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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/19/2022	.	
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The Committee on Health Policy (Bean) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete lines 26 - 130

and insert:

Section 1. Section 401.272, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

401.272 Emergency medical services community health care.-

(1) The purpose of this section is to encourage more effective use ~~utilization~~ of the skills of emergency medical technicians and paramedics in nonemergent community settings by enabling them to perform, in partnership with local county



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12 health departments and hospitals as defined in s. 395.002(13),  
13 specific additional health care tasks that are consistent with  
14 the public health and welfare.

15 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
16 contrary:

17 (a) Certified paramedics or emergency medical technicians  
18 may perform health promotion and wellness activities and blood  
19 pressure screenings in a nonemergency environment, within the  
20 scope of their training, and under the supervision of a  
21 physician or the direction of a medical director. As used in  
22 this paragraph, the term "health promotion and wellness" means  
23 the provision of public health programs pertaining to the  
24 prevention of illness and injury.

25 (b) Certified paramedics may administer immunizations in a  
26 nonemergency environment, within the scope of their training,  
27 and under the supervision of a physician or the direction of a  
28 medical director. There must be a written agreement between the  
29 paramedic's supervising physician or medical director and the  
30 county health department located in each county in which the  
31 paramedic administers immunizations. This agreement must  
32 establish the protocols, policies, and procedures under which  
33 the paramedic must operate.

34 (c) Certified paramedics may provide basic life support  
35 services, advanced life support services, and additional health  
36 care services to acute care at-home patients in a nonemergent  
37 community setting as specified in the paramedic's formal  
38 supervisory relationship with a physician or standing orders as  
39 described in s. 401.265, s. 458.348, or s. 459.025. Each  
40 physician who supervises or provides medical direction to a



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41 paramedic who administers basic life support services, advanced  
42 life support services, or additional health care services to  
43 acute care at-home patients in a nonemergent community setting  
44 pursuant to a formal supervisory relationship or standing orders  
45 is liable for any act or omission of the paramedic acting under  
46 the physician's supervision or medical direction when performing  
47 such services.

48       (3) Each physician or medical director under whose  
49 supervision or direction a paramedic administers immunizations  
50 or provides basic life support services, advanced life support  
51 services, or additional health care services to acute care at-  
52 home patients in a nonemergency community setting must verify  
53 and document that the paramedic has received sufficient training  
54 and experience to administer immunizations or provide basic life  
55 support services, advanced life support services, or additional  
56 health care services to acute care at-home patients in a  
57 nonemergency community setting, as applicable. The verification  
58 must be documented on forms developed by the department, and the  
59 completed forms must be maintained at the service location of  
60 the licensee and made available to the department upon request.

61       (4) The department may adopt and enforce all rules  
62 necessary to enforce the provisions relating to paramedics and  
63 emergency medical technicians practicing in a nonemergent  
64 community setting under subsection (2) a paramedic's  
65 ~~administration of immunizations and the performance of health~~  
66 ~~promotion and wellness activities and blood pressure screenings~~  
67 ~~by a paramedic or emergency medical technician in a nonemergency~~  
68 ~~environment.~~

69       Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) and paragraph



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70 (a) of subsection (4) of section 465.019, Florida Statutes, are  
71 amended to read:

72 465.019 Institutional pharmacies; permits.—

73 (2) The following classes of institutional pharmacies are  
74 established:

75 (d)1. "Class III institutional pharmacies" are those  
76 institutional pharmacies, including central distribution  
77 facilities, affiliated with a hospital which ~~that~~ provide the  
78 same services that are authorized by a Class II institutional  
79 pharmacy permit. Class III institutional pharmacies may also:

80 a. Dispense, distribute, compound, and fill prescriptions  
81 for medicinal drugs for inpatient treatment or for acute care  
82 at-home patients in a nonemergent community setting.

83 b. Prepare prepackaged drug products.

84 c. Conduct other pharmaceutical services for the affiliated  
85 hospital and for entities under common control that are each  
86 permitted under this chapter to possess medicinal drugs.

87 d. Provide the services in sub-subparagraphs a.-c. to an  
88 entity under common control which holds an active health care  
89 clinic establishment permit as required under s. 499.01(2)(r).

90 2. A Class III institutional pharmacy shall maintain  
91 policies and procedures addressing:

92 a. The consultant pharmacist responsible for pharmaceutical  
93 services.

94 b. Safe practices for the preparation, dispensing,  
95 prepackaging, distribution, and transportation of medicinal  
96 drugs and prepackaged drug products.

97 c. Recordkeeping to monitor the movement, distribution, and  
98 transportation of medicinal drugs and prepackaged drug products.



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99           d. Recordkeeping of pharmacy staff responsible for each  
100 step in the preparation, dispensing, prepackaging,  
101 transportation, and distribution of medicinal drugs and  
102 prepackaged drug products.

103           e. Medicinal drugs and prepackaged drug products that may  
104 not be safely distributed among Class III institutional  
105 pharmacies.

106           (4) (a) Medicinal drugs shall be dispensed in an  
107 institutional pharmacy to outpatients only when that institution  
108 has secured a community pharmacy permit from the department.  
109 However, ~~medicinal drugs may be dispensed by~~ a hospital that has  
110 not secured a community pharmacy permit but operates a Class II  
111 or Class III institutional pharmacy may dispense medicinal drugs  
112 to a patient of the hospital's emergency department, an acute  
113 care at-home patient in a nonemergent community setting, or a  
114 hospital inpatient upon discharge if a prescriber, as defined in  
115 s. 465.025(1), treating the patient in such hospital determines  
116 that the medicinal drug is warranted and that community pharmacy  
117 services are not readily accessible, geographically or  
118 otherwise, to the patient. Such prescribing and dispensing must  
119 be for a supply of the drug that will last for the greater of  
120 the following:

- 121           1. Up to 48 hours; or  
122           2. Through the end of the next business day.

123           Section 3. Subsection (19) of section 401.23, Florida  
124 Statutes, is amended to read:

125           401.23 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

126           (19) "Physician" means a practitioner who is licensed under  
127 ~~the provisions of~~ chapter 458 or chapter 459. For the purpose of



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128 providing "medical direction" as defined in this section  
129 ~~subsection (14)~~ for the treatment of patients immediately before  
130 ~~prior to~~ or during transportation to a United States Department  
131 of Veterans Affairs medical facility, "physician" also means a  
132 practitioner employed by the United States Department of  
133 Veterans Affairs.

134

135 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

136 And the title is amended as follows:

137 Delete lines 2 - 21

138 and insert:

139 An act relating to acute care at-home patients in  
140 nonemergent community settings; amending s. 401.272,  
141 F.S.; revising a legislative purpose regarding  
142 emergency medical services community health care;  
143 authorizing certified paramedics to perform basic life  
144 support services, advanced life support services, and  
145 additional health care services to acute care at-home  
146 patients in nonemergent community settings under  
147 certain circumstances; providing that a physician or  
148 medical director who supervises or directs the  
149 provision of such services by a paramedic is liable  
150 for any act or omission during the provision of such  
151 services; requiring supervising physicians and medical  
152 directors to verify and document that paramedics  
153 providing such services under their supervision or  
154 direction are sufficiently trained and experienced to  
155 do so; revising the Department of Health's rulemaking  
156 authority to conform to changes made by the act;



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157 amending s. 465.019, F.S.; specifying that Class III  
158 institutional pharmacies may dispense, distribute,  
159 compound, and fill prescriptions for medicinal drugs  
160 for inpatients and acute care at-home patients in  
161 nonemergent community settings; authorizing hospitals  
162 to dispense medicinal drugs to certain patients  
163 without first securing a community pharmacy permit  
164 under certain circumstances; amending ss. 14.33,  
165 252.515, 395.1027, 401.23, and 401.245, F.S.; making  
166 technical changes; providing an effective