

By the Committee on Health Care; and Senator Margolis

587-2174-05

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A bill to be entitled
An act relating to inflammatory bowel disease;
creating the Inflammatory Bowel Disease
Research Act; requiring the Department of
Health to conduct an inflammatory bowel disease
epidemiology study with the University of
Florida College of Public Health and Health
Professions; requiring the Agency for Health
Care Administration to conduct a chronic
disease study on the coverage standards
provided by Medicaid for inflammatory bowel
disease therapies; providing for membership in
a study group; requiring reports to the
Governor and Legislature; providing an
effective date.

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

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

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

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

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

3 Section 2. Studies; reports.--

4 (1) The Department of Health, in conjunction with the
5 University of Florida College of Public Health and Health
6 Professions, shall conduct a study of inflammatory bowel
7 disease epidemiology. The goal of the study is to gain a
8 better understanding of the prevalence of the disease in the
9 state, the unique demographic characteristics of the patient
10 population, and the role that environmental factors and family
11 history play in the development of the disease. The Department
12 of Health is authorized to convene a study group for the
13 purpose of conducting an epidemiological study of inflammatory
14 bowel disease in order to collect demographic information on
15 the characteristics of the patient population affected by this
16 disease. The study group shall consist of a representative of
17 the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, a
18 representative from one or more of the major universities
19 researching this disease, a representative from the Agency for
20 Health Care Administration, a representative from the
21 Department of Health, including department epidemiologists, a
22 representative from medical providers, one member of the House
23 of Representatives, one member of the Senate, and any other
24 individual the department considers appropriate to participate
25 in the study group. The department shall submit a report of
26 its findings to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and
27 the Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1,
28 2006.

29 (2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall
30 conduct a chronic disease study on Medicaid coverage for
31 therapies required by patients with inflammatory bowel

1 disease, such as ostomy supplies, parenteral nutrition,
2 enteral nutrition, medically necessary food products, and
3 therapies approved by the Food and Drug Administration for
4 Crohn's disease and ulcerative colitis. The study will take
5 into consideration the appropriate outpatient or home health
6 care settings, identify gaps in Medicaid coverage which impact
7 the health and quality of life for inflammatory bowel disease
8 patients, and empower the inflammatory bowel disease community
9 to pursue appropriate changes in the Medicaid reimbursement
10 policy. The agency shall submit a report of its findings to
11 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of
12 the House of Representatives by February 1, 2006.

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

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15 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
17 SB 1926

18 The Committee Substitute differs from SB 1926 in the following
19 ways:

20 The University of Florida College of Public Health and Health
21 Professions will work with the Department of Health to conduct
22 the epidemiological study of inflammatory bowel disease.

23 The Department of Health may convene a study group for the
24 epidemiological study. The membership of the study group is
25 specified.

26 The reports by the Department of Health and the Agency for
27 Health Care Administration that were due on January 1, 2006,
28 will be due February 1, 2006.
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