

By Senator Margolis

35-956-05

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to inflammatory bowel disease;
3 creating the Inflammatory Bowel Disease
4 Research Act; requiring the Department of
5 Health to conduct an inflammatory bowel disease
6 epidemiology study; requiring the Agency for
7 Health Care Administration to conduct a chronic
8 disease study on the coverage standards
9 provided by Medicaid for inflammatory bowel
10 disease therapies; requiring reports to the
11 Governor and Legislature; providing an
12 effective date.

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14 WHEREAS, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease,
15 and ulcerative colitis (collectively known as IBD) are chronic
16 disorders of the gastrointestinal tract which afflict
17 approximately 47,000 Floridians, and

18 WHEREAS, inflammatory bowel disease can cause abdominal
19 pain, fever, and rectal bleeding and complications may include
20 arthritis, osteoporosis, anemia, liver disease, and colon
21 cancer, and

22 WHEREAS, inflammatory bowel disease represents a major
23 cause of morbidity from digestive illness and, although it is
24 not fatal, inflammatory bowel disease is often devastating,
25 NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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29 Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Inflammatory
30 Bowel Disease Research Act."

31 Section 2. Studies; reports.--

1 (1) The Department of Health shall conduct an
2 inflammatory bowel disease epidemiology study. The goal of the
3 study is to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of
4 the disease in the state, the unique demographic
5 characteristics of the patient population, and the role that
6 environmental and genetic factors play in the development of
7 the disease. The department shall submit a report of its
8 findings to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the
9 Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 1, 2006.

10 (2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall
11 conduct a chronic disease study on Medicaid coverage for
12 therapies required by patients with inflammatory bowel
13 disease, such as ostomy supplies, parenteral nutrition,
14 enteral nutrition, medically necessary food products, and
15 therapies approved by the Food and Drug Administration for
16 Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. The study will take
17 into consideration the appropriate outpatient or home health
18 care settings, identify gaps in Medicaid coverage that impact
19 the health and quality of life for inflammatory bowel disease
20 patients, and empower the inflammatory bowel disease community
21 to pursue appropriate changes in the Medicaid reimbursement
22 policy. The agency shall submit a report of its findings to
23 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
24 the House of Representatives by January 1, 2006.

25 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.
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