 brain damage, including partial brain death and cortical
22 blindness, and requires constant care and supervision, and
23 WHEREAS, on November 20, 1992, a complaint was filed on
24 behalf of Jeanette Alonso in Circuit Court for Dade County,
25 Case Number 92-21466 CA 01-03, and
26 WHEREAS, on July 22, 1997, a Final Agreed Judgment was
27 entered by the Circuit Court in the amount of \$4,000,000, and
28 WHEREAS, Jackson Memorial Hospital has paid to Jeanette
29 Alonso's legal representatives and court-appointed guardian of
30 her property the sum of \$200,000, and
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1 WHEREAS, the Public Health Trust of Dade County, d.b.a.
2 Jackson Memorial Hospital, and Jeanette Alonso, through her
3 legal representatives, have agreed to the passage of this
4 claim bill for \$3,800,000, which represents the remaining
5 amount of the claim, NOW, THEREFORE,

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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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9 Section 1. The facts stated in the preamble to this
10 act are found and declared to be true.

11 Section 2. The Public Health Trust of Dade County,
12 d.b.a. Jackson Memorial Hospital, is authorized and directed
13 to appropriate from funds of the Public Health Trust not
14 otherwise appropriated and to draw a warrant in the sum of
15 \$3,800,000, payable to the court-appointed guardian of the
16 property of Jeanette Alonso and her legal representatives, to
17 compensate her for the injuries and damages she suffered.

18 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
19 law.

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