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*Better Health Care for all Floridians*

ELIZABETH DUDEK  
SECRETARY

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**Secretary Dudek's Statement about the Passage of Four Agency Priority Bills  
in the House Health Innovation Committee**

**Tallahassee, Fla.** –Agency for Health Care Administration Secretary Liz Dudek released the following statement about the passage of all four of the Agency's priority bills in the House Health Innovation Committee:

“In its own way, each of these pieces of legislation provides greater protections for Floridians and will help the Agency better carryout its mission. I want to express my thanks to Chairman John Wood and the House Health Innovation Committee for supporting each of these bills today,” said Secretary Liz Dudek. “In addition, I appreciate the support for the Medicaid Fraud bill that was voiced by the Florida Chamber of Commerce and the Florida Health Care Association, and the support for the Transitional Living Facilities bill voiced by Disability Rights Florida.”

The bills are:

- **HB 939, Medicaid Fraud, sponsored by Representative Cary Pigman**, seeks to enhance Medicaid provider controls and increase Medicaid provider accountability. Specifically, the proposal will strengthen the Agency's ability to review records of providers suspected of overpayment, enhance the Agency's ability to terminate providers for specified criminal conduct, and increases accountability for repayment of overpayments and fines.
- **HB 1021, Background Screening, sponsored by Representative Betty Reed**, amends laws related to criminal background screening for employees working with the elderly, children, or disabled individuals. The proposed language makes changes to issues identified by the Agency and partner agencies that would improve the process.
- **HB 1109, Transitional Living Facilities, sponsored by Representative MaryLynn Magar**, revises licensure standards for transitional living facilities (TLFs); consolidating the oversight, care and services of TLF clients under the Agency for Health Care Administration (Agency). Revisions will provide regulatory standards to protect health, safety and welfare of all clients in these facilities.
- **Proposed Committee Substitute for HB 1319, Assisted Living Facilities, by Representative Eddy Gonzalez**, makes significant changes to Florida Statutes relating to assisted living facilities (ALFs.) The proposed changes will strengthen the Agency's regulatory and enforcement authority and increase the amount and type of ALF information provided to the public. The bill proposes changes to the limited nursing, extended congregate care and limited mental health licenses, and enhances consumer protection and information.

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