THE FLORIDA SENATE 2012 SUMMARY OF LEGISLATION PASSED Committee on Health Regulation

CS/CS/CS/HB 363 — Physician Assistants

by Health and Human Services Committee; Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee; Health and Human Services Quality Subcommittee; and Rep. Kreegel and others (CS/SB 774 by Health Regulation Committee and Senator Hays)

The bill removes the requirements that a physician assistant (PA) obtain an additional license authorizing him or her to prescribe medication. The bill does not alter any current authority granted to PAs to prescribe. PAs will continue to be issued a prescriber number granting them authority to prescribe certain drugs. The Department of Health will continue to process requests for a prescriber number and determine if the PA qualifies for the prescribing privilege. The bill requires PAs to provide certain documentation as evidence of eligibility for a prescriber number.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2012. *Vote: Senate 39-0; House 115-0*

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