

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to structure and legislative oversight
3 of executive agencies; amending s. 20.04, F.S.;
4 providing that divisions or offices in an executive
5 department may be established only by specific
6 statutory enactment; amending s. 20.165, F.S.;
7 providing that certain appointments made by the
8 Secretary of Business and Professional Regulation are
9 subject to review and approval by the Legislature;
10 amending s. 20.23, F.S.; providing that certain
11 appointments made by the Secretary of Transportation
12 are subject to review and approval by the Legislature;
13 providing that the secretary's restructuring of
14 offices is subject to review and approval by the
15 Legislature; amending ss. 20.315, 20.316, 20.41, and
16 20.60, F.S.; providing that certain appointments made
17 by the heads of departments are subject to review and
18 approval by the Legislature; requiring the Legislature
19 to dissolve certain divisions, offices, bureaus,
20 sections, and subsections by a specified date;
21 amending s. 20.43, F.S.; removing provisions relating
22 to the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity
23 within the Department of Health; amending s. 282.0051,
24 F.S.; providing that the state chief information
25 officer shall have all decisionmaking authority with

26 respect to information technology on behalf of all
27 departments and all department divisions, offices,
28 bureaus, sections, and subsections; repealing s.
29 381.735, F.S., relating to the Office of Minority
30 Health and Health Equity; amending ss. 381.814,
31 383.2163, and 409.91235, F.S.; conforming provisions
32 to changes made by the act; providing an effective
33 date.

34
35 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

36
37 **Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (7) of section**
38 **20.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

39 20.04 Structure of executive branch.—The executive branch
40 of state government is structured as follows:

41 (7)

42 (b) Within the limitations of this subsection, the head of
43 the department may recommend the establishment of additional
44 divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections of the
45 department to promote efficient and effective operation of the
46 department. However, such additional divisions, ~~or offices,~~
47 bureaus, sections, and subsections in the Department of Children
48 and Families, the Department of Corrections, the Department of
49 Commerce, and the Department of Transportation, may be
50 established only by specific statutory enactment. ~~New bureaus,~~

51 ~~sections, and subsections of departments may be initiated by a~~
52 ~~department and established as recommended by the Department of~~
53 ~~Management Services and approved by the Executive Office of the~~
54 ~~Governor, or may be established by specific statutory enactment.~~

55 **Section 2. Subsection (3) of section 20.165, Florida**
56 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

57 20.165 Department of Business and Professional
58 Regulation.—There is created a Department of Business and
59 Professional Regulation.

60 (3) The secretary shall appoint a director for each
61 division established within this section. Each division director
62 shall directly administer the division and shall be responsible
63 to the secretary. The secretary may appoint deputy and assistant
64 secretaries, subject to review and approval by the Legislature,
65 ~~as necessary~~ to aid the secretary in fulfilling the secretary's
66 statutory obligations.

67 **Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section**
68 **20.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

69 20.23 Department of Transportation.—There is created a
70 Department of Transportation which shall be a decentralized
71 agency.

72 (4)

73 (b) The secretary may appoint positions at the level of
74 deputy assistant secretary or director, subject to review and
75 approval by the Legislature, ~~which the secretary deems necessary~~

76 | to accomplish the mission and goals of the department,
77 | including, but not limited to, the areas of program
78 | responsibility provided in this paragraph, each of whom shall be
79 | appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the secretary. The
80 | secretary may combine, separate, or delete offices, subject to
81 | review and approval by the Legislature, as needed in
82 | consultation with the Executive Office of the Governor. The
83 | department's areas of program responsibility include, but are
84 | not limited to, all of the following:

- 85 | 1. Administration.
- 86 | 2. Planning.
- 87 | 3. Supply chain and modal development.
- 88 | 4. Design.
- 89 | 5. Highway operations.
- 90 | 6. Right-of-way.
- 91 | 7. Toll operations.
- 92 | 8. Transportation technology.
- 93 | 9. Information technology.
- 94 | 10. Motor carrier weight inspection.
- 95 | 11. Work program and budget.
- 96 | 12. Comptroller.
- 97 | 13. Construction.
- 98 | 14. Statewide corridors.
- 99 | 15. Maintenance.
- 100 | 16. Forecasting and performance.

17. Emergency management.

18. Safety.

19. Materials.

20. Infrastructure and innovation.

21. Permitting.

22. Traffic operations.

23. Operational technology.

Section 4. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 20.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.315 Department of Corrections.—There is created a Department of Corrections.

(3) SECRETARY OF CORRECTIONS.—The head of the Department of Corrections is the Secretary of Corrections. The secretary is appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor. The secretary is responsible for planning, coordinating, and managing the corrections system of the state. The secretary shall ensure that the programs and services of the department are administered in accordance with state and federal laws, rules, and regulations, with established program standards, and consistent with legislative intent. The secretary shall identify the need for and recommend funding for the secure and efficient operation of the state correctional system.

(c) The secretary may appoint assistant secretaries, directors, or other such persons that he or she deems are

126 necessary, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, to
127 accomplish the mission and goals of the department, including,
128 but not limited to, the following areas of program
129 responsibility:

130 1. Security and institutional operations, which shall
131 provide inmate work programs, offender programs, security
132 administration, emergency operations response, and operational
133 oversight of the regions.

134 2. Health services, which shall be headed by a physician
135 licensed under chapter 458 or an osteopathic physician licensed
136 under chapter 459, or a professionally trained health care
137 administrator with progressively responsible experience in
138 health care administration. This individual shall be responsible
139 for the delivery of health services to offenders within the
140 system and shall have direct professional authority over such
141 services.

142 3. Community corrections, which shall provide for
143 coordination of community alternatives to incarceration and
144 operational oversight of community corrections regions.

145 4. Administrative services, which shall provide budget and
146 accounting services within the department, including the
147 construction and maintenance of correctional institutions, human
148 resource management, research, planning and evaluation, and
149 technology.

150 5. Program, transition, and postrelease services, which

shall provide for the direct management and supervision of all departmental programs, including the coordination and delivery of education and job training to the offenders in the custody of the department. In addition, this program shall provide for the direct management and supervision of all programs that furnish transition assistance to inmates who are or have recently been in the custody of the department, including the coordination, facilitation, and contract management of prerelease and postrelease transition services provided by governmental and private providers, including faith-based service groups.

Section 5. Subsection (2) of section 20.316, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.316 Department of Juvenile Justice.—There is created a Department of Juvenile Justice.

(2) DEPARTMENT PROGRAMS.—The following programs are established within the Department of Juvenile Justice:

- (a) Accountability and Program Support.
- (b) Administration.
- (c) Intake and Detention.
- (d) Prevention Services.
- (e) Probation and Community Corrections.
- (f) Residential and Correctional Facilities.

The secretary may establish assistant secretary positions and a chief of staff position, subject to review and approval by the

Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to administer the requirements of this section.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 20.41, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.41 Department of Elderly Affairs.—There is created a Department of Elderly Affairs.

(1) The head of the department is the Secretary of Elderly Affairs. The secretary must be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The secretary serves at the pleasure of the Governor. The secretary shall administer the affairs of the department and may employ assistants, professional staff, and other employees, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to discharge the powers and duties of the department.

Section 7. Subsection (9) of section 20.43, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.43 Department of Health.—There is created a Department of Health.

~~(9) There is established within the Department of Health the Office of Minority Health and Health Equity, which shall be headed by a Senior Health Equity Officer. The Senior Health Equity Officer shall administer the Closing the Gap grant program established under ss. 381.7351–381.7356 in a manner that maximizes the impact of the grants in achieving health equity. The Senior Health Equity Officer shall evaluate the awarded~~

HB 1435

2026

~~grants to assess the effectiveness and efficiency of the use of funds and to determine best practices. The Senior Health Equity Officer shall disseminate information on best practices to stakeholders and shall ensure that the assessments inform future grant award decisions.~~

Section 8. Subsection (2) of section 20.60, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

20.60 Department of Commerce; creation; powers and duties.—

(2) The head of the department is the Secretary of Commerce, who shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate. The secretary shall serve at the pleasure of and report to the Governor and shall serve as the Governor's chief negotiator for business recruitment and expansion and economic development. The secretary may appoint deputy and assistant secretaries, subject to review and approval by the Legislature, ~~as necessary~~ to aid the secretary in fulfilling his or her statutory obligations.

Section 9. The Legislature shall, by the adjournment of the 2027 Regular Session, review the purposes and functions of every department division, office, bureau, section, and subsection and dissolve any such division, office, bureau, section, and subsection as it deems necessary.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 282.0051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

226 282.0051 Department of Management Services; Florida
227 Digital Service; powers, duties, and functions.—

228 (2)(a) The Secretary of Management Services shall
229 designate a state chief information officer, who shall
230 administer the Florida Digital Service. The state chief
231 information officer, prior to appointment, must have at least 5
232 years of experience in the development of information system
233 strategic planning and development or information technology
234 policy, and, preferably, have leadership-level experience in the
235 design, development, and deployment of interoperable software
236 and data solutions. The state chief information officer shall
237 have all decisionmaking authority with respect to information
238 technology on behalf of all departments and all department
239 divisions, offices, bureaus, sections, and subsections.

240 **Section 11.** Section 381.735, Florida Statutes, is
241 repealed.

242 **Section 12. Subsections (3) and (4) of section 381.814,**
243 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

244 381.814 Sickle Cell Disease Research and Treatment Grant
245 Program.—The Sickle Cell Disease Research and Treatment Grant
246 Program is created within the Department of Health.

247 (3) Funds appropriated to the program shall be awarded by
248 the Department of Health ~~Office of Minority Health and Health~~
249 ~~Equity~~, within the department, to community-based sickle cell
250 disease medical treatment and research centers operating in this

251 state.

252 (4) The Department of Health ~~Office of Minority Health and~~
253 ~~Health Equity~~ shall award grants under the program to community-
254 based sickle cell disease medical treatment and research centers
255 to fund projects specific to sickle cell disease in the
256 following project areas:

257 (a) Sickle cell disease workforce development and
258 education.—Such projects shall include, but need not be limited
259 to, facility-based education programs, continuing education
260 curriculum development, and outreach and education activities
261 with the local health care practitioner community. Workforce
262 development and education projects must be based on current
263 evidence-based clinical practice guidelines for sickle cell
264 disease.

265 (b) Sickle Cell Disease Treatment Centers of Excellence.—
266 Such projects shall include, but need not be limited to,
267 operational support for existing centers of excellence, facility
268 enhancement of existing centers of excellence, and the
269 establishment of new centers of excellence.

270 **Section 13. Subsection (6) of section 383.2163, Florida**
271 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

272 383.2163 Telehealth Minority Maternity Care Program.—The
273 department shall establish a statewide Telehealth Minority
274 Maternity Care Program that uses telehealth to expand the
275 capacity for positive maternal health outcomes in racial and

276 ethnic minority populations. The department may enlist county
277 health departments to assist with program implementation.

278 (6) FUNDING.—The department's Division of Community Health
279 Promotion and ~~Office of Minority Health and Health Equity~~ shall
280 ~~work in partnership to~~ apply for federal funds that are
281 available to assist the department in accomplishing the
282 program's purpose and successfully implementing the program.

283 **Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section**
284 **409.91235, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

285 409.91235 Agency review and report on medications,
286 treatments, and services for sickle cell disease.—

287 (1) The Agency for Health Care Administration, in
288 consultation with the Florida Medical Schools Quality Network
289 and a dedicated sickle cell disease medical treatment and
290 research center that maintains a sickle cell patient database
291 and tracks sickle cell disease outcome measures, shall, every 2
292 years:

293 (b)1. Develop a written report that details the review
294 findings.

295 2. Beginning November 1, 2024, and by November 1 of every
296 other year thereafter, post the report on the agency's website.

297 3. Submit a copy of the report to the Governor, the
298 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
299 Representatives, the Department of Health ~~Health's Office of~~
300 ~~Minority Health and Health Equity~~, and the Rare Disease Advisory

HB 1435

2026

301 Council.

302 **Section 15.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.