

By Representative Jones

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to Pinellas County and  
3           municipalities in Pinellas County; authorizing  
4           the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas  
5           County for unincorporated areas and for the  
6           boards of the municipalities within Pinellas  
7           County to provide by ordinance for liens in  
8           favor of all operators of hospitals in Pinellas  
9           County and in favor of Pinellas County when it  
10          pays for medical care, treatment, or  
11          maintenance of qualifying residents of the  
12          county and hospitals within such  
13          municipalities, respectively, upon all causes  
14          of action, suits, claims, counterclaims, and  
15          demands accruing to persons to whom care,  
16          treatment, or maintenance is furnished by such  
17          hospital or is paid for by Pinellas County on  
18          behalf of a qualifying resident of the county  
19          or accruing to legal representatives of such  
20          persons, and upon all judgments, settlements,  
21          and settlement agreements entered into by  
22          virtue thereof on account of illness, injury,  
23          deformity, infirmity, abnormality, disease, or  
24          pregnancy giving rise to such causes of action,  
25          suits, claims, counterclaims, demands,  
26          judgments, settlements, or settlement  
27          agreements, and which necessitates such care,  
28          treatment, or maintenance; authorizing the  
29          Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas  
30          County and the board of the Pinellas County  
31          municipalities to provide by ordinance for the

1 attachment, perfection, priority, and  
2 enforcement of such liens and for such  
3 procedural and other matters as may be  
4 necessary or appropriate to carry out the  
5 purposes of said ordinances; providing that the  
6 lien be limited to the greater of either the  
7 worker's compensation rate in effect on the  
8 effective date of this act or the  
9 nongovernmental, commercial health insurance or  
10 managed care contractual rate applicable to the  
11 injured person at the time medical care or  
12 treatment was rendered plus the amounts for  
13 which the patient is personally responsible;  
14 providing an effective date.

15  
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17  
18 Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners of  
19 Pinellas County for unincorporated areas of the county and the  
20 boards of the municipalities of the cities within Pinellas  
21 County are authorized to provide by ordinance for liens in  
22 favor of all operators of hospitals in Pinellas County and in  
23 favor of Pinellas County when it pays for medical care,  
24 treatment, or maintenance of qualifying residents of the  
25 county and in such municipalities within Pinellas County upon  
26 all causes of action, suits, claims, counterclaims, and  
27 demands accruing to persons to whom care, treatment, or  
28 maintenance is furnished by such hospital or is paid by  
29 Pinellas County on behalf of qualifying residents of the  
30 county, or accruing to the legal representative of such  
31 persons, and upon all judgments, settlements, and settlement

1 agreements entered into by virtue thereof on account of  
2 illness, injury, deformity, infirmity, abnormality, disease,  
3 or pregnancy giving rise to such causes of action, suits,  
4 claims, counterclaims, demands, judgments, settlements, and  
5 settlement agreements, and which necessitated such care,  
6 treatment, or maintenance; and to provide by ordinance by the  
7 municipalities and county for the attachment, perfection,  
8 priority, and enforcement of such liens and for procedural and  
9 other matters as may be necessary or appropriate to carry out  
10 the purposes of ordinances. The lien shall be limited to the  
11 greater of the following: either the worker's compensation  
12 rate in effect on the effective date of this act or the  
13 nongovernmental, commercial health insurance or managed care  
14 contractual rate applicable to the injured person at the time  
15 medical care or treatment was rendered plus the amounts for  
16 which the patient is personally responsible.

17           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
18 law.

19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29  
30  
31