

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 Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations

BILL: CS/SB 478

INTRODUCER: Health Regulation Committee and Senator Margolis

SUBJECT: Department of Health

DATE: January 20, 2012 **REVISED:** 1/26/12

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	O'Callaghan	Stovall	HR	Fav/CS
2.	Bradford	Hendon	BHA	Fav/1 amendment
3.			BC	
4.				
5.				
6.				

Please see Section VIII. for Additional Information:

A. COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE..... Statement of Substantial Changes

B. AMENDMENTS..... Technical amendments were recommended

Amendments were recommended

Significant amendments were recommended

I. Summary:

This committee substitute (CS) for SB 478 repeals s. 381.00325, F.S., which requires the Department of Health (department) to develop a Hepatitis A awareness program. This program requires the department to work with private businesses and associations to develop the program and disseminate information to educate the public about, and the availability of, the Hepatitis A vaccine.

This bill will have minimal fiscal impact on the Department of Health because it will still continue to provide education and outreach of the Hepatitis A vaccine under the authority of s. 381.003(1)(e), F.S.

This CS repeals s. 381.00325, F.S.

The effective date of this bill is July 1, 2012.

II. Present Situation:

Hepatitis Awareness

The department is required under s. 381.00325, F.S., to develop a Hepatitis A awareness program and work with private businesses and associations to develop the program and disseminate information to educate the public about, and the availability of, the Hepatitis A vaccine. Under s. 381.003, F.S., the department is required to conduct a communicable disease prevention and control program as part of fulfilling its public health mission. The program is required to include programs for the prevention and control of vaccine-preventable diseases, including Hepatitis A.

To fulfill the requirements of s. 381.00325 and s. 381.003, F.S., the department's Division of Disease Control administers a Hepatitis Prevention Program, which seeks to educate the public about Hepatitis A and Hepatitis B vaccines and recommends such vaccines.¹

The department's Hepatitis Prevention Program provides on its website a vaccine information statement from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention which provides information about Hepatitis A and the Hepatitis A vaccine. The vaccine information statement explains that Hepatitis A is a serious liver disease caused by the Hepatitis A virus, which is found in the stool of people with hepatitis A and spread by close personal contact or by eating food or drinking water containing the virus. The symptoms of Hepatitis A include "flu-like" illness, jaundice (yellow skin or eyes and dark urine), and severe stomach pains and diarrhea in children. People with Hepatitis A often have to be hospitalized and adults with the virus are often too ill to work for up to a month. Hepatitis A can also cause death, but can be prevented with a vaccine.²

Under the department's Hepatitis Prevention Program, the department:

- Provides Hepatitis A and B vaccines each year to over 30,000 at-risk adults who are 18 years of age or older.
- Provides Hepatitis A, B and C panel tests to more than 29,000 at-risk adults each year.
- Provides referrals for treatment for infected individuals.
- Directly funds 15 county health departments for specific Hepatitis prevention programs (Miami-Dade, Collier, Monroe, Pinellas, Polk, Broward, Escambia, Lee, Seminole, Okeechobee, Palm Beach, Bay, Alachua, Duval, and Orange counties).
- Collects and analyzes surveillance data based on reported cases of viral Hepatitis.
- Distributes educational information materials.
- Oversees the Viral Hepatitis Council, which is made up of county health department and non-governmental community members who advise the Hepatitis Prevention Program and write a comprehensive plan.

¹ Florida Department of Health, Division of Disease Control, *Hepatitis Prevention Program: Hepatitis Vaccine and Laboratory Testing*, available at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/aids/hep/index.html (Last visited on January 6, 2012).

² U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Vaccine Information Statement, Hepatitis A Vaccine, *What You Need to Know*, available at: <http://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/pubs/vis/downloads/vis-hep-a.pdf> (Last visited on January 6, 2012). Additional information about Hepatitis A is provided on the department's website at: http://www.doh.state.fl.us/disease_ctrl/aids/hep/hep_a.htm (Last visited on January 6, 2012).

- Provides technical assistance, training, and quality assurance.
- Provides webinar training to all healthcare providers and any interested groups or individuals.
- Collects and analyzes client risk assessment and other data.³

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

This CS repeals s. 381.00325, F.S., which requires the department to develop a Hepatitis A awareness program. This program requires the department to work with private businesses and associations to develop the program and disseminate information to educate the public about, and the availability of, the Hepatitis A vaccine.

The department reports that, even if the Hepatitis A awareness program under s. 381.00325, F.S., is repealed, the department will continue to provide education and outreach of the Hepatitis A vaccine under the authority of s. 381.003(1)(e), F.S. Therefore, the repeal of s. 381.00325, F.S., will have minimal impact on the department.⁴

The effective date of the CS is July 1, 2012.

IV. Constitutional Issues:

A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

The provisions of this CS 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 CS 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 CS 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.

³ Department of Health, *Bill Analysis, Economic Statement and Fiscal Note: SB 478*, December 7, 2011, on file with the Health Regulation Committee.

⁴ Department of Health, *Bill Analysis, Economic Statement and Fiscal Note: SB 478*, December 7, 2011, on file with the Health Regulation Committee.

B. Private Sector Impact:

The department will continue to provide education and outreach of the Hepatitis A vaccine under the authority of s. 381.003(1)(e), F.S.

C. Government Sector Impact:

Since the department will continue to provide education and outreach of the Hepatitis A, there will be no costs savings due to the repeal of s. 381.00325, F.S.

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.)

CS by Health Regulation on January 12, 2012:

The CS differs from the bill in that it removes the repeal of the Public Cord Blood Tissue Bank by removing the repeal of s. 381.06015, F.S.

B. Amendments:**Barcode 368304 by Budget Subcommittee on Health and Human Services Appropriations on January 26, 2012:**

This amendment creates section 381.9815 mandating the Department of Health to carry out surveillance, education, and testing programs with respect to hepatitis B and hepatitis C virus infections.

The department will be required to carry out the program directly and through grants to public and nonprofit private entities. There currently are no resources appropriated to implement this program. The fiscal impact of this amendment seems to be significant but is indeterminate.