



HB 0845

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CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Health Care recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to biomedical research; creating s. 215.5605, F.S.; creating the Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease; providing intent and duties; creating an advisory council; amending s. 215.5602, F.S.; expanding the long-term goals and funding of the Florida Biomedical Research Program to include the cure of specified diseases; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 215.5605, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

215.5605 Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease.--

(1) The Legislature finds that an estimated 128 million Americans suffer from acute, chronic, and degenerative diseases and that biomedical research is the key to finding cures for these diseases that negatively affect all Floridians. The



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29 | Legislature further finds that, while there is much research
30 | being conducted throughout this state and throughout the world,
31 | there is a lack of coordination of efforts among researchers.
32 | The Legislature, therefore, finds that there is a significant
33 | need for a coordinated effort if the goal of curing disease is
34 | to be achieved. Moreover, the Legislature finds that the
35 | biomedical technology sector meets the criteria of a high-impact
36 | sector, pursuant to s. 288.108, having a high importance to this
37 | state's economy with a significant potential for growth and
38 | contribution to our universities and quality of life.

39 | (2) It is the intent of the Legislature that Florida
40 | strive to become the nation's leader in biomedical research and
41 | commit itself to being the state to find cures for the most
42 | deadly and widespread diseases. It is further the intent of the
43 | Legislature that there be a coordinated effort among the state's
44 | public and private universities and the biomedical industry to
45 | discover such cures. Moreover, it is the intent of the
46 | Legislature to grow the state economy by attracting biomedical
47 | researchers and research companies to this state.

48 | (3) There is established the Center for Universal Research
49 | to Eradicate Disease, which shall be known as the "CURED."

50 | (a) The purpose of the center is to coordinate, improve,
51 | expand, and monitor all biomedical research programs within the
52 | state, facilitate funding opportunities, and foster improved
53 | technology transfer of research findings into clinical trials
54 | and widespread public use.

55 | (b) The goal of the center is to find cures for diseases
56 | such as cancer, heart disease, lung disease, diabetes, and



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57 neurological disorders, including Alzheimer's disease, epilepsy,
58 and Parkinson's disease.

59 (c) The center shall hold an annual biomedical technology
60 summit in Florida to which biomedical researchers, biomedical
61 technology companies, business incubators, pharmaceutical
62 manufacturers, and others around the nation and world are
63 invited to share biomedical research findings in order to
64 expedite the discovery of cures. Summit attendees will be
65 required to cover the costs of such attendance or obtain
66 sponsorship for such attendance.

67 (d) The center shall encourage clinical trials in this
68 state on research that holds promise of curing a disease or
69 condition. The center shall facilitate partnerships between
70 researchers, treating physicians, and community hospitals for
71 the purpose of sharing new techniques and new research findings,
72 as well as coordinating voluntary donations to ensure an
73 adequate supply of adult stem cells, cord blood, or other adult
74 tissues needed for biomedical research.

75 (e) The center shall also encourage the discovery and
76 production in Florida of vaccines that prevent disease.

77 (f) The center shall monitor the supply and demand needs
78 of researchers relating to adult stem cell research and other
79 types of adult human tissue research. If the center determines
80 that there is a need for increased donation of adult human
81 tissue, it shall notify hospitals licensed pursuant to chapter
82 395 that have entered into partnership agreements with research
83 institutes conducting adult stem cell research located in the
84 same geographic region as the researchers demanding the adult



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85 stem cells or other adult tissues. Such hospitals shall then
86 implement programs that encourage voluntary donations of cord
87 blood or other needed adult tissues.

88 (g) The center shall be funded through private, state, and
89 federal sources.

90 (h) The center shall serve as a registry of all known
91 biomedical grant opportunities and may assist any public or
92 private biomedical research program in this state in preparing
93 grant requests.

94 (i) The center shall maintain a website with links to
95 peer-reviewed biomedical research. The website shall also
96 contain a list of all known biomedical research being conducted
97 in Florida and shall facilitate communication among researchers
98 and other interested parties.

99 (j) The center shall submit an annual report to the
100 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
101 House of Representatives no later than January 15 which contains
102 recommendations for legislative change necessary to foster a
103 positive climate for biomedical research in this state.

104 (k) The duties of the center may be outsourced to a
105 private entity or state university.

106 (4) There is established within the center an advisory
107 council which shall meet at least annually.

108 (a) The council shall consist of the members of the board
109 of directors of the Florida Research Consortium and at least one
110 representative from:

- 111 1. The Emerging Technology Commission.
- 112 2. Enterprise Florida, Inc.



- 113 | 3. BioFlorida.
- 114 | 4. The Florida Biomedical Research Advisory Council.
- 115 | 5. The Florida Medical Foundation.
- 116 | 6. Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America.
- 117 | (b) Members of the council shall serve without
- 118 | compensation and each organization represented shall cover all
- 119 | expenses of its representative.

120 | Section 2. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1),
 121 | subsection (2), and paragraph (f) of subsection (10) of section
 122 | 215.5602, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

123 | 215.5602 Florida Biomedical Research Program.--

124 | (1) There is established within the Department of Health
 125 | the Florida Biomedical Research Program funded by the proceeds
 126 | of the Lawton Chiles Endowment Fund pursuant to s. 215.5601. The
 127 | purpose of the Florida Biomedical Research Program is to provide
 128 | an annual and perpetual source of funding in order to support
 129 | research initiatives that address the health care problems of
 130 | Floridians in the areas of tobacco-related cancer,
 131 | cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease. The long-
 132 | term goals of the program are to:

133 | (a) Improve the health of Floridians by researching better
 134 | prevention, diagnoses, ~~and treatments,~~ and cures for cancer,
 135 | cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.

136 | (b) Expand the foundation of biomedical knowledge relating
 137 | to the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and treatment,~~ and cure of
 138 | diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,
 139 | cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.



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140 (2) Funds appropriated for the Florida Biomedical Research
141 Program shall be used exclusively for the award of grants and
142 fellowships as established in this section; for research
143 relating to the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and treatment,~~ and cure
144 of diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,
145 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease; and for
146 expenses incurred in the administration of this section.
147 Priority shall be granted to research designed to prevent or
148 cure disease.

149 (10) The council shall submit an annual progress report on
150 the state of biomedical research in this state to the Governor,
151 the Secretary of Health, the President of the Senate, and the
152 Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1. The
153 report must include:

154 (f) Progress in the prevention, diagnosis, ~~and treatment,~~
155 and cure of diseases related to tobacco use, including cancer,
156 cardiovascular disease, stroke, and pulmonary disease.

157 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.