

By the Committee on Health, Aging and Long-Term Care; and  
 Senator Saunders

317-2165A-99

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Public Medical  
 3           Assistance Trust Fund; requiring that a task  
 4           force be appointed to review sources of revenue  
 5           for the trust fund; providing for appointments  
 6           of its members and specifying topics to be  
 7           studied; providing for its staffing; providing  
 8           for meetings; requiring a report and  
 9           recommendations; providing an effective date.  
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 11 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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 13           Section 1. (1) There is established a seven-member  
 14 task force to review sources of funds deposited into the  
 15 Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund as created by section  
 16 409.918, Florida Statutes. The task force shall consist of:  
 17           (a) Two members appointed by the President of the  
 18 Senate, one of whom must be a member of the Senate and one of  
 19 whom must represent a hospital subject to the assessment  
 20 imposed under section 395.701, Florida Statutes, 1998  
 21 Supplement, or section 394.4786, Florida Statutes;  
 22           (b) Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House  
 23 of Representatives, one of whom must be a member of the House  
 24 and one of whom must represent a health care entity subject to  
 25 the assessment imposed under section 395.7015, Florida  
 26 Statutes, 1998 Supplement;  
 27           (c) Three members appointed by the Governor, one of  
 28 whom must be the Director of the Agency for Health Care  
 29 Administration, or his or her designee; one of whom must be a  
 30 medical doctor licensed to practice in the state; and one of  
 31 whom must be a consumer who has no employment or investment

1 interest in any health care entity subject to the assessment  
2 imposed for deposit into the Public Medical Assistance Trust  
3 Fund and who is a representative of Florida TaxWatch.

4 (2) The Governor shall designate the task force chair  
5 from among the members.

6 (3) The task force shall consider and make specific  
7 recommendations concerning, but not limited to:

8 (a) Whether any provisions of sections 395.701,  
9 395.7015, and 409.918, Florida Statutes, need to be revised;

10 (b) Whether the annual assessments imposed by these  
11 statutes on the various health care entities are imposed  
12 equitably;

13 (c) Whether additional exemptions from, or inclusions  
14 within, the assessments are justified;

15 (d) The extent to which applicable federal regulations  
16 and guidelines relating to provider assessments allow the  
17 state any flexibility as to modifications of existing  
18 assessments, including those modifications pending under  
19 chapter 98-192, Laws of Florida; and

20 (e) The extent to which modifications to other  
21 statutory provisions that require deposit of specified revenue  
22 into the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund, including, but  
23 not limited to, sections 210.20, 395.1041, 408.040, and  
24 408.08, Florida Statutes, could result in increased revenue  
25 for the trust fund.

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27 The task force shall provide an analysis of the budgetary  
28 impact of any recommended exemptions from, inclusions within,  
29 or modifications to existing assessments.

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1           (4) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall  
2 provide necessary staff support and technical assistance to  
3 the task force.

4           (5) The task force shall convene by August 1, 1999,  
5 for its first meeting, and shall submit its findings and  
6 recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the  
7 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
8 Representatives, and the Governor by December 1, 1999.

9           Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a  
10 law.

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12                           STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN  
13   COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
14   Senate Bill 2128

15 Replaces provisions containing language that exclude clinical  
16 laboratories and diagnostic imaging centers that are wholly  
17 owned by one or more state-licensed physicians from assessment  
18 for the Public Medical Assistance Trust Fund with language  
19 that creates a 7-member task force charged with reviewing the  
20 sources of funds deposited into the Public Medical Assistance  
21 Trust Fund.  
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