



HB 1257

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the South Broward Hospital District;
3 providing for the relief of Jeffrey Haider; providing for
4 an appropriation to compensate him for injuries and
5 damages sustained as a result of the negligence of the
6 South Broward Hospital District; providing an effective
7 date.

8
9 WHEREAS, in May 2000, Jeffrey Haider, a 45-year old man,
10 began experiencing headaches, vomiting, fatigue, dizziness, and
11 behavioral changes such as difficulty concentrating and
12 confusion, and

13 WHEREAS, as a result of these symptoms, Jeffrey Haider saw
14 several healthcare providers over a period of several weeks, and

15 WHEREAS, an MRI of Jeffrey Haider was taken on May 31,
16 2000, and

17 WHEREAS, a radiologist and a neurologist determined that
18 Jeffrey Haider had a large 7 x 5 centimeter mass within the
19 right temporal lobe, and

20 WHEREAS, the mass was diagnosed as a brain tumor, and
21 Jeffrey Haider was referred to a neurosurgeon, and

22 WHEREAS, the neurosurgeon who examined Jeffrey Haider
23 agreed that the patient had a right temporal lobe tumor and
24 recommended a craniotomy for resection of the tumor, and

25 WHEREAS, the procedure was performed on June 5, 2000, and
26 once the incisions in the area of the middle cerebral artery
27 were made, massive bleeding occurred, with blood gushing out of
28 Jeffrey Haider's incisions under pulsating pressure, and



HB 1257

2003

29 WHEREAS, at this point the neurosurgeon realized that the
30 diagnosis of a tumor was incorrect and that Jeffrey Haider had
31 an aneurysm, and

32 WHEREAS, in fact, the neurosurgeon notes in his operative
33 report that "at this point, we felt that this probably was an
34 aneurysm. I brought in the radiologist who felt that, in
35 retrospect, this was a possibility," and

36 WHEREAS, an aneurysm is a permanent, abnormally blood-
37 filled dilation of a blood vessel, usually resulting from the
38 disease of a vessel wall, and it is common medical knowledge
39 that puncturing an aneurysm is the incorrect treatment for a
40 cerebral aneurysm, and

41 WHEREAS, the surgeon and the radiologist then summoned an
42 interventional radiologist who performed an angiogram, a
43 procedure which should have been ordered prior to the operation,
44 and

45 WHEREAS, the intraoperative angiogram revealed a giant
46 aneurysm filling from the right middle cerebral artery, and

47 WHEREAS, in an instance of further negligence on the part
48 of the South Broward Hospital District, the neurosurgeon did not
49 repair Jeffrey Haider's middle cerebral artery, but instead
50 controlled the bleeding from the aneurysm for about 45 minutes
51 and then closed the dura and the skull, and then sent Jeffrey
52 Haider to the intensive care unit "with the idea of reoperating
53 at a later time," and

54 WHEREAS, however, within hours, Jeffrey Haider was
55 exhibiting dangerous neurological symptoms and was in need of
56 immediate repair of the aneurysm, and

57 WHEREAS, on June 6, 2000, the repair surgery was commenced,
58 and



HB 1257

2003

59 WHEREAS, when Jeffrey Haider's brain was opened it was
60 noted to be "extremely swollen" and the "aneurysm was causing
61 tremendous pressure on the brain and herniating through the
62 craniotomy," and

63 WHEREAS, at that point the neurosurgeon compounded Jeffrey
64 Haider's condition by tearing off the M1 artery from the
65 junction of the aneurysm and the M2 artery so that he was unable
66 to perform an anastomosis to repair and join the arteries, and

67 WHEREAS, Dr. Rodriquez, the neurosurgeon, states in his
68 operative report that "the larger M2 (artery), and even the
69 other one, were essentially on the aneurysm bulbous dilation and
70 I could not bring them together to do an anostemosis," and

71 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Haider has suffered astronomical economic
72 and noneconomic damages as a result of the treatment he received
73 from the South Broward Hospital District, and

74 WHEREAS, Jeffrey Haider is in a chronic vegetative state
75 and requires 7-day-a-week, around-the-clock care, NOW,
76 THEREFORE,

77

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

79

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

82 Section 2. The South Broward Hospital District is
83 authorized and directed to appropriate from funds of the
84 hospital district not otherwise appropriated and to draw a
85 warrant in the sum of \$4,000,000, payable to Jeffrey Haider as
86 compensation for injuries and damages sustained. After payment
87 of attorney's fees and costs, the balance shall be paid into the
88 guardianship account established for Jeffrey Haider.



HB 1257

2003

89

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