THE FLORIDA HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION
LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

2022
CONTENTS

President’s Message .......................................................... 4
Key Takeaways ................................................................. 5
Legislative Advocacy ......................................................... 6
Public Relations ............................................................... 6
State Budget ................................................................. 7
State Budget Overview ....................................................... 9
Workforce ................................................................. 11
Behavioral Health .......................................................... 13
Medicaid ................................................................. 14
Payer Accountability ......................................................... 15
Regulatory ................................................................. 16
FHA Surveys Page .......................................................... 18
FHA Board of Trustees ...................................................... 20
FHA Policy Committee ..................................................... 22
FHA Government Relations Staff ........................................ 23
Collateral Inventory .......................................................... 24
FHA entered the 2022 Legislative Session with a focus on proactive advocacy in three major areas: Medicaid reimbursement, workforce, and behavioral health. Through the guidance of the FHA Board and our Councils and Committees, we worked to provide data-driven solutions to the policy issues circulating in the legislature. I was pleased to take part in several public hearings to elevate the awareness of the workforce shortage, highlighting the incredible work underway in Florida’s hospitals to train the next generation of nurses and the exorbitant cost increases that have occurred. As you will read below, we also made positive improvements through behavioral health policy and protected crucial Medicaid funding in the state budget. Of course, every session we must also contend with fiscal and policy decisions that could detract from our mission of providing high-quality care to Florida’s patients.

This year, the House and Senate once again proposed cuts to hospital care for Medicaid patients in their initial budget proposals. The House proposed a $252 million rate cut, while both chambers postured to eliminate the Automatic Rate Enhancements which provide crucial funding to hospitals that treat a high volume of Medicaid patients. This set the stage for a month of aggressive advocacy from FHA and its members. We engaged closely with legislators, the media, and our member hospitals to share our unified opposition to all proposed cuts. Through FHA’s grassroots campaign we distributed over 600 individual messages from member hospital staff to their local legislators asking for their support in the state budget. I want to thank you for your dedicated efforts during those crucial budget negotiations.

The result is a final budget that does not include any across-the-board rate cuts for hospital care provided to Medicaid patients. Unfortunately, Medicaid funding was eliminated for a number of hospitals that care for a larger number of Medicaid enrollees. We must remain vigilant in our efforts to preserve any and all Medicaid funding for the reimbursement of hospital care and guard against attempts to use the Directed Payment Program as a justification for hospital cuts.

Elsewhere in the budget, FHA and its members also helped to secure $125 million for nursing education and $126 million for the expansion of behavioral and mental health services in our state; two incredible investments that will benefit the health outcomes of Floridians for years to come.

On the policy front, there were more than 1,600 bills introduced this session and more than 300 bills were the focus of FHA’s legislative efforts. We worked with legislative leadership to extend COVID liability protections for hospitals for another year. FHA supported advancements in behavioral health care delivery including a bill allowing peer specialists to practice in Florida which was signed by Governor DeSantis. We also aggressively advocated for sound policy decisions ahead of the upcoming Medicaid Managed Care Procurement. The following report provides many more details on the bills introduced and their final status at the conclusion of this past legislative session.

As I close, I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to our members and the FHA staff for the incredible engagement and dedication throughout the legislative session. I look forward to working with all of you as we continue our legislative advocacy and communications in the coming weeks and months.

Mary C. Mayhew
President and CEO
Florida Hospital Association
KEY TAKEAWAYS

INVESTMENTS IN FLORIDA’S HEALTH CARE BUDGET

- NO CUTS to hospital care provided to Medicaid patients
- $125 MILLION for nurse workforce education
- $126 MILLION for expansion of community-based mental health services

COVID LIABILITY PROTECTIONS FOR HOSPITALS

EXTENDED

THREE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY WINS

- Peer Specialists
- Voluntary Admissions of Minors
- Baker & Marchman Reform
LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY

304 bills tracked

66 in-person legislative meetings during session

83 Committee Appearances & Bill Testimonies

President & CEO
Mary Mayhew, Presentations & Panel Discussions:

- Workforce Development - House Health & Human Services Committee (10/19/2022)
- House panel on Hospital & Nursing Home financial health (11/30/2021)
- Workforce Development - Senate HHS Appropriations (1/26/2022)

Budget Call-To-Action
• Over 600 letters sent to 103 different legislators

Resource Materials Developed
• Collateral, including handouts and one-pagers, on key issues
• Budget Impact Analysis for every member hospital
• Weekly slide deck presentations

Member Engagement
• Statewide CEO Calls
• Weekly calls with GR staff
• Weekly Capitol Update Newsletter to 2, 100 FHA Members

PUBLIC RELATIONS

2,479 Media Hits

45 Interviews by President and CEO, Mary Mayhew

275 Articles published in all of Florida’s major media markets

Overall Article Reach:

334,921,649
Despite Florida’s strong economy, FHA and its members anticipated that lawmakers would seek to reduce the State’s commitment to the Medicaid program in the 2022 state budget. With access to more than $7 billion in unbudgeted revenue and Medicaid surplus, there was no justification for the legislature to propose health care funding cuts in this year’s budget. Unfortunately, House and Senate budget committees introduced cuts to hospital care provided to Medicaid patients in their initial proposals:

- **House Proposal**
  - $252 million across-the-board rate cut
  - Eliminated $309 million in Automatic Rate Enhancements

- **Senate Proposal**
  - No across-the-board rate cut
  - Eliminated $309 million in Automatic Rate Enhancements

Leaders in the Florida House focused on healthy hospital margins, the newly implemented Directed Payment Program, and federal provider relief funds to justify hospital Medicaid reimbursement cuts. FHA repeatedly reinforced the importance of financial stability to respond to emergencies such as the last 24 months during the pandemic and that hospital margins are critical to delivering valuable services in the community such as mental health, clinics, pediatric care, etc. We continually highlighted the impact of skyrocketing staffing costs on our member hospitals and complemented that advocacy with data collected through our staffing surveys. FHA also debunked the notion that hospitals received a windfall in federal relief funds and have explained that hospitals haven’t received any additional funding since the fall of 2020.

FHA and its members showed unity and strength in our advocacy efforts to restore all proposed cuts to hospital Medicaid reimbursements. Through FHA’s statewide grassroots campaign, we collectively sent over 600 individual messages from hospital staff to their local legislators. FHA distributed hospital-specific impact documents to each member hospital, shared regional budget analysis with each legislator, and crafted informative collateral regarding the budget.

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**PROTECT MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT IN 2022!**

Raising our collective, unified hospital voice has **made a difference** throughout the legislative session, especially during budget negotiations. Hospital staff sent **more than 600 individual communications to legislators** over the last several weeks.
The final Fiscal Year 2022-2023 state budget does not include any across-the-board rate cuts to hospital reimbursements for care provided to Medicaid patients. As you will read below, the budget also makes significant investments in nurse workforce education and community-based mental health services. Unfortunately, the Automatic Rate Enhancements (Critical Care Fund) were not restored in the budget.

FHA advocated throughout session and budget negotiations for the restoration of the Automatic Rate Enhancements, which recognizes hospitals that treat a large volume of Medicaid patients. Recurring funds for the AREs were discontinued by lawmakers in 2021 and justified by the additional hospital funding through the Directed Payment Program. FHA strongly advocated against this narrative to justify cuts, noting that the intent of the program was to reduce the Medicaid payment shortfall for services provided to Florida’s most vulnerable.

Hospitals in non-DPP participating regions received $50 million in outlier payments to replace the loss of their Automatic Rate Enhancements. The legislature also made an $85 million investment in standalone specialty children’s hospitals which care for a disproportionately large number of Medicaid patients, and countless investments in individual hospital initiatives.

“The final Fiscal Year 2022-2023 state budget does not include any across-the-board rate cuts to hospital reimbursements for care provided to Medicaid patients.”

Lunch and Learn with the Florida Senate Democratic Caucus
The final budget approved by state lawmakers and to be presented to the Governor was $112.1 billion, an increase of $3.2 billion year over year. Of this, $37.6 billion was allocated to Medicaid, representing 33.63% of total state funding (all funds). The significant budget increase in Medicaid was primarily attributable to the dramatic increase in Medicaid enrollment of more than 1.3 million Floridians since the beginning of the public health emergency. Concerning general revenue, Medicaid received $10 billion or 22.9% of total general revenue spending in the state budget. Education received $18.8 billion, representing 43% of the total general revenue. The following chart provides additional information regarding the various silos that receive state and federal funds.

**HOSPITAL FUNDING FROM SFY 2022–23 STATE BUDGET**

These charts reflect the budget passed by the legislature on March 16, 2022.
**WORKFORCE EDUCATION**

- **$100 million for Prepping Institutions, Programs, Employers, and Learners through Incentives for Nursing Education (PIPELINE)**
  - Created in 2022 to reward performance and excellence among public postsecondary nursing education programs.
  - The allocations shall reward nursing education programs with an average first-time National Council of State Boards of Nursing Licensing Examination passage rate above the national average.

- **$25 million for Linking Industry to Nursing Education (LINE)**
  - Recognizing that the state has a persistent and growing nursing shortage, the Legislature has addressed this critical workforce need by incentivizing collaboration between nursing education programs and health care partners.
  - This fund is intended to meet local, regional, and state workforce demand by recruiting faculty and clinical preceptors, increasing the capacity of high-quality nursing education programs, and increasing the number of nursing education program graduates who are prepared to enter the workforce.

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH**

- **$126 million recurring General Revenue for Expansion of Behavioral Health Services**
  - Funds will be used to expand community-based supports through a team approach using Children’s Community Action Treatment (CAT) teams, Family Intensive Treatment (FIT) teams, Florida Assertive Community Teams (FACT), and mobile response teams. Each team’s allocation shall be based on reducing waitlists and ensuring statewide coverage.
  - FHA is encouraged by this investment to ensure patients are receiving the best care in the most appropriate setting.
Florida’s hospitals are committed to delivering high-quality care in their communities, and the FHA is committed to supporting the infrastructure needed for hospitals to recruit and retain healthcare staff. Florida’s hospitals continue to develop innovative strategies for workforce planning, recruitment, retention, and development that best serve the needs of their communities and mitigate nurse and allied health shortages that exist now and in the future. FHA supports Florida Hospitals through government advocacy, communication, workforce data collection, partnerships, and by offering continuing education.

Workforce development was amongst the top priorities for FHA during the 2022 legislative session. We began work months ahead of time to elevate the awareness amongst government leaders about the workforce shortage and the challenges it is creating with costs and staffing at our member hospitals.

- FHA conducted studies on the nurse & physician shortages in conjunction with the Safety Net Hospital Alliance to serve as a platform for meaningful engagement with government leaders and stakeholders.
- FHA President & CEO Mary Mayhew represented hospitals on public panels in the House and Senate to share data and information, offer solutions such as regional gap analyses, and provide anecdotal evidence of the strain on the system.
- Through statewide hospital surveys, FHA collected and distributed information about skyrocketing staffing costs and the availability of clinical nurse training slots in hospitals.
- We also worked to develop policy solutions for the geographic placement and cost issues associated with staffing agency nurses, a conversation that will continue with lawmakers into the offseason.

While the workforce shortage will not be alleviated by government intervention alone, it is important that lawmakers examine policy issues to help drive regional and statewide development of health care professionals to meet the growing demand in our state. Read below for bills related to health care workforce that moved through the legislature this year.

**Alternate Site Testing – PASSED**

SB 1374 allows registered nurses to perform moderate-level or waiver-level clinical laboratory testing in a hospital-based off-campus emergency department. *This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.*

**Patient Care in Health Care Facilities – PASSED**

HB 469 revises the list of medications that registered nurses may delegate administration of to home health aids. *This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.*

### SOARING PAYROLL COSTS

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<th>Total Projected Payroll 2021</th>
<th>Total Annual Payroll 2020</th>
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**TOTAL STAFFING COSTS PROJECTED TO INCREASE BY OVER**

↑ 25%
Occupational Therapy – PASSED
SB 632 reduces the minimum amount of supervised fieldwork experience to be completed in order to be eligible for the occupational therapist licensure examination. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Military Occupational Licensure – PASSED
SB 562 would expedite professional license applications through DBPR for spouses of active duty members of the armed forces. Expands on an existing pathway for military spouses to seek a career as a nurse or other health care professional. Passed both chambers.

Mental Health Professional Licensure – PASSED
SB 566 specifies that clinical social workers, marriage and family therapists, and mental health counselors must have a minimum master’s degree in a related field or a master’s degree with a major emphasis in a related field, and completed at least two years of clinical experience. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Administration of Vaccines – PASSED
HB 1209 authorizes registered pharmacy technicians to administer vaccinations after board-certified training and continuing education. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Nursing Home Staffing Requirements – PASSED
HB 1239 revises the required nursing care hours in a nursing home to 3.6 hours by direct care staff per resident per day. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Invalid Restrictive Covenants in Health Care – FAILED
SB 842 would require an agreement between a hospital and a physician contain a reasonable buyout clause, and provides for a mediation process to determine a reasonable buyout. Failed in Committee.

COVID-19 HAS CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASED TURNOVER OF NURSES AT THE BEDSIDE

1 out of 4 RN’s left positions in the last year
1 out of 3 Critical care nurses left positions in the last year
*the highest turnover rate ever seen in Florida

* Florida Nurse Workforce Projections: 2019 to 2035 by IHS Markit
A combination of factors creates challenges for many Floridians to access affordable, appropriate, and timely behavioral health care. Too many adults and children in Florida with behavioral health needs rely on clinically inappropriate care settings to receive needed behavioral health treatment. As leaders in their communities, Florida’s hospitals are committed to working with community groups, state agencies, advocates, consumer groups, and health care providers systems of care that timely meet the behavioral health needs of Florida residents.

Expanding access to behavioral health services has been consistently identified by FHA members as a key priority for our legislative advocacy efforts. The FHA Behavioral Health Council was active in crafting a platform for the 2022 Legislative Session that included greater support for community-based FACT Teams, facilitating and offering solutions to Baker & Marchman act changes, and supporting the pathway for certification as a peer specialist in Florida. FHA executives continually supported these items in the halls of the capitol, referencing FACT teams with countless legislators as a means to increase access to community mental health services. FHA was pleased to achieve wins in each of these areas during the 2022 legislative session.

**Peer Specialists – PASSED**

SB 282 - FHA has been supportive of Senator Rouson’s efforts to provide a pathway for certification, training, and practice for Peer Specialists in Florida. We appreciate the Legislature passing this bill at a time when the workforce will benefit greatly from more qualified professionals. Signed by Governor DeSantis on March 10, 2022.

**Mental Health & Substance Abuse – PASSED**

SB 1262 - FHA advocated for these Baker/ Marchman Act changes, which improve notification and communication between parties, authorize patient releases through telehealth, and provide for well-defined post-discharge planning. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

**Drug-Related Overdose Prevention – PASSED**

SB 544 requires hospital emergency departments or urgent care centers that treat a suspected or actual overdose to report the incident using appropriate methods. Provides for access, usage, and immunity from liability for emergency opioid antagonists. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

**Mental Health of Students – PASSED**

HB 899 requires school districts to designate a mental health coordinator to serve as the primary point of contact regarding the implementation of student mental health policies and procedures. Requires the Department of Education to share data with the Department of Children & Families regarding involuntary admissions. Passed both chambers.

**Mental Health & Substance Abuse – FAILED**

HB 1143 made significant legal and clinical changes to the Baker & Marchman Acts, sponsored by Representative Patt Maney. FHA began working with Rep. Maney during committee weeks to provide input on the legislation. FHA stands ready to support this measure in future sessions. Failed in Committee.
Florida’s Medicaid program reimburses providers for health care services they provide to more than 5 million low-income Floridians, and each year hospitals treat hundreds of thousands of these individuals in their systems of care. Medicaid enrollment has increased dramatically due to the downturn in the economy because of the pandemic, growing by 1.3 million enrollees since COVID-19 began.

A Medicaid Managed Care bill introduced just before session was one of the key points of focus for FHA in 2022. SB 1950 by Rep. Garrison proposed to make changes to Managed Care statute ahead of the next procurement cycle, wherein the Agency for Health Care Administration will negotiate the third round of contracts for five-year period, 2025-2030. Our focus for this next procurement is to identify systemic issues that should ultimately be addressed in the contracts and through increased transparency. Given the timeline for the next procurement, this was the last chance for the legislature to make substantive changes to Managed Care Statute ahead of the negotiations. Additionally, there was positive movement on SB 1770 by Senator Book, which authorizes Medicaid to reimburse for donor milk bank services. FHA is pleased that leaders in the Senate have protected against this provision and passed their version of the bill without the inclusion of unnecessary essential provider language. The final enrolled version reduces the number of AHCA Medicaid Regions from 11 to 9 and makes various technical and clarifying changes. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Donor Human Milk Bank Services – PASSED
SB 1770 authorizes AHCA to pay for donor milk bank services as an optional Medicaid service. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Prescription Drugs Used in the Treatment of Schizophrenia for Medicaid Patients – PASSED
SB 534 authorizes the approval of drugs for the treatment of schizophrenia for Medicaid patients who have not met the step-therapy prior authorization criteria. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Medicaid Modernization – FAILED
SB 330 authorizes Medicaid to reimburse providers for certain patient monitoring activities. Failed in Committee.

Eligibility for Medical Assistance & Related Services – FAILED

FHA continues to advocate in favor of fair and equitable policy changes in the Medicaid program. Read below for a summary of bills that moved during the 2022 legislative session.

**Medicaid Managed Care – PASSED**

SB 1950—language introduced early in session proposed to require Essential Providers to contract with each Managed Care plan in the state or lose their supplemental payments such as LIP, DSH, and DPP. FHA aggressively defended against the inclusion of this language up until the last hours of session. We maintained that:

- This harmful language would weaken hospitals’ negotiating positions and intervene in contract talks between educated parties.
- Supplemental payments such as LIP, DSH, and DPP are crucial to a hospital’s mission of providing the highest level of care to their communities. FHA crafted an amendment that would remove DPP from the funds in consideration under the bill.
At the direction of the FHA Board and Committees, we have been working to ensure the Legislature is driving accountability and transparency among health care payers. FHA is committed to supporting fair and equitable payment models which reimburse for the cost of the high-quality care hospitals provide. We must also work to avoid harmful, unilateral policy changes which can be implemented without guidance or warning and detract from swift access to health care services.

There was success in passing several key measures which will increase payer transparency, including HB 855 which requires Managed Care plans to report on health outcome measures. FHA applauds Representatives Duran and Bartleman for their work to ensure Managed Care Plans are responsible stewards of state dollars. FHA was also pleased to support HB 357 which will provide a foundation for accountability over Pharmacy Benefits Managers under the Office of Insurance Regulation. Throughout session, FHA also worked to elevate the awareness of other payer concerns such as denials of care, “white bagging” for clinician-administered drugs, and 340B drug pricing discrimination. We will continue to work with the FHA Managed Care Committee and our robust network of hospital staff to consider ways to support a legislative agenda for payer accountability.

**Managed Care Plan Performance - PASSED**

HB 855 - FHA began meeting with Rep. Bartleman during committee weeks to discuss the importance of transparency and accountability in the Medicaid program. We are pleased to see the passage of HB 855 requiring plans to report on HEDIS quality outcome measures. *This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.*

**Pharmacies & PBMs — PASSED**

HB 357—Supported throughout the process by FHA, the bill authorizes the Office of Insurance Regulation to examine PBM pricing practices in Florida. *Passed both chambers.*

**Step Therapy Protocols – PASSED**

HB 459 requires transparent processes to be developed for a patient to request a protocol exemption. FHA supported this bill because it allows the physician and the patient to explore the best treatment options to treat their cancer. *This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.*

**Health Insurance – FAILED**

SB 564 requires health insurers and PBMS to authorize or deny a prior authorization within 72 hours after completing a prior authorization form. *Failed in Committee.*

**Insurance Coverage for Telehealth Services – FAILED**

HB 1087 requires health insurers to reimburse for telehealth services at certain rates and prohibits them from excluding covered services provided through telehealth. *Failed in Committee.*
As integral components in Florida’s health care delivery system, hospitals are impacted by an abundance of health regulations affecting transparency, pricing, business practices, and more. When addressing proposed regulations on hospitals, FHA seeks to avoid burdensome and duplicative requirements that detract from patient care and add to health care costs.

As you will read below, FHA successfully advocated for the extension of COVID liability protections which was signed into law on February 24, 2022. There was also success in passing two regulatory bills supported by FHA and many of its members: SB 292 requiring screenings for newborns to protect against cytomegalovirus and SB 1222 which paves the way for innovative, “hospital at home” care models in Florida law.

Another regulatory priority for the Legislature in 2022 was patient visitation in health care facilities. SB 988 requires hospitals to develop visitation policies which allow for in-person visitation in certain circumstances. FHA worked closely with legislative leaders to ensure the hospital care setting was appropriately integrated into the bill alongside long-term care facilities. The bill passed both chambers.

While many bills are introduced with the best of intentions, rarely are that many new laws needed. We successfully defeated several bills that would have added additional administrative burdens, duplicated federal transparency requirements, and added unnecessary cost to the system.

Covid Related Claims Against Health Care Providers – PASSED

SB 7014 extends the COVID liability protections passed in 2021 for another year. FHA advocated for these provisions, and we appreciate the Legislature’s and the Governor’s commitment to protecting hospitals from unfounded lawsuits. Signed by Governor DeSantis into law on February 24, 2022.

Telehealth – PASSED

SB 312 revises the prohibition on prescribing controlled substances through telehealth to only include schedule II-controlled substances. A measure which would include audio-only phone calls in the definition of telehealth was not included in the final amended version. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Newborn Screenings – PASSED

SB 292 requires hospitals to test for congenital cytomegalovirus should a newborn fail a screening test for hearing loss. FHA proudly supported this bill which will improve health outcomes for Florida’s children. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Acute & Post-Acute Hospital At Home – PASSED

SB 1222 authorizes certified paramedics to assist in a home setting, paving the way for “hospital at home” care models developed and given federal authority during the pandemic. The bill becomes effective July 1, 2022. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Patient Visitation – PASSED

SB 988 - FHA closely monitored proposed legislation requiring in-person visitation in health care facilities this session. We recognize the vital importance of a patient’s loved ones to their care and recovery and were supportive of the bills. FHA communicated closely with legislative leaders and staff to ensure hospital care settings are appropriately integrated into the bill. In the final days of session, SB 988 was passed by both legislative chambers and will now be presented to the Governor. FHA stands ready to assist members with compliance and implementation of this important legislation. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.

Reducing Fetal & Infant Mortality – PASSED

HB 5 prohibits physicians from performing abortions if the gestational age of the fetus is determined to be more than 15 weeks. Requires hospitals and licenses birthing centers to participate in quality initiatives developed by the Florida Perinatal Quality Collaborative. This bill has been signed into law on April 6th.
Health Care Expenses – **FAILED**

HB 1527 requires state-level transparency reporting duplicative of federal law and prohibits extraordinary debt collection actions by hospitals. FHA opposed the measure in order to avoid conflicting state and federal law that disrupts normal practice in a hospital. *Failed in Committee.*

Unidentified Persons in Hospitals – **FAILED**

HB 1313 requires hospitals to develop and maintain a directory of unidentified persons including descriptions of their characteristics and medical condition. While FHA appreciates the intent of quickly identifying a missing person, there were concerns with the administrative load and the expected volume of usage of such a database. *Failed in committee.*

Sovereign Immunity – **FAILED**

SB 974 would raise the limit on liability for tort cases against the state of Florida and its agencies or subdivisions to $1 million. FHA raised concerns with lawmakers about potential impacts to a rural or critical access hospital should they face substantial damages from a claim. *Failed in committee.*

Motor Vehicle Insurance – **FAILED**

SB 150 repeals Florida’s no fault motor vehicle law and PIP insurance in favor of mandatory bodily injury coverage. FHA opposed the legislation due to the unintended cost shifts the bill would cause to Medicaid and hospital charity care. *Failed in committee.*
STAFFING SURVEY

FHA conducted a survey to collect data on the statewide rise in staffing costs and the overall financial hit to hospitals. The data from that survey has been critical in our efforts to demonstrate the ground-level impact that the workforce shortage is having on your day-to-day operations.

AN UNPRECEDENTED AVERAGE RATE FOR TEMPORARY NURSES

Over 24 months, Frontline Hourly Rates for Temporary Nurses Skyrocketed.

Some hospitals experienced hourly rates up to $200/hr.

$175
$150
$125
$100
$75
$50

April 2020
$74/hr
$155/hr

$100
$125
$150
$200

CLINICAL NURSE TRAINING SLOTS SURVEY

During a Legislative committee panel on nurse workforce education, FHA was asked to provide Senator Doug Broxson with information on the number of available nurse training slots in hospitals. FHA conducted a statewide survey of all Florida hospitals (examples right), which demonstrates the commitment that exists to increase nurse training opportunities in hospitals. View FHA’s response to Senator Broxson here.
Q3 DID YOUR HOSPITAL OFFER NURSING STUDENT PLACEMENT SLOTS FOR LPN PROGRAMS?
Answered: 70 | Skipped: 4

Yes

No

Q6 DID YOUR HOSPITAL OFFER NURSING STUDENT PLACEMENT SLOTS FOR RN PROGRAMS?
Answered: 73 | Skipped: 1

Yes

No
FHA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

2021-2022 BOARD MEMBERS

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<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<td>Bo Boulenger</td>
<td>EVP/COO</td>
<td>Baptist Hospital of Miami</td>
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<td>Doug Baer</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Brooks Health System</td>
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<td>Jason Barrett, FACHE</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
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<td>Tim Cook</td>
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<td>AdventHealth Altamone/North West</td>
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<td>Conor Delaney</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Cleveland Clinic Florida</td>
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<tr>
<td>Danielle Drummond</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Lakeland Regional Health Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph J. Echevarria</td>
<td>Interim CEO</td>
<td>University of Miami Health System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Faherty</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Select Specialty Hospital - Tallahassee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mark Faulkner</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Baptist Health Care</td>
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<td>Kimberly Guy</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>St. Joseph’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paul Hiltz</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>NCH Healthcare System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matt Love</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Nicklaus Children’s Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amit Rastogi, MD</td>
<td>CEO</td>
<td>Jupiter Medical Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jay Reeve</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Eastside Psychiatric Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thibaut van Marcke</td>
<td>President</td>
<td>Dr. P. Phillips Hospital</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Verinder</td>
<td>President/CEO</td>
<td>Sarasota Memorial Health Care System</td>
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FHA GOVERNMENT RELATIONS STAFF

David Mica, Jr.
Executive Vice President of Public Affairs

Michael Williams
Senior Vice President of Federal Affairs & General Counsel

Clay Meenan
Government Relations Manager
Healthy margins were core to the successful hospital response through four surges of the pandemic. Healthy margins have helped hospitals provide life-saving care during recent surges of the COVID pandemic.

### FSA Legislative Summary

**Engaging FHA Members**

#### State Medicaid Managed Care Procurement, 2022–2023

- **None**

**Key Takeaways**

- COVID-19 Extension Signed by GO
- 3 Behavioral Health Wins: SB 262 (SB 1644) (SB 1260)
- No Stipulated Laws Signed on Hospitals: SB 850 (SB 1371) (SB 1260)

**Real Estate**

- **Conflict**:
  - FHA AT THE LEGISLATURE
  - FHA at the Capitol

**Policies Issues**

- **COVID-19**
  - Informed Consent for COVID-19 Vaccination by Baxley (SB 7014)
  - Mergers & Acquisitions by Grall (HB 7058)
  - Health Care Expenses by Barnaby (HB 842)

- **Mental Health & Substance Abuse**
  - Tamei Merger of Division of Mental Health Services, Covenants by Brodeur (SB 988)

#### Florida Hospitals at a Glance

- **11.2 million** patient days
- **7.2 million** outpatient visits
- **296,811** hospital stays
- **$1.8 billion** in charity care provided

**POLICY ISSUES**

- **COVID-19**: Informed Consent for COVID-19 Vaccination by Baxley (SB 7014)
- **Mergers & Acquisitions**: Tamei Merger of Division of Mental Health Services, Covenants by Brodeur (SB 988)
- **Health Care Expenses**: Tamei Merger of Division of Mental Health Services, Covenants by Brodeur (SB 988)

#### Florida Hospital Association

- **11.2 million** patient days
- **7.2 million** outpatient visits
- **296,811** hospital stays
- **$1.8 billion** in charity care provided

**MARY C. MAYFIELD**

**President and CEO**

- Background: In 2020, Mayhew served as Secretary of the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) in the administration of Governor Ron DeSantis. Mayhew also served as deputy administrator of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

- Background: FHA is the state’s largest hospital association, representing more than 200 hospitals and health systems from across the state. Our members are as diverse as the state itself and include urban, rural, critical access, nonprofit, independent, teaching, children’s, rehabilitation, and behavioral health hospitals.

#### Medicaid Cost Reimbursement

- **$2.7 Billion** CARES Funding
- **$5.2 Billion** Total Loss
- **$2.5 Billion** Net Loss

**COVID-19 Financial Impact**

- **$2.7 Billion** CARES Funding
- **$5.2 Billion** Total Loss
- **$2.5 Billion** Net Loss

**Mandatory Medicaid Reimbursement**

- **$5.2 Billion** in Medicaid, 2021–2022
- **$5.2 Billion** in Medicaid, 2021–2022

**COVID-19 Financial Impact**

- **$2.7 Billion** CARES Funding
- **$5.2 Billion** Total Loss
- **$2.5 Billion** Net Loss

**State of Florida Hospitals**

- **11.2 million** patient days
- **7.2 million** outpatient visits
- **296,811** hospital stays
- **$1.8 billion** in charity care provided

**Mary C. Mayfield**

**President and CEO**

- Background: FHA is the state’s largest hospital association, representing more than 200 hospitals and health systems from across the state. Our members are as diverse as the state itself and include urban, rural, critical access, nonprofit, independent, teaching, children’s, rehabilitation, and behavioral health hospitals.
BUILDING A HEALTHCARE WORKFORCE

Florida hospitals and healthcare systems face a critical workforce shortage that has been intensified and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. This unprecedented nature of COVID-19 care has required unprecedented staffing resources that require extra measures to fill vacancies, including contracts with outside staffing agencies or relying on overtime to deliver the needed care. This has caused staffing costs to rise to unprecedented levels.

PRE-PANDEMIC TRAVEL NURSING
Use of traveling nurses prior to the pandemic was less common. Traveling nurse use increased 730% from 2019.

COVID-19 HAS CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASE

AN UNPRECEDENTED AVERAGE RATE FOR TEMPORARY NURSES
Over 24 months, the Florida Hospital Association has helped to retain the temporary workforce.

SOARING PAYROLL COSTS

SUPPORT Funding to address Skyrocketing staffing costs during the Delta and Omicron surge

FLORIDA’S HOSPITALS PROVIDING ADDITIONAL 56,700 BEHAVIORAL PATIENTS AS NEEDS CONTINUE TO INCREASE

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROFILE FOR FLORIDA

- 20% of adults have a mental illness
- 4% of adults live with serious mental illness (SMI)
- 7% of adults have a substance use disorder
- 4% of youth have a substance use disorder
- 20% of youth experience at least one major depressive episode per year
- Suicide is the second leading cause of death for Floridians ages 25-44

STATE LEVEL ADVOCACY

- Education: Support legislation for funding to support education and increase the faculty pipeline, clinical sites, classroom space, and clinical preceptors.
- Retention & Resilience: Support and recommend available funding to incent and support education and training programs in hospitals for graduate and novice nurses.
- Advocacy: Continue to support legislative platforms that leverage the migration of out-of-state nurses.
- Data: For future efficiencies in a collection of nurse workforce data, consider support of legislation that will include the collection of workforce data at the time of licensure renewal to help inform future analyses and policy development. FHA is committed to working with the Florida Center for Nursing to collect this data.

COVERAGE-HAS CONTRIBUTED TO INCREASE

INCREASE

2019

102,780 RN’s left positions in the last year

2021

128,900 RN’s left positions in the last year

RESOURCES

Florida Nurse Workforce Projecting: 2020 to 2035
Florida Statewide and Regional Physician Workforce Analysis: 2019 to 2035

FHA.BLOG
@FloridaHospitals @flhospitalassociation
FHA.org
@FHAonTwitter FloridaHospitalAssociation

FHA 2021 POLICY PRIORITIES

- Support increased behavioral health ID visits.
- Support legislation that aligns parity and addiction equity Act health plan, and commercial insurance with the parity act in Florida.
- Increase access to behavioral health gaps in treatment options.
- Provide robust oversight of Medi-aid behavioral health parity dollars.
- Implement policies to better integrate and coordinate behavioral health and primary care services.
- Support payments and policies comprehensive services and in rural areas to improve access and reduce neonatal abatement.