

By Senator Clary

4-1434-06

See HB 497

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to medical negligence; amending s. 766.102, F.S.; specifying claims of negligence pertaining to certain activities of blood banks as medical negligence claims; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 766.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

766.102 Medical negligence; standards of recovery; expert witness.--

(1) In any action for recovery of damages based on the death or personal injury of any person in which it is alleged that such death or injury resulted from the negligence of a health care provider as defined in s. 766.202(4), the claimant shall have the burden of proving by the greater weight of evidence that the alleged actions of the health care provider represented a breach of the prevailing professional standard of care for that health care provider. The prevailing professional standard of care for a given health care provider shall be that level of care, skill, and treatment which, in light of all relevant surrounding circumstances, is recognized as acceptable and appropriate by reasonably prudent similar health care providers. With respect to blood banks, the collection, screening, testing, and processing of blood obtained from donors for transfusion constitutes a professional medical service integral to the care and treatment of patients, and any claim of negligence pertaining to these activities is a medical negligence claim.

CODING: Words ~~stricken~~ are deletions; words underlined are additions.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.