By Senator Lee

24-00796B-13 20131312 A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to medical negligence claims; creating s. 766.1091, F.S.; authorizing a health care provider or health care clinic and a patient or prospective patient to agree to submit a claim of medical negligence to arbitration; requiring that the arbitration agreement be governed by ch. 682, F.S.; authorizing the arbitration agreement to contain a provision that limits an award of damages; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Section 766.1091, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

766.1091 Voluntary binding arbitration; damages.—A health care provider licensed pursuant to chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 466; an entity owned in whole or in part by a health care provider licensed pursuant to chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 466; or a health care clinic licensed pursuant to part X of chapter 400 and a patient or prospective patient may agree in writing to submit to arbitration any claim for medical negligence that may currently exist or accrue in the future which would otherwise be brought pursuant to the provisions of this chapter. An arbitration agreement entered into pursuant to this section shall be governed by the provisions of chapter 682 and may contain a provision that limits the available damages in an arbitration award.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.