

Bill No. CS for CS for CS for SB 1680

Amendment No. \_\_\_\_ Barcode 152182

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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Senator Saunders moved the following amendment:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

On page 375, between lines 16 and 17,

insert:

Section 211. Subsection (7) of section 456.025,  
Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

456.025 Fees; receipts; disposition.--

(7) Each board, or the department if there is no  
board, shall establish, by rule, a fee not to exceed \$250 for  
anyone seeking approval to provide continuing education  
courses or programs and shall establish by rule a biennial  
renewal fee not to exceed \$250 for the renewal of providership  
of such courses. The fees collected from continuing education  
providers shall be used for the purposes of reviewing course  
provider applications, monitoring the integrity of the courses  
provided, and covering legal expenses incurred as a result of  
not granting or renewing a providership, ~~and developing and  
maintaining an electronic continuing education tracking  
system. The department shall implement an electronic~~

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1 ~~continuing education tracking system for each new biennial~~  
2 ~~renewal cycle for which electronic renewals are implemented~~  
3 ~~after the effective date of this act and shall integrate such~~  
4 ~~system into the licensure and renewal system. All approved~~  
5 ~~continuing education providers shall provide information on~~  
6 ~~course attendance to the department necessary to implement the~~  
7 ~~electronic tracking system. The department shall, by rule,~~  
8 ~~specify the form and procedures by which the information is to~~  
9 ~~be submitted.~~

10           Section 212. Section 456.0251, Florida Statutes, is  
11 created to read:

12           456.0251 Continuing education.--

13           (1) Unless otherwise provided in a profession's  
14 practice act, each board, or the department if there is no  
15 board, shall establish by rule procedures for approval of  
16 continuing education providers and continuing education  
17 courses for renewal of licenses. Except for those continuing  
18 education courses whose subjects are prescribed by law, each  
19 board, or the department if there is no board, may limit by  
20 rule the subject matter for approved continuing education  
21 courses to courses addressing the scope of practice of each  
22 respective health care profession.

23           (2) Licensees who have not completed all of the  
24 continuing education credits required for licensure during a  
25 biennium may obtain an extension of 3 months from the date  
26 after the end of the license renewal biennium within which to  
27 complete the requisite hours for license renewal. Each board,  
28 or the department if there is no board, shall establish by  
29 rule procedures for requesting a 3-month extension and whether  
30 proof of completion of some approved hours of continuing  
31 education are required to be submitted with the request for

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1 extension as a prerequisite for granting the request.

2 (3) Failure to complete the requisite number of hours  
3 of continuing education hours within a license renewal  
4 biennium or within a 3 month period from the date after the  
5 end of the license renewal biennium, if requested, shall be  
6 grounds for issuance of a citation and a fine, plus a  
7 requirement that at least the deficit hours are completed  
8 within a time established by rule of each board, or the  
9 department if there is no board. Each board, or the department  
10 if there is no board, shall establish by rule a fine for each  
11 continuing education hour which was not completed within the  
12 license renewal biennium or the 3-month period following the  
13 last day of the biennium if so requested, not to exceed \$500  
14 per each hour not completed. The issuance of the citation and  
15 fine shall not be considered discipline. A citation and a fine  
16 issued under this subsection may only be issued to a licensee  
17 a maximum of two times for two separate failures to complete  
18 the requisite number of hours for license renewal.

19 (4) The department shall report to each board no later  
20 than 3 months following the last day of the license renewal  
21 biennium the percentage of licensees regulated by that board  
22 who have not timely complied with the continuing education  
23 requirements during the previous license renewal biennium for  
24 which auditing of licensees regulated by that board are  
25 completed. Each board shall direct the department the  
26 percentage of licensees regulated by that board that are to be  
27 audited during the next license renewal biennium. In addition  
28 to the percentage of licensees audited as directed by the  
29 boards, the department shall audit those licensees found to be  
30 deficient during any of the two license renewal bienniums.

31 Section 213. Paragraph (ff) is added to subsection (1)

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1 of section 456.072, Florida Statutes, to read:

2 456.072 Grounds for discipline; penalties;  
3 enforcement.--

4 (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for  
5 which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may  
6 be taken:

7 (ff) Failure for a third or more times to complete the  
8 requisite number of hours of continuing education hours within  
9 a license renewal biennium period or within a 3-month period  
10 from the date after the end of the license renewal biennium,  
11 if the extension was requested.

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14 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

15 And the title is amended as follows:

16 On page 11, line 29, after the semicolon,

17  
18 insert:

19 amending s. 456.025, F.S.; deleting  
20 requirements for the Department of Health to  
21 administer an electronic continuing education  
22 tracking system for health care practitioners;  
23 creating s. 456.0251, F.S.; providing for  
24 enforcement of continuing education  
25 requirements required for license renewal;  
26 authorizing citations and fines to be imposed  
27 for failure to comply with required continuing  
28 education requirements; amending s. 456.072,  
29 F.S.; providing for discipline of licensees who  
30 fail to meet continuing education requirements  
31 as a prerequisite for license renewal three or

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more times;