

## 2004 LEGISLATION

### **CS/SB2674 & HB1703:**

**Statewide & Local Advocacy Councils:** requires Florida Statewide Advocacy Council to be located in the Executive Office of the Governor; provides priority consideration for certain candidates for statewide council; directs council to establish interagency agreements with certain state agencies; requires copies of certain files, records and reports to be provided to council at agency's expense; provides clarification for duties performed by local council, etc. Amends Ch. 402. **Passed**

This bill does several things to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the Florida Statewide and Local Advocacy Councils. They are as follows:

1. Relocates the Florida Statewide and Local Advocacy Councils and their staff to the Executive Office of the Governor from its current location in the Department of Children and Family Services. This would accomplish the following:

- Eliminates the appearance of any conflict of interest
- Enhances the independence of the SAC and LAC
- Allows the SAC and LAC to have their own staff and not be staffed or supervised by DCF employees
- Allows the SAC to supervise and direct its own staff
- Improves the effectiveness and efficiency of the SAC and LAC and their staff
- Increases accountability of the SAC and LAC
- Improves the overall operation of the SAC and LAC and their statutory requirements

2. Eliminates some of the barriers the SAC and LAC have had over the past two years with access to client information.

3. Allows the Governor more flexibility in making appointments to the SAC.

**SB1280 & HB1823:**

**Developmental Services/Mental Health:** provides that it is a second degree felony for employees to engage in sexual misconduct with certain developmentally disabled clients, certain mental health patients, or certain forensic clients; amends provisions re: background screening requirements for various personnel; establishes Agency for Persons with Disabilities (APD) for the purpose of providing services to persons with developmental disabilities, including institutional services, etc. Amends FS. **Passed**

**SB700 & HB463:**

**Mental Health:** defines and redefines terms used in the "Baker Act"; amends provisions re: rights of patients; requires express and informed consent prior to treatment; revises criteria for involuntary examination; provides for involuntary outpatient placement; provides for voluntary examination for outpatient placement; provides for petition for involuntary outpatient placement; creates Baker Act Workgroup, etc. Amends Ch. 394. **Passed**

**SB2894 & HB727:**

**Mental Health & Vocational Rehabilitation:** provides for implementation and expansion of program for self-directed mental health and vocational rehabilitation services for adults; authorizes development and implementation of pilot project for children; provides eligibility and other program requirements; provides authority to request certain federal waivers and to request and use certain grants; provides for transfer of certain funds, etc. Amends 394.9084. **Approved by the Governor**

**SB1062 & HB 267:**

**Health Care Facilities:** authorizes AHCA to issue inactive licenses to nursing homes for all or a portion of their beds under certain circumstances; provides for financial stability for Gold Seal for certain nursing facilities; amends provision re: health-care-related projects subject to review for certificate of need; revises health care clinic licensing requirements; allows agency to deny renewal of license or to revoke or suspend license, etc. Amends FS. **Approved by the Governor**

**SB1748 & HB647:**

**Multi-service Senior Centers:** amends definition; encourages each multi-service senior center to have functioning automated external defibrillator; requires training, maintenance and location registration; provides immunity from liability under Good Samaritan Act & Cardiac Arrest Survival Act; authorizes Elderly Affairs Department to adopt rules; requires Department to arrange for purchase of such defibrillators, etc. Amends 430.203.206. **Approved by the Governor**

