1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to declarations of a public health 3 emergency; amending s. 381.00315, F.S.; providing that 4 the administration of vaccines is not included within 5 the meaning of the terms "treat," "treated," or 6 "treatment" as those terms relate to public health 7 emergencies; revising provisions related to the 8 expiration and renewal of declarations of a public 9 health emergency; authorizing an individual to refuse examination, testing, or treatment under a State 10 11 Health Officer's order during a public health emergency by submitting a written refusal to the State 12 13 Health Officer; providing that such individual may not 14 be required to undergo such examination, testing, or 15 treatment; deleting the State Health Officer's 16 authority to use any means necessary to treat an 17 individual under certain circumstances; prohibiting 18 certain closures or alterations to election 19 procedures; requiring due process on a case-by-case basis to allow actions that affect entire groups or 20 21 communities; providing an effective date. 22 23 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 24 25 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (2) of Page 1 of 5

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26	section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraph
27	(e) is added to subsection (1) of that section, to read:
28	381.00315 Public health advisories; public health
29	emergencies; isolation and quarantines.—The State Health Officer
30	is responsible for declaring public health emergencies, issuing
31	public health advisories, and ordering isolation or quarantines.
32	(1) As used in this section, the term:
33	(e) "Treat," "treated," or "treatment" does not include
34	the administration of vaccinations.
35	(2)
36	(b) Before declaring a public health emergency, the State
37	Health Officer shall, to the extent possible, consult with the
38	Governor and shall notify the Chief of Domestic Security. The
39	declaration of a public health emergency shall continue until
40	the State Health Officer finds that the threat or danger has
41	been dealt with to the extent that the emergency conditions no
42	longer exist and he or she terminates the declaration. However,
43	A declaration of a public health emergency <u>expires</u> may not
44	continue for longer than 60 days <u>after the declaration</u> unless
45	the Governor concurs in the renewal of the declaration, which
46	extends the expiration of the declaration for 30 days. Any
47	subsequent renewals must be approved by a two-thirds majority
48	vote of each chamber of the Legislature before the declaration
49	expires, with each renewal extending the expiration of the
50	declaration for 30 days. A declaration of a public health
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51 <u>emergency automatically terminates if it is not timely renewed</u> 52 before its expiration in accordance with this paragraph.

(d) The State Health Officer, upon declaration of a public
health emergency, may take actions that are necessary to protect
the public health. Such actions include, but are not limited to:

56 Directing manufacturers of prescription drugs or over-1. 57 the-counter drugs who are permitted under chapter 499 and wholesalers of prescription drugs located in this state who are 58 59 permitted under chapter 499 to give priority to the shipping of specified drugs to pharmacies and health care providers within 60 geographic areas identified by the State Health Officer. The 61 State Health Officer must identify the drugs to be shipped. 62 Manufacturers and wholesalers located in this the state must 63 respond to the State Health Officer's priority shipping 64 65 directive before shipping the specified drugs.

66 2. Notwithstanding chapters 465 and 499 and rules adopted 67 thereunder, directing pharmacists employed by the department to 68 compound bulk prescription drugs and provide these bulk 69 prescription drugs to physicians and nurses of county health 70 departments or any qualified person authorized by the State 71 Health Officer for administration to persons as part of a 72 prophylactic or treatment regimen.

Notwithstanding s. 456.036, temporarily reactivating
the inactive license of the following health care practitioners,
when such practitioners are needed to respond to the public

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76 health emergency: physicians licensed under chapter 458 or 77 chapter 459; physician assistants licensed under chapter 458 or 78 chapter 459; licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and 79 advanced practice registered nurses licensed under part I of 80 chapter 464; respiratory therapists licensed under part V of chapter 468; and emergency medical technicians and paramedics 81 82 certified under part III of chapter 401. Only those health care 83 practitioners specified in this paragraph who possess an 84 unencumbered inactive license and who request that such license 85 be reactivated are eligible for reactivation. An inactive 86 license that is reactivated under this paragraph returns shall return to inactive status when the public health emergency ends, 87 or before the end of the public health emergency if the State 88 89 Health Officer determines that the health care practitioner is 90 no longer needed to provide services during the public health 91 emergency. Such licenses may only be reactivated for a period 92 not to exceed 90 days without meeting the requirements of s. 93 456.036 or chapter 401, as applicable.

94 4. Ordering an individual to be examined, tested, treated,
95 isolated, or quarantined for communicable diseases that have
96 significant morbidity or mortality and present a severe danger
97 to public health. <u>However, an individual may refuse examination,</u>
98 testing, or treatment for reasons of health, religion, or
99 conscience by submitting a refusal in writing to the State
100 Health Officer. Such individuals may not be required to undergo

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101 examination, testing, or treatment but who are unable or unwilling to be examined, tested, or treated for reasons of 102 103 health, religion, or conscience may be subjected to isolation or 104 quarantine. 105 Examination, testing, or treatment may be performed by a. any qualified person authorized by the State Health Officer. 106 107 If the individual poses a danger to the public health, b. the State Health Officer may subject the individual to isolation 108 109 or quarantine. If there is no practical method to isolate or quarantine the individual, the State Health Officer may use any 110 111 means necessary to treat the individual. c. Any order of the State Health Officer given to 112 113 effectuate this paragraph is immediately enforceable by a law 114 enforcement officer under s. 381.0012. 115 d. Closures of churches, businesses, government buildings 116 and services, schools, groups of private residences, and public 117 domains, and altering elections procedures and protocols, are 118 prohibited. Any such actions that affect entire groups or 119 communities must be authorized on a case-by-case basis with each case being afforded all rights of due process. 120 121 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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