



150652

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
03/04/2026	.	
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The Committee on Rules (Yarborough) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. This act may be cited as the "Medical Freedom Act."

Section 2. Section 9 of chapter 2023-43, Laws of Florida, as amended by section 1 of chapter 2025-114, Laws of Florida, is repealed.

Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 381.00315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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12           381.00315 Public health advisories; public health  
13 emergencies; isolation and quarantines.—The State Health Officer  
14 is responsible for declaring public health emergencies, issuing  
15 public health advisories, and ordering isolation or quarantines.

16           (2)

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

20           1. Directing manufacturers of prescription drugs or over-  
21 the-counter drugs who are permitted under chapter 499 and  
22 wholesalers of prescription drugs located in this state who are  
23 permitted under chapter 499 to give priority to the shipping of  
24 specified drugs to pharmacies and health care providers within  
25 geographic areas identified by the State Health Officer. The  
26 State Health Officer must identify the drugs to be shipped.  
27 Manufacturers and wholesalers located in the state must respond  
28 to the State Health Officer's priority shipping directive before  
29 shipping the specified drugs.

30           2. Notwithstanding chapters 465 and 499 and rules adopted  
31 thereunder, directing pharmacists employed by the department to  
32 compound bulk prescription drugs and provide these bulk  
33 prescription drugs to physicians and nurses of county health  
34 departments or any qualified person authorized by the State  
35 Health Officer for administration to persons as part of a  
36 prophylactic or treatment regimen.

37           3. Notwithstanding s. 456.036, temporarily reactivating the  
38 inactive license of the following health care practitioners,  
39 when such practitioners are needed to respond to the public  
40 health emergency: physicians licensed under chapter 458 or



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41 chapter 459; physician assistants licensed under chapter 458 or  
42 chapter 459; licensed practical nurses, registered nurses, and  
43 advanced practice registered nurses licensed under part I of  
44 chapter 464; respiratory therapists licensed under part V of  
45 chapter 468; and emergency medical technicians and paramedics  
46 certified under part III of chapter 401. Only those health care  
47 practitioners specified in this paragraph who possess an  
48 unencumbered inactive license and who request that such license  
49 be reactivated are eligible for reactivation. An inactive  
50 license that is reactivated under this paragraph shall return to  
51 inactive status when the public health emergency ends or before  
52 the end of the public health emergency if the State Health  
53 Officer determines that the health care practitioner is no  
54 longer needed to provide services during the public health  
55 emergency. Such licenses may only be reactivated for a period  
56 not to exceed 90 days without meeting the requirements of s.  
57 456.036 or chapter 401, as applicable.

58 4. Ordering an individual to be examined, tested, treated,  
59 isolated, or quarantined for communicable diseases that have  
60 significant morbidity or mortality and present a severe danger  
61 to public health. Individuals who are unable or unwilling to be  
62 examined, tested, or treated for reasons of health, religion, or  
63 conscience may be subjected to isolation or quarantine. For the  
64 purposes of this subparagraph, the State Health Officer's  
65 authority to treat or order treatment does not include the  
66 authority to order a vaccination.

67 a. Examination, testing, or treatment may be performed by  
68 any qualified person authorized by the State Health Officer.

69 b. If the individual poses a danger to the public health,



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70 the State Health Officer may subject the individual to isolation  
71 or quarantine. If there is no practical method to isolate or  
72 quarantine the individual, the State Health Officer may use any  
73 means necessary to treat the individual.

74 c. Any order of the State Health Officer given to  
75 effectuate this paragraph is immediately enforceable by a law  
76 enforcement officer under s. 381.0012.

77 Section 4. Section 456.0575, Florida Statutes, is amended  
78 to read:

79 456.0575 Duty to notify patients.-

80 (1) ADVERSE INCIDENTS.- ~~Every~~ licensed health care  
81 practitioner shall inform each patient, or an individual  
82 identified pursuant to s. 765.401(1), in person about adverse  
83 incidents that result in serious harm to the patient.  
84 Notification of outcomes of care that result in harm to the  
85 patient under this section does not constitute an acknowledgment  
86 of admission of liability, nor can such notifications be  
87 introduced as evidence.

88 (2) VACCINATIONS OF MINORS.-

89 (a) Each health care practitioner authorized by law to  
90 administer vaccines, and each paramedic acting pursuant to s.  
91 401.272, shall, before administering one or more vaccines to a  
92 minor child, provide the parent or guardian with the following:

93 1. The most recently issued Vaccine Information Statement  
94 published by the United States Centers for Disease Control and  
95 Prevention pertaining to each vaccine being administered.

96 2. Materials approved and adopted by joint rule of the  
97 Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine relating  
98 to the role of immunizations in communicable disease prevention.



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99           (b) Before administering one or more vaccines to a minor  
100 child, the health care practitioner or paramedic must obtain the  
101 signature of the parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of the  
102 information required under paragraph (a).

103           (c) When more than one vaccine is to be administered, the  
104 health care practitioner shall discuss the timing of multiple  
105 vaccinations with the child's parent or guardian and the  
106 parent's or guardian's options for such timing before  
107 administering the initial vaccination. At the request of the  
108 parent or guardian, a health care practitioner may administer  
109 vaccines to the minor child over multiple encounters.

110           (3) GOOD FAITH ESTIMATE OF CHARGES.—Upon request by a  
111 patient, before providing nonemergency medical services in a  
112 facility licensed under chapter 395, a health care practitioner  
113 shall provide, in writing or by electronic means, a good faith  
114 estimate of reasonably anticipated charges to treat the  
115 patient's condition at the facility. The health care  
116 practitioner shall provide the estimate to the patient within 7  
117 business days after receiving the request and is not required to  
118 adjust the estimate for any potential insurance coverage. The  
119 health care practitioner shall inform the patient that the  
120 patient may contact his or her health insurer or health  
121 maintenance organization for additional information concerning  
122 cost-sharing responsibilities. The health care practitioner  
123 shall provide information to uninsured patients and insured  
124 patients for whom the practitioner is not a network provider or  
125 preferred provider which discloses the practitioner's financial  
126 assistance policy, including the application process, payment  
127 plans, discounts, or other available assistance, and the



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128 practitioner's charity care policy and collection procedures.  
129 Such estimate does not preclude the actual charges from  
130 exceeding the estimate. Failure to provide the estimate in  
131 accordance with this subsection, without good cause, shall  
132 result in disciplinary action against the health care  
133 practitioner and a daily fine of \$500 until the estimate is  
134 provided to the patient. The total fine may not exceed \$5,000.

135 Section 5. The amendments made by this act to s.  
136 456.0575(2)(a) and (b), Florida Statutes, relating to  
137 information that must be provided to parents or guardians before  
138 the administration of a vaccination to a minor are effective  
139 July 1, 2026, or 30 days after the Board of Medicine and the  
140 Board of Osteopathic Medicine adopt by joint rule the  
141 informational materials as required under that subsection,  
142 whichever occurs later. The Board of Medicine and the Board of  
143 Osteopathic Medicine shall adopt the joint rule no later than  
144 120 days after this act becomes a law and shall notify the  
145 Division of Law Revision immediately upon their adoption of the  
146 joint rule. This section takes effect upon becoming a law.

147 Section 6. Section 458.3351, Florida Statutes, is created  
148 to read:

149 458.3351 Prescription or administration of ivermectin.—A  
150 health care practitioner who is licensed under this chapter and  
151 whose license includes prescribing authority is immune from  
152 civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action for  
153 prescribing or administering ivermectin to an adult in good  
154 faith, in accordance with the applicable standard of care and in  
155 accordance with this chapter and the rules pertaining to his or  
156 her practice.



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157           Section 7. Section 459.0156, Florida Statutes, is created  
158 to read:

159           459.0156 Prescription or administration of ivermectin.—A  
160 health care practitioner who is licensed under this chapter and  
161 whose license includes prescribing authority is immune from  
162 civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action for  
163 prescribing or administering ivermectin to an adult in good  
164 faith, in accordance with the applicable standard of care and in  
165 accordance with this chapter and the rules pertaining to his or  
166 her practice.

167           Section 8. Section 464.0181, Florida Statutes, is created  
168 to read:

169           464.0181 Prescription or administration of ivermectin.—A  
170 health care practitioner who is licensed under this chapter and  
171 whose license includes prescribing authority is immune from  
172 civil or criminal liability or disciplinary action for  
173 prescribing or administering ivermectin to an adult in good  
174 faith, in accordance with the applicable standard of care and in  
175 accordance with this chapter and the rules pertaining to his or  
176 her practice.

177           Section 9. Section 465.1897, Florida Statutes, is created  
178 to read:

179           465.1897 Sale of ivermectin without a prescription.—

180           (1) A pharmacist may provide ivermectin to a person 18  
181 years of age or older without a prescription as a behind-the-  
182 counter medication until the United States Food and Drug  
183 Administration approves it for over-the-counter sale.

184           (2) Before providing ivermectin under this section, the  
185 pharmacist shall provide the person with written information



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186 regarding the indications and contraindications for ivermectin,  
187 the appropriate dosage, and the need to seek follow-up care from  
188 the person's primary care physician.

189 (3) A pharmacist acting in good faith is immune from civil  
190 or criminal liability or disciplinary action for providing  
191 ivermectin to an adult in accordance with this section.

192 (4) The board may adopt rules to implement this section.

193 Section 10. Subsections (5) and (9) of section 1003.22,  
194 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

195 1003.22 School-entry health examinations; immunization  
196 against communicable diseases; exemptions; duties of Department  
197 of Health.—

198 (5) A child is exempt from immunization requirements in  
199 subsection (3) ~~The provisions of this section shall not apply~~  
200 if:

201 (a) The parent of the child presents to the school, on a  
202 form adopted by rule of the Department of Health and made  
203 available on its website, an attestation ~~objects in writing~~ that  
204 the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the  
205 parent's ~~his or her~~ religious tenets or practices or conscience;

206 (b) A physician licensed under ~~the provisions of~~ chapter  
207 458 or chapter 459 certifies in writing, on a form approved and  
208 provided by the Department of Health, that the child should be  
209 permanently exempt from one or more of the required  
210 immunizations ~~immunization~~ for medical reasons stated in  
211 writing, based upon valid clinical reasoning or evidence,  
212 demonstrating the need for the permanent exemption;

213 (c) A physician licensed under ~~the provisions of~~ chapter  
214 458, chapter 459, or chapter 460 certifies in writing, on a form



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215 approved and provided by the Department of Health, that the  
216 child has received as many immunizations as are medically  
217 indicated at the time and is in the process of completing the  
218 other required necessary immunizations;

219 (d) The Department of Health determines that, according to  
220 recognized standards of medical practice, any required  
221 immunization is unnecessary or hazardous; or

222 (e) An authorized school official issues a temporary  
223 exemption, for up to 30 school days, to allow ~~permit~~ a student  
224 who transfers into a new county to attend class until his or her  
225 records can be obtained. Children and youths who are  
226 experiencing homelessness and children who are known to the  
227 department, as defined in s. 39.0016, shall be given a temporary  
228 exemption for 30 school days. The public school health nurse or  
229 authorized private school official is responsible for follow-up  
230 ~~followup~~ of each such student until proper documentation or  
231 immunizations are obtained. An exemption for 30 days may be  
232 issued for a student who enters a juvenile justice program to  
233 allow ~~permit~~ the student to attend class until his or her  
234 records can be obtained or until the immunizations can be  
235 administered ~~obtained~~. An authorized juvenile justice official  
236 is responsible for follow-up ~~followup~~ of each student who enters  
237 a juvenile justice program until proper documentation is  
238 obtained or immunizations are administered ~~obtained~~.

239  
240 Upon making the exemption form referenced under paragraph (a)  
241 available on its website, the Department of Health shall ensure  
242 that when the form is downloaded, such download includes, as a  
243 single document, the form and materials approved and adopted by



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244 joint rule of the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic  
245 Medicine under s. 456.0575(2) (a) relating to the role of  
246 immunizations in communicable disease prevention. This  
247 requirement shall take effect upon the adoption of the joint  
248 rule. The webpage containing the download link must also include  
249 and prominently display a link or links to the United States  
250 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's current Vaccine  
251 Information Statements.

252 (9) The presence of any of the communicable diseases for  
253 which immunization is required under subsection (3) ~~by the~~  
254 ~~Department of Health~~ in a Florida public or private school  
255 authorizes ~~shall permit~~ the county health department director or  
256 administrator or the State Health Officer to declare a  
257 communicable disease emergency. The declaration of such  
258 emergency must ~~shall~~ mandate that all students attending in  
259 ~~attendance in~~ the school who have not been immunized against the  
260 diseases specified in subsection (3) or related Department of  
261 Health rules are not in compliance with the provisions of this  
262 ~~section~~ be identified by the district school board or by the  
263 governing authority of the private school, ~~and~~ and the school  
264 health and immunization records of such children must ~~shall~~ be  
265 made available to the county health department director or  
266 administrator. ~~Those~~ Children who are identified as not having  
267 been being immunized against the disease for which the emergency  
268 has been declared must ~~shall~~ be temporarily excluded from school  
269 attendance by the district school board, or the governing  
270 authority of the private school, until ~~such time as is specified~~  
271 ~~by~~ the county health department director or administrator  
272 declares that the communicable disease emergency has ended.



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273           Section 11. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
274 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
275 this act becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1,  
276 2026.

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278 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

279 And the title is amended as follows:

280           Delete everything before the enacting clause  
281 and insert:

282                           A bill to be entitled  
283           An act relating to medical freedom; providing a short  
284 title; repealing s. 9 of chapter 2023-43, Laws of  
285 Florida, as amended by chapter 2025-114, Laws of  
286 Florida, relating to the future repeal of the  
287 definition of the term "messenger ribonucleic acid  
288 vaccine"; amending s. 381.00315, F.S.; providing  
289 construction; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring  
290 certain health care practitioners and paramedics to,  
291 before administering one or more vaccines to a minor  
292 child, provide the parent or legal guardian with  
293 specified materials; requiring such practitioners and  
294 paramedics to obtain the signature of a minor child's  
295 parent or guardian acknowledging receipt of such  
296 information; requiring health care practitioners to  
297 discuss certain information with a minor child's  
298 parent or guardian when more than one vaccine is to be  
299 administered; authorizing a health care practitioner,  
300 at the request of the parent or guardian, to  
301 administer the vaccines to the minor child over



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302 multiple encounters; providing that specified  
303 amendments made by the act to s. 456.0575, F.S., take  
304 effect on a specified date or within a specified  
305 timeframe after the Board of Medicine and the Board of  
306 Osteopathic Medicine adopt certain materials by joint  
307 rule, whichever occurs later; requiring the boards to  
308 adopt the joint rule within a specified timeframe and  
309 immediately notify the Division of Law Revision of  
310 their adoption of the joint rule; creating ss.  
311 458.3351, 459.0156, and 464.0181, F.S.; providing  
312 certain health care practitioners immunity from civil  
313 and criminal liability and disciplinary action for  
314 prescribing or administering ivermectin to adults  
315 under certain circumstances; creating s. 465.1897,  
316 F.S.; authorizing pharmacists to provide ivermectin to  
317 adults without a prescription as a behind-the-counter  
318 medication until the United States Food and Drug  
319 Administration approves it for over-the-counter sale;  
320 requiring pharmacists to provide specified information  
321 before providing the ivermectin; providing pharmacists  
322 acting in good faith with immunity from civil and  
323 criminal liability and disciplinary action for  
324 providing ivermectin to adults; authorizing the Board  
325 of Pharmacy to adopt rules; amending s. 1003.22, F.S.;  
326 revising exemptions from school-entry immunization  
327 requirements; requiring the Department of Health to  
328 make the immunization exemption form for religious or  
329 conscience-based exemptions publicly available on its  
330 website; specifying procedures and requirements for



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331 receiving such exemptions; requiring the department to  
332 ensure that when a certain exemption form is  
333 downloaded from its website, the download includes the  
334 form and specified materials as a single document;  
335 providing that the requirement takes effect upon  
336 adoption of a specified rule; requiring that the  
337 webpage containing the download link also include and  
338 prominently display certain other links; revising  
339 requirements and procedures for declarations of a  
340 communicable disease emergency; providing effective  
341 dates.