CS/HB 687

1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to free speech of health care
3	practitioners; creating s. 456.61, F.S.; prohibiting
4	certain entities from reprimanding, sanctioning, or
5	revoking or threatening to revoke a license,
6	certificate, or registration of a health care
7	practitioner for specified use of his or her right of
8	free speech without specified proof; requiring certain
9	entities to provide to a health care practitioner any
10	complaints within a specified timeframe; providing an
11	effective date.
12	
13	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14	
15	Section 1. Section 456.61, Florida Statutes, is created to
16	read:
17	456.61 Use of free speech by a health care practitioner;
18	prohibition.—A board within the jurisdiction of the department,
19	the department if there is no board, or a recognizing agency
20	approved by the board under rule 64B15-14.001, Florida
21	Administrative Code:
22	(1) May not reprimand, sanction, or revoke or threaten to
23	revoke a license, certificate, or registration of a health care
24	practitioner for exercising his or her constitutional right of
25	free speech, including, but not limited to, speech through the
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26	use of a social media platform as defined in s. 501.2041(1),
27	unless such entities prove beyond a reasonable doubt that the
28	speech used by the health care practitioner led to the direct
29	physical harm of a person with whom the health care practitioner
30	had a practitioner-patient relationship within the 3 years
31	immediately preceding the physical harm.
32	(2) Must provide a health care practitioner with any
33	complaints received for which revocation actions may be in order
34	within 7 days after receipt of such complaint.
35	Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2022.

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