

By Senator Brown-Waite

10-2408A-02

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to medical malpractice
3 insurance; creating the Task Force on Medical
4 Malpractice Insurance Premiums to make
5 recommendations to the Legislature; providing
6 an effective date.

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

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10 Section 1. (1) The Task Force on Medical Malpractice
11 Insurance Premiums is created within the Department of
12 Insurance. The 13-member task force shall include the
13 Lieutenant Governor or his or her designee, who shall serve as
14 the chairperson; the Insurance Commissioner or his or her
15 designee; the Secretary of Health Care Administration or his
16 or her designee; two representatives of medical malpractice
17 insurers, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of
18 the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker
19 of the House of Representatives; two physicians licensed in
20 this state under chapter 458 or chapter 459, Florida Statutes,
21 who practice within medical specialties that are experiencing
22 problems in obtaining or maintaining medical malpractice
23 insurance, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of
24 the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker
25 of the House of Representatives; two representatives of
26 licensed hospitals, one of whom must be from a teaching
27 hospital, one of whom shall be appointed by the President of
28 the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by the Speaker
29 of the House of Representatives; and two attorneys recommended
30 by the Florida Academy of Trial Lawyers, one of whom shall be
31 appointed by the President of the Senate and one of whom shall

1 be appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives; a
2 member of the Florida Senate who shall be appointed by the
3 President of the Senate; and a member of the House of
4 Representatives who shall be appointed by the Speaker of the
5 House of Representatives.

6 (2) The task force shall examine medical malpractice
7 claims experience; the costs of medical malpractice insurance
8 for physicians, hospitals, and other healthcare providers; and
9 other relevant data. The task force shall make recommendations
10 to the Legislature concerning ways that medical malpractice
11 insurance rates or premiums can be stabilized and made more
12 affordable. The Department of Insurance and the Agency for
13 Health Care Administration shall provide staff and other
14 administrative assistance that is reasonably necessary to
15 assist the task force in carrying out its responsibilities.
16 The task force shall report to the Governor, the President of
17 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
18 January 1, 2003. The task force shall conduct its first
19 meeting by August 1, 2002, and shall conclude its
20 responsibilities by December 31, 2002.

21 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
22 law.

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25 SENATE SUMMARY

26 Creates the Task Force on Medical Malpractice Insurance
27 Premiums to make recommendations to the Legislature.
28 Requires a report by January 1, 2003.
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