## Florida Senate - 2007

By Senator Peaden

2-1765A-07

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the Department of Health;
3	amending s. 20.43, F.S.; designating the State
4	Surgeon General as the head of the Department
5	of Health; providing requirements for the
б	position; providing duties for the State
7	Surgeon General; conforming references;
8	establishing the Office of Uninsured Health
9	within the department to operate as a source of
10	information for the uninsured and underserved;
11	providing responsibilities of the office;
12	providing an effective date.
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14	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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16	Section 1. Subsections (2), (5), and (6) of section
17	20.43, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (10) is
18	added to that section, to read:
19	20.43 Department of HealthThere is created a
20	Department of Health.
21	(2)(a) The head of the Department of Health is the
22	<u>State Surgeon General</u> <del>Secretary of Health and State Health</del>
23	<del>Officer</del> . The <u>State Surgeon General</u> <del>secretary</del> must be a
24	physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 who has
25	advanced training or extensive experience in public health
26	administration. The <u>State Surgeon General</u> secretary is
27	appointed by the Governor subject to confirmation by the
28	Senate. The <u>State Surgeon General</u> <del>secretary</del> serves at the
29	pleasure of the Governor. <u>The State Surgeon General shall</u>
30	serve as the leading voice on wellness and disease-prevention
31	efforts and will focus on advocating healthy lifestyles,

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**CODING:** Words stricken are deletions; words <u>underlined</u> are additions.

1 developing public health policy, and building collaborative 2 partnerships with schools, businesses, health care practitioners, community-based organizations, and public and 3 4 private institutions in order to promote health literacy and optimum quality of life for all Floridians. 5 б (b) The Officer of Women's Health Strategy is 7 established within the Department of Health and shall report 8 directly to the State Surgeon General secretary. (5) The department shall plan and administer its 9 public health programs through its county health departments 10 and may, for administrative purposes and efficient service 11 12 delivery, establish up to 15 service areas to carry out such 13 duties as may be prescribed by the State Surgeon General secretary. The boundaries of the service areas shall be the 14 same as, or combinations of, the service districts of the 15 Department of Children and Family Services established in s. 16 17 20.19 and, to the extent practicable, shall take into 18 consideration the boundaries of the jobs and education regional boards. 19 20 (6) The <u>State Surgeon General</u> secretary and division 21 directors are authorized to appoint ad hoc advisory committees 22 as necessary. The issue or problem that the ad hoc committee 23 shall address, and the timeframe within which the committee is to complete its work, shall be specified at the time the 2.4 committee is appointed. Ad hoc advisory committees shall 25 26 include representatives of groups or entities affected by the 27 issue or problem that the committee is asked to examine. 2.8 Members of ad hoc advisory committees shall receive no compensation, but may, within existing departmental resources, 29 receive reimbursement for travel expenses as provided in s. 30 112.061. 31

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1	(10)(a) The Office of Uninsured Health is established
2	within the department.
3	(b) The office shall operate as a source of
4	information on available health care resources for the
5	uninsured and underserved.
6	(c) The office shall ensure that such information is
7	available in media accessible to the uninsured and
8	underserved.
9	(d) The office shall periodically but at least once
10	each year update such information.
11	Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
12	law.
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14	* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * *
15	SENATE SUMMARY
16	Names the State Surgeon General as the head of the Department of Health. Provides requirements for the position. Provides duties for the State Surgeon General. Establishes the Office of Uninsured Health within the department to operate as a source of information for the uninsured and underserved.
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