

HB 1343

2007

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Department of Health; amending s.
3 20.43, F.S.; requiring the department to promote health
4 and wellness and disease prevention initiatives; renaming
5 the Secretary of the Department of Health as the Florida
6 Surgeon General; amending s. 381.0605, F.S.; conforming
7 language to changes made by the act; directing the
8 Division of Statutory Revision to make conforming changes
9 to the Florida Statutes; providing an effective date.

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

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13 Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), (5), and (6) of section
14 20.43, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

15 20.43 Department of Health.--There is created a Department
16 of Health.

17 (1) The purpose of the Department of Health is to promote
18 and protect the health of all residents and visitors in the
19 state through organized state and community efforts, including
20 cooperative agreements with counties. The department shall:

21 (a) Prevent to the fullest extent possible, the occurrence
22 and progression of communicable and noncommunicable diseases and
23 disabilities.

24 (b) Maintain a constant surveillance of disease occurrence
25 and accumulate health statistics necessary to establish disease
26 trends and to design health programs.

27 (c) Conduct special studies of the causes of diseases and
28 formulate preventive strategies.

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29 (d) Promote the maintenance and improvement of the
30 environment as it affects public health.

31 (e) Promote the maintenance and improvement of health in
32 the residents of the state.

33 (f) Promote health and wellness and disease prevention
34 initiatives.

35 (g)~~(f)~~ Provide leadership, in cooperation with the public
36 and private sectors, in establishing statewide and community
37 public health delivery systems.

38 (h)~~(g)~~ Provide health care and early intervention services
39 to infants, toddlers, children, adolescents, and high-risk
40 perinatal patients who are at risk for disabling conditions or
41 have chronic illnesses.

42 (i)~~(h)~~ Provide services to abused and neglected children
43 through child protection teams and sexual abuse treatment
44 programs.

45 (j)~~(i)~~ Develop working associations with all agencies and
46 organizations involved and interested in health and health care
47 delivery.

48 (k)~~(j)~~ Analyze trends in the evolution of health systems,
49 and identify and promote the use of innovative, cost-effective
50 health delivery systems.

51 (l)~~(k)~~ Serve as the statewide repository of all aggregate
52 data accumulated by state agencies related to health care;
53 analyze that data and issue periodic reports and policy
54 statements, as appropriate; require that all aggregated data be
55 kept in a manner that promotes easy utilization by the public,
56 state agencies, and all other interested parties; provide

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57 technical assistance as required; and work cooperatively with
58 the state's higher education programs to promote further study
59 and analysis of health care systems and health care outcomes.

60 (m)~~(l)~~ Include in the department's strategic plan
61 developed under s. 186.021 an assessment of current health
62 programs, systems, and costs; projections of future problems and
63 opportunities; and recommended changes that are needed in the
64 health care system to improve the public health.

65 (n)~~(m)~~ Regulate health practitioners, to the extent
66 authorized by the Legislature, as necessary for the preservation
67 of the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

68 (2) (a) The head of the Department of Health is the Florida
69 Surgeon General ~~Secretary of Health and State Health Officer~~.
70 The surgeon general ~~secretary~~ must be a physician licensed under
71 chapter 458 or chapter 459 who has advanced training or
72 extensive experience in public health administration. The
73 surgeon general ~~secretary~~ is appointed by the Governor subject
74 to confirmation by the Senate. The surgeon general ~~secretary~~
75 serves at the pleasure of the Governor.

76 (b) The Officer of Women's Health Strategy is established
77 within the Department of Health and shall report directly to the
78 surgeon general ~~secretary~~.

79 (5) The department shall plan and administer its public
80 health programs through its county health departments and may,
81 for administrative purposes and efficient service delivery,
82 establish up to 15 service areas to carry out such duties as may
83 be prescribed by the surgeon general ~~secretary~~. The boundaries
84 of the service areas shall be the same as, or combinations of,

85 the service districts of the Department of Children and Family
 86 Services established in s. 20.19 and, to the extent practicable,
 87 shall take into consideration the boundaries of the jobs and
 88 education regional boards.

89 (6) The surgeon general ~~secretary~~ and division directors
 90 are authorized to appoint ad hoc advisory committees as
 91 necessary. The issue or problem that the ad hoc committee shall
 92 address, and the timeframe within which the committee is to
 93 complete its work, shall be specified at the time the committee
 94 is appointed. Ad hoc advisory committees shall include
 95 representatives of groups or entities affected by the issue or
 96 problem that the committee is asked to examine. Members of ad
 97 hoc advisory committees shall receive no compensation, but may,
 98 within existing departmental resources, receive reimbursement
 99 for travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

100 Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 381.0605, Florida
 101 Statutes, is amended to read:

102 381.0605 Survey of state hospital facilities; Agency for
 103 Health Care Administration.--

104 (2) The Governor is authorized to provide for carrying out
 105 such purposes in accordance with the standards prescribed by the
 106 Surgeon General of the United States.

107 Section 3. The Division of Statutory Revision of the
 108 Office of Legislative Services shall change "Secretary of
 109 Health," "Secretary of the Department of Health," or "State
 110 Health Officer" to "Florida Surgeon General" and change
 111 "secretary," with respect to that department, to "surgeon
 112 general" wherever the same appears in Florida Statutes.

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Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.