

The Florida Senate
BILL ANALYSIS AND FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Health Regulation Committee

BILL: SB 902

INTRODUCER: Senator Deutch

SUBJECT: The Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc.

DATE: March 6, 2009

REVISED: _____

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Munroe	Wilson	HR	Favorable
2.			HA	
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				

I. Summary:

The bill amends section 381.98, Florida Statutes, to: change the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.; modify the purpose of the institute; delete the mission statement for the institute; revise the membership of the board of directors of the institute and the terms of members; delete the duties of the institute to facilitate communication between biomedical researchers and health providers; and require the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc., to provide an annual report of its activities, excluding its finances, to the presiding officers in each house of the Legislature.

This bill amends sections 381.855, 381.911, 381.912, 381.98, and 381.981, Florida Statutes.

II. Present Situation:

In 2001, the Florida Public Health Foundation was incorporated to engage in charitable programs dedicated to improving the health of Florida citizens, to conduct educational programs for those working and interested in public health, and to have all of the powers conferred upon corporations organized under the Florida Not For Profit Corporation Act.

In 2004, the Florida Legislature created s. 381.98, F.S., recognizing the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., for the purpose of disseminating breakthrough findings in biomedical research and promoting health awareness in Florida and providing services to the Department of Health. The corporation's mission includes disseminating information about innovative biomedical research and clinical trials in this state as well as making Floridians and their treatment providers aware of specified diseases and conditions and available methods of preventing, diagnosing,

treating, and curing those diseases and conditions. The affairs of the corporation must be managed by an executive director appointed by a board of directors as specified in s. 381.98, F.S.

Under s. 381.98, F.S., the Florida Public Health Foundation, in consultation with the Department of Health and the Florida Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease, must facilitate communication between biomedical researchers and health care providers each month according to the health awareness schedule established by the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., in order to ensure ongoing dialogue between researchers, treatment providers, and the department. The Florida Public Health Foundation must provide an annual report concerning its activities and finances to the Florida Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease and must provide copies of the annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The Florida Public Health Foundation, a non-profit corporation, voluntarily dissolved on July 1, 2008. The Florida Public Health Foundation was merged with the Florida Public Health Institute in 2008. The Florida Public Health Institute, a non-profit entity, was incorporated in 2001 to advance the knowledge and practice of public health to promote, protect, and improve the health of all. The institute serves as a partnership of academic, public health, and community resources to promote improvements in health. The institute, located in Palm Beach County, has advocated health initiatives by the use of basic and applied research to solve health related problems through collaboration and an increased use of academic resources. The goals of the institute include:

- Improvement in the quality of and access to primary and preventative care for individuals and communities.
- Protection of health, the economy and the environment in times of emergency and disaster.
- Continued increase in both the quality and quantity of Florida's health care and public health professional workforce.
- Enhancement in the effective delivery of public health services.

The Florida Public Health Institute has established the following Centers of Excellence:

- *Center for Bio-Preparedness* to promote innovative programs in bio preparedness, develop pandemic influenza planning and health promotion activities, and explore the use of computer modeling in disaster preparedness;
- *Center for Workforce Development* to assess health and public health workforce needs, and develop recruitment and retention strategies;
- *Center for Preventative and Primary Care* to increase access to care, promote federally qualified health centers, increase knowledge of Medicaid/State Children's Health Insurance Program policies, promote the use of electronic medical records, and promote preventive training in graduate medical education; and
- *Center for Education, Research and Training* to promote collaborations between public health and academia; improve the translation of research to policy to practice, engage a statewide research university consortium, and support development of Palm Beach County Masters of Public Health programs.

In 2007, the Florida Public Health Institute received \$1.25 million in operational funding from the National Network of Public Health Institutes/University of Miami and the Quantum

Foundation. The Florida Public Health Institute was also chosen to be the lead institute on a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention national modeling project in partnership with public health institutes in Michigan and New Hampshire.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1. Amends s. 381.855, F.S., relating to the Florida Center for Universal Research to Eradicate Disease, to conform to changes in the bill, changing the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.

Section 2. Amends s. 381.911, F.S., relating to the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program, to conform to changes in the bill, changing the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.

Section 3. Amends s. 381.912, F.S., relating to the Cervical Cancer Elimination Task Force, to conform to changes in the bill, changing the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.

Section 4. Amends s. 381.98, F.S., relating to the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to change the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc. The section is also amended to modify the purpose of the renamed institute. The purpose of the institute is to advance the knowledge and practice of public health, including promoting health awareness in this state. The purpose would no longer include disseminating breakthrough findings in biomedical research and providing services to the Department of Health. The bill deletes the mission statement for the institute, which includes disseminating information about innovative biomedical research and clinical trials and making Floridians and their treatment providers aware of methods of preventing, diagnosing, treating, and curing specified diseases and conditions.

The bill revises the membership of the board of directors of the institute. The board of directors must be elected in accordance with the bylaws of the corporation and must include the State Surgeon General or his or her designee, a representative of the Florida Public Health Association, representatives of local health departments in Florida, representatives from institutions of higher learning, and representatives from the private health care, business, or foundation community. The majority of the board may not be employed by the State of Florida. Members of the board of directors may serve for 4-year rather than 2-year terms.

The section is amended to delete the duties of the institute to facilitate communication between biomedical researchers and health providers, and to require the Florida Public Health Institute to provide an annual report of its activities, excluding its finances, to the presiding officers in each house of the Legislature.

The bill deletes a requirement that the institute include information on its finances in the annual report it must submit to the Legislature.

Section 5. Amends s. 381.981, F.S., relating to health awareness campaigns, to conform to changes in the bill, changing the name of the Florida Public Health Foundation, Inc., to the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.

Section 6. Provides an effective date upon becoming a law.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

The provisions of this bill have no impact on municipalities and the counties under the requirements of Article VII, Section 18 of the Florida Constitution.

B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

The provisions of this bill have no impact on public records or open meetings issues under the requirements of Article I, Section 24(a) and (b) of the Florida Constitution.

C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

The provisions of this bill have no impact on the trust fund restrictions under the requirements of Article III, Subsection 19(f) of the Florida Constitution.

V. Fiscal Impact Statement:

A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

C. Government Sector Impact:

The Department of Health reports that there is no fiscal impact on the department.

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Additional Information:

- A. **Committee Substitute – Statement of Substantial Changes:**
(Summarizing differences between the Committee Substitute and the prior version of the bill.)

None.

- B. **Amendments:**

None.

This Senate Bill Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.
