



**FLORIDA OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**



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**Florida Osteopathic Medical Association Legislative Update
Committee Week #4**

November 17 – 21, 2025

Florida Legislative Update Committee Week #4

During the Florida legislative interim committee week ending November 21, 2025, a range of bills, with two focusing on healthcare, were discussed and advanced in committees in preparation for the 2026 Regular Session.

The three bills that passed out of committee this week, both in the House, were Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence Resulting in Death HB6003 (R-Trabulsky), Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child HB289 (R-Greco) and Mobile Opportunity by Interstate Licensure Endorsement Act SB154 (R-Harrell). While the Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence Resulting in Death bill passed out of the House Committee, the solace we have at this time is that there is no Senate companion. That can change any day, and the FOMA is continuing to work with legislators on our position opposing the bill.

Conversely, the other medical liability bill that passed this week, the Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child, is in both chambers, and both chambers continue to move forward with the language as it is currently written.

Finally, the Senate Health Policy Committee heard SB154 to revise the list of individuals who are ineligible for a health care license by endorsement. This relates directly to one healthcare practitioner group, dentists – requiring any applicant for a dental license by Mobile

Endorsement to graduate from an accredited dental school or dental hygiene program to be eligible for licensure.

On November 18, 2025, OPPAGA presented to the Florida Senate Health Policy Committee on health care practitioner interstate licensure compacts, focusing primarily on the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (IMLC). The presentation highlighted that, although Florida participates in the compact, the state retains full authority to regulate medical practice and discipline physicians licensed under the compact. OPPAGA identified several statutory conflicts between Florida law and compact provisions, particularly related to public records, due process, and transparency. For example, some compact application and disciplinary materials go directly to the compact commission rather than the Florida Board of Medicine, raising potential public-records concerns. The compact also allows certain commission meetings to be closed, which may conflict with Florida's open-meeting laws. OPPAGA emphasized that due-process protections for physicians disciplined by another compact state should be clearly preserved under Florida law. The presentation concluded with recommendations to address these issues, including amending public-records statutes, providing for necessary closed meetings, establishing statutory processes for challenging or withdrawing from compact rules, ensuring due-process protections, and coordinating with the Department of Health to implement the administrative and technological infrastructure required for compact operations.

The Legislature has two more committee weeks scheduled: December 1-5 and December 8-12, and the FOMA team will continue to update you.

We look forward to seeing you in Tallahassee for Osteopathic Medicine and Health Awareness Day – Tuesday December 2 and Wednesday December 3, 2025 – safe travels!

Legislative Issues to Watch:

1. EKGs – **Monitor**. no bills filed to date, watching this issue for any changes from last year's legislation.
2. Vaccines – **Monitor**. No news from DOH on workshop or hearing. Waiting to see what the Governor's vaccine package will contain. Might see a medical conscious exemption. Also, discussion around requirements to treat individuals who have not been vaccinated.
3. [Recovery of Damages for Medical Negligence Resulting in Death – HB 6003 \(Trabulsky\)](#) – **Oppose**. Removes the provision precluding certain persons from recovering damages for medical negligence resulting in death.
 - a. During week 4, the Judiciary Committee heard this one bill and after testimony, debate and questions – the committee passed the bill 15-1.
 - b. There is still no Senate companion.

4. Parental Rights – [SB 166 \(Grall\)](#) [HB 173 \(Kendall\)](#) – **Oppose** unless issues are fixed from last year’s language re: STD’s. Parental Rights; Revising requirements for the provision of maternal health and contraceptive information and services to minors; requiring consent from a parent or guardian for a minor’s treatment for certain diseases; repealing a provision relating to minors’ access to outpatient crisis intervention services and treatment; requiring school districts to provide parents with specified information before the district administers certain questionnaires or forms to students, etc.
5. [Acupuncture – HB 169 \(Alvarez\)](#) – **Monitor**. if the same as last year – good with language. Acupuncture: Revises licensure requirements; provides applicability; exempts certain persons from certain regulations governing the practice of acupuncture. Effective Date: July 1, 2026. This bill has only two committees of reference.
6. [Step therapy - SB 70 \(Harrell\)](#) – **Support**. Step-therapy Protocols; Requiring the Agency for Health Care Administration to approve drug products for Medicaid recipients for the treatment of serious mental illness without step-therapy prior authorization under certain circumstances; directing the agency to include rate impacts resulting from the act in certain rates that become effective on a specified date, etc.
7. [Temporary Licensure of AAs – SB 148 \(Harrell\)](#) – **Anesthesiologists support**. Temporary Licensure of Anesthesiologist Assistants; Requiring the Department of Health to issue a temporary license to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant to applicants meeting specified criteria; providing that temporary licensees may practice only under the direct supervision of an anesthesiologist and pursuant to a written protocol, etc.
8. [Medical Review Committee – SB 64 \(Harrell\)](#) – **Monitor**. Inclusion of an amendment for DO to be added. Medical Review Committees; Revising the definition of the term “medical review committee”, etc.
9. [Mandatory Review of Insurance Claim Denials SB 202 \(Bradley\)](#) – **Monitor**. Necessary amendment if moves. Mandatory Human Reviews of Insurance Claim Denials; Requiring that insurers’ decisions to deny a claim or any portion of a claim be made by qualified human professionals; prohibiting the use of algorithms, artificial intelligence, or machine learning systems as the sole basis for determining whether to adjust or deny a claim; authorizing the Office of Insurance Regulation to conduct market conduct examinations and investigations under certain circumstances, etc.
10. [Psychiatric APRN – SB 138 \(Truenow\)](#) and [HB301 \(Shoaf\)](#) – **Oppose**. Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Autonomous Practice; Authorizing certain advanced practice registered nurses to engage in autonomous practice to provide mental health services as defined by the rule of the Board of Nursing, etc.
11. [Florida Health Choices Program – HB 141 \(Yarkosky\)](#) – **Review and observe**. Renaming "Florida Health Choices Program" as "Florida Employee Health Choices Program"; revises legislative findings & intent; revises definitions; revises purpose & components of

program; revises eligibility & participation requirements for vendors under program; revises types of health insurance products that are available for purchase through program; removes certain pricing transparency requirements to conform to changes made by act; revises structure of insurance marketplace process under program; removes option for risk pooling under program; removes exemptions from certain requirements of Florida Insurance Code under program; renaming corporation administering program as "Florida Employee Health Choices, Inc."; revises membership of board of directors; authorizes corporation to exercise certain powers; revises duties of board & corporation; revises fiscal year in which corporation's annual report is due.

12. Chiropractic Medicine – **Neutral**. Nothing filed to date, should be compromise language.

13. Pharmacists/MATs – **Neutral**. Latest compromise language with threat to limit it to certain physicians.

14. [Naturopath HB223 \(Smith, D.\)](#)– **Oppose**. Naturopathic Medicine: Creates Board of Naturopathic Medicine within DOH; provides for licensure by examination of naturopathic doctors; provides financial responsibility requirements as condition of licensure for naturopathic doctors; provides that patients are responsible for advising treating health care practitioners about any legend drug, nutrient, or natural medicinal substance that naturopathic doctor has prescribed or recommended to patient; provides for licensure by endorsement of naturopathic doctors. This bill has three committees of reference.

15. Physician Assistants – **Oppose**. Nothing filed to date, seeking independent practice.

16. [Mobile Opportunity by Interstate Licensure Endorsement Act SB154](#) (Harrell) – Adds requirement that dentists and dental hygienists must graduate from a school or college accredited by the American Dental Association.

17. Psychology Prescribing – **Oppose**.

18. [Prescribing Authority SB374](#) (Trumbull) - Deleting the requirement that a supervising physician notify the Department of Health in writing of any delegation of prescribing authority to a physician assistant; deleting the requirement that a supervising physician's name be included in the prescription issued by a physician assistant; revising requirements for the drug formulary for physician assistants; revising the drug formulary requirements for advanced practice registered nurses authorized to prescribe medications

19. [Connecting to Care Act SB294](#) (Rodriguez) - Names the legislation as the 'Connecting to Care Act'. Provides that pharmacists, in addition to nurses and physician assistants, may deliver medication in medication-assisted treatment programs when authorized. Expressly permits pharmacists to administer antipsychotic medications and opiate treatment medications by injection under a protocol with a supervising physician.

Requires pharmacists to complete an 8-hour continuing education course on safe and effective administration of these medications.

20. Civil Liability for the Wrongful Death of an Unborn Child HB 289 (Greco) and SB164 (Grall) - Prohibits right of action against mother for wrongful death of unborn child or against health care provider for legal medical care provided in certain circumstances; authorizes parents of unborn child to recover certain damages; prohibits recovery of certain damages if decedent is unborn child.
 - a. SB164 was heard in the Judiciary committee on November 4 and passed 5-4. The Senate language has two more committee meeting stops.
 - b. HB289 was heard in the House Civil Justice & Claims Subcommittee on Tuesday, November 18. The bill passed 13-3 and now moves to the Judiciary Committee as its last committee stop.
21. Electronic Prescribing – No news, nothing filed to date.
22. Out of Network Providers – No news, nothing filed to date.
23. Federal Rural Health Transformation Grant Program – The AHCA presented the Rural Health Transformation Program on Tuesday, November 4, 2025, before the House Health and Human Services Committee. Brian Meyer, Deputy Secretary Division of Medicaid, presented on the Rural Health Transformation Act (RHTA), outlining the state's strategy for utilizing the program's funding to address rural healthcare challenges, focusing on improving access, outcomes, and workforce development. Key areas of the presentation included the required eight elements of the state plan: improving access, enhancing outcomes, using new technology, strengthening partnerships, recruiting/training a workforce, implementing data-driven solutions, planning for long-term financial solvency, and identifying causes of hospital closures.