1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to hospitals; creating a
3	commission to study the effect of the 2004
4	hurricane season on certain hospitals and
5	identify hospitals unable to comply with the
6	Florida Building Code or located in flood-prone
7	areas; providing for membership, reimbursement,
8	and duties of the study commission; requiring
9	the Department of Community Affairs to provide
10	staff for the study commission; requiring the
11	commission to submit a report and
12	recommendations to the Governor and the
13	Legislature; creating a
14	high-deductible-health-insurance plan study
15	group; specifying membership; requiring the
16	study group to investigate certain issues
17	relating to high-deductible health insurance
18	plans; requiring the group to meet and submit
19	recommendations to the Governor and
20	Legislature; directing the Office of Program
21	Policy Analysis and Government Accountability
22	to conduct a study to evaluate whether the
23	State of Florida should join the Nurse
24	Licensure Compact; providing an effective date.
25	
26	WHEREAS, the state of Florida experienced four major
27	hurricanes during 2004, and
28	WHEREAS, the state recognizes the importance of
29	maintaining a system of hospitals throughout the state to
30	ensure that the underserved population has access to hospitals
31	

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when the need arises and acknowledges that these hospitals 1 2 serve a critical state purpose in providing this care, and 3 WHEREAS, it is an important state interest to ensure 4 that these hospitals continue to provide health care services to the state's underserved populations, and 5 WHEREAS, many hospitals and health care facilities б 7 sustained significant structural damage to their facilities in 8 2004, and 9 WHEREAS, hospitals that provide the majority of safety-net care for indigent and charity cases were forced to 10 operate in facilities that were not structurally sound, and 11 WHEREAS, these hospitals do not have the ability to 12 13 care for patients at alternative sites during natural 14 disasters, and WHEREAS, these hospitals do not have the capital needed 15 to invest in the significant infrastructure costs associated 16 17 with hurricane damage, and 18 WHEREAS, these hospitals have been in existence for 19 many years and have become geographically place-bound, with little opportunity to expand beyond their current property 20 lines, NOW, THEREFORE, 21 22 23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 24 Section 1. (1) STUDY COMMISSION. -- There is created a 25 study commission to address critical issues relating to 26 hospitals serving indigent populations and licensed under 27 28 chapter 395, Florida Statutes, which sustained significant 29 damage to their facilities during the 2004 hurricane season. (2) SUBJECT OF STUDY.--30 31 (a) The commission shall identify:

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11. All hospitals that are currently not able to comply2with the provisions of the Florida Building Code as defined in3chapter 553, Florida Statutes, and any associated4administrative rules:52. Hospitals that are located within 10 miles of the6coastline; and73. Hospitals that are located in a designated flood8zone.9(b) The study commission shall make recommendations10for allowing these hospitals to find alternative methods of11renovating their existing facility in order to meet the12requirements of the Florida Building Code. The commission13shall review all alternatives that could be made available to14those hospitals when renovation is not financially practicable15or structurally feasible. The commission shall neet by September 1.16laws and agency rules and recommend needed changes to address17these issues.18(3) REPORTThe commission shall meet by September 1.192005, and shall submit recommendations, including20recommendations for statutory changes, to the Governor, the21President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of22reconstructing existing facilities.23(4) MEMBERSHIPThe study commission shall be staffed24by the Department of Community Affairs and shall include:25(a) The Secretary of Community Affairs, or his or her26(b) The Director of the Division of Emergency31Management, or his		
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27 by the Department of Community Affairs and shall include: 28 (a) The Secretary of Community Affairs, or his or her 29 designee; 30 (b) The Director of the Division of Emergency	25	reconstructing existing facilities.
 28 (a) The Secretary of Community Affairs, or his or her 29 designee; 30 (b) The Director of the Division of Emergency 	26	(4) MEMBERSHIPThe study commission shall be staffed
29 <u>designee;</u> 30 (b) The Director of the Division of Emergency	27	by the Department of Community Affairs and shall include:
30 <u>(b)</u> The Director of the Division of Emergency	28	(a) The Secretary of Community Affairs, or his or her
	29	<u>designee;</u>
31 Management, or his or her designee;	30	(b) The Director of the Division of Emergency
	31	<u>Management, or his or her designee;</u>

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1	(c) The Secretary of Health Care Administration, or
2	<u>his or her designee;</u>
3	(d) Four representatives of hospitals from regions of
4	the state where hospitals experienced significant hurricane
5	damage during 2004, with two members appointed by the
6	President of the Senate and two members appointed by the
7	Speaker of the House of Representatives;
8	(e) The Secretary of Health, or his or her designee;
9	and
10	(f) A director of county emergency management,
11	selected by the Florida Emergency Preparedness Association.
12	(5) REIMBURSEMENT Members of the study commission
13	shall serve without remuneration, but are entitled to
14	reimbursement in accordance with section 112.061, Florida
15	Statutes, for per diem and travel expenses incurred in
16	performing their duties in accordance with this section.
17	Section 2. <u>(1) A 13-member</u>
18	high-deductible-health-insurance plan study group is created,
19	to be composed of:
20	(a) Three representatives of employers offering
21	high-deductible health plans to their employees, one of whom
22	shall be a small employer as defined in section 627.6699,
23	Florida Statutes, who shall be appointed by the Florida
24	Chamber of Commerce.
25	(b) Three representatives of commercial health plans,
26	to be appointed by America's Health Insurance Plans.
27	(c) Three representatives of hospitals, to be
28	appointed by the Florida Hospital Association.
29	(d) Two physician representatives, one to be appointed
30	by the Florida Medical Association and one to be appointed by
31	the Florida Osteopathic Medical Association.

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(e) The Secretary of the Health Care Administration, 1 2 who shall serve as co-chair. 3 (f) The Director of the Office of Insurance Regulation or his or her designee, who shall serve as co-chair. 4 5 (2) The study group shall study the following issues related to high-deductible health insurance plans, including, б 7 but not limited to, health savings accounts and health 8 reimbursement arrangements: (a) The impact of high deductibles on access to health 9 care services and pharmaceutical benefits. 10 (b) The impact of high deductibles on utilization of 11 health care services and overutilization of health care 12 13 services. 14 (c) The impact on hospitals' and physicians' inability to collect deductibles and copayments. 15 (d) The ability of hospitals, physicians, and insureds 16 to determine, prior to service delivery, the level of 17 18 deductible and copayment required of the insured. 19 (e) Methods to assist hospitals, physicians, and insureds in determining prior to service delivery the status 20 of the insured in meeting annual deductible requirements and 21 22 any subsequent copayments. 23 (f) Methods to assist hospitals and physicians in the 24 collection of deductibles and copayments, including electronic 25 payments. (q) Alternative approaches to the collection of 26 deductibles and copayments when either the amounts of patient 27 28 financial responsibility are unknown in advance or there are 29 no funds electronically available from the patient to pay for the deductible and any associated copayment. 30 31

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(3) The study group shall also study the following 1 2 issues in addition to those specified in subsection (2): 3 (a) The assignment of benefits attestations and contract provisions that nullify the attestations of insureds. 4 5 (b) The standardization of insured or subscriber identification cards. б 7 (c) The standardization of claim edits or ensuring 8 that claim edits comply with nationally recognized editing 9 guidelines. (d) The provision of comparative-cost information to 10 insureds and subscribers before service delivery. 11 (4) The study group shall meet by August 1, 2005, and 12 13 shall submit recommendations to the Governor, the President of 14 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by <u>January 1, 2006.</u> 15 Section 3. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and 16 Government Accountability (OPPAGA) shall conduct a study to 17 evaluate whether the State of Florida should join the Nurse 18 19 Licensure Compact. The study's scope shall include, but not be limited to, identifying the potential impact on the state's 20 nursing shortage, benefits to the state, implementation 21 22 barriers, and any fiscal impact. OPPAGA shall submit a report to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of 23 24 Representatives by February 1, 2006. Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a 25 law. 26 27 28 29 30 31

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