

CHAMBER ACTION

1 The Health Care General Committee recommends the following:

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3 **Council/Committee Substitute**

4 Remove the entire bill and insert:

5 A bill to be entitled

6 An act relating to inflammatory bowel disease; creating  
7 the Inflammatory Bowel Disease Research Act; requiring the  
8 Department of Health to conduct an inflammatory bowel  
9 disease epidemiology study with the University of Florida  
10 College of Medicine; requiring the Agency for Health Care  
11 Administration to conduct a chronic disease study on the  
12 coverage standards provided by Medicaid for inflammatory  
13 bowel disease therapies; providing for membership in a  
14 study group; requiring reports to the Governor and  
15 Legislature; providing an effective date.

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

21 WHEREAS, inflammatory bowel disease can cause abdominal  
22 pain, fever, and rectal bleeding and complications may include

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23 | arthritis, osteoporosis, anemia, liver disease, and colon  
24 | cancer, and

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

29 |

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

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

34 |       Section 2. Studies; reports.--

35 |       (1) The Department of Health, in conjunction with the  
36 | University of Florida College of Medicine, shall conduct an  
37 | inflammatory bowel disease epidemiology study. The goal of the  
38 | study is to gain a better understanding of the prevalence of the  
39 | disease in the state, the unique demographic characteristics of  
40 | the patient population, and the role that environmental factors  
41 | and family history play in the development of the disease. The  
42 | Department of Health is authorized to convene a study group for  
43 | the purpose of conducting an epidemiological study of  
44 | inflammatory bowel disease in order to collect demographic  
45 | information on the characteristics of the patient population  
46 | affected by this disease. The study group shall consist of a  
47 | representative of the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America,  
48 | a representative from one or more of the major universities  
49 | researching this disease, a representative from the Agency for  
50 | Health Care Administration, a representative from the Department

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51 of Health, including department epidemiologists, a  
52 representative from medical providers, one member of the House  
53 of Representatives, one member of the Senate, and any other  
54 individual the department considers appropriate to participate  
55 in the study group. The department shall submit a report of its  
56 findings to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the  
57 Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2006.

58 (2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall  
59 conduct a chronic disease study on Medicaid coverage for  
60 therapies required by patients with inflammatory bowel disease,  
61 such as ostomy supplies, parenteral nutrition, enteral  
62 nutrition, medically necessary food products, and therapies  
63 approved by the Food and Drug Administration for Crohn's disease  
64 and ulcerative colitis. The study will take into consideration  
65 the appropriate outpatient or home health care settings,  
66 identify gaps in Medicaid coverage that impact the health and  
67 quality of life for inflammatory bowel disease patients, and  
68 empower the inflammatory bowel disease community to pursue  
69 appropriate changes in the Medicaid reimbursement policy. The  
70 agency shall submit a report of its findings to the Governor,  
71 the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of  
72 Representatives by February 1, 2006.

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