

## ENROLLED

HB 869, Engrossed 1

2005 Legislature

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to Crohn's and Colitis disease research;  
3 creating the Crohn's and Colitis Disease Research Act;  
4 requiring the Department of Health to conduct an  
5 inflammatory bowel disease epidemiology study with the  
6 University of Florida College of Public Health and Health  
7 Professions; requiring the Agency for Health Care  
8 Administration to conduct a chronic disease study on the  
9 coverage standards provided by Medicaid for inflammatory  
10 bowel disease therapies; providing for membership in a  
11 study group; requiring reports to the Governor and  
12 Legislature; providing an effective date.

13  
14 WHEREAS, inflammatory bowel disease, Crohn's disease, and  
15 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, NOW,  
25 THEREFORE,

26  
27 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
28

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29           Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Crohn's and  
30 Colitis Disease Research Act."

31           Section 2. Studies; reports.--

32           (1) The Department of Health, in conjunction with the  
33 University of Florida College of Public Health and Health  
34 Professions, shall conduct an inflammatory bowel disease  
35 epidemiology study. The goal of the study is to gain a better  
36 understanding of the prevalence of the disease in the state, the  
37 unique demographic characteristics of the patient population,  
38 and the role that environmental factors and family history play  
39 in the development of the disease. The Department of Health is  
40 authorized to convene a study group for the purpose of  
41 conducting an epidemiological study of inflammatory bowel  
42 disease in order to collect demographic information on the  
43 characteristics of the patient population affected by this  
44 disease. The study group shall consist of a representative of  
45 the Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America, a representative  
46 from one or more of the major universities researching this  
47 disease, a representative from the Agency for Health Care  
48 Administration, a representative from the Department of Health,  
49 including department epidemiologists, a representative from  
50 medical providers, one member of the House of Representatives,  
51 one member of the Senate, and any other individual the  
52 department considers appropriate to participate in the study  
53 group. The department shall submit a report of its findings to  
54 the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of  
55 the House of Representatives by February 1, 2006.

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

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