

- Tuesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> kicks off Florida's Regular Legislative session and adjourns on May 2
- Legislative committee weeks began during the month of December and ran through February

As Florida enters its 2025 Legislative Session, here are the bills we were tracking

### **HB21/SB82 Dental Therapy**

*Authorizes Medicaid to reimburse for dental services provided by certain mobile dental units; creates Council on Dental Therapy; specifies licensure requirements, services, limitations, & prohibitions relating to practice of dental therapy; requires DOH, in consultation with Board of Dentistry & AHCA, to submit reports to Legislature. (House, Now in Health & Human Services Committee, 02/14/2024; Senate, 01/15/25 S Referred to Health Policy; Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services; Rules on Wednesday, January 15, 2025)*

#### **Bill Sponsors:**

- Rep. Linda Chaney (R-Parts of Hillsborough and Pinellas)
- Sen. Jay Collins (R-Parts of Hillsborough)

### **HB859: School Readiness Program**

*Revises provisions relating to school readiness program. A child from birth to the beginning of the school year for which the child is eligible for admission to kindergarten in a public school under s. 1003.21(1)(a)2. who is from a working family that is economically disadvantaged, greater than 50 percent, but less than 65 percent, of the state median income. (House, Filed on Thursday, February 20, 2025 4:37 PM)*

#### **Bill Sponsors:**

- Rep. Chase Tramont (R-Parts of Brevard and Volusia)

### **HB877/SB1102: School Readiness Program**

*Revises criteria for child to receive priority for participation in school readiness program; & provides requirements for school readiness program provider to be eligible for specified funding. (i.e., "reimbursement rates). (House, Filed on Friday, February 21, 2025 2:05 PM; Senate, 02/25/25 S Filed on Tuesday, February 25, 2025 8:04 AM)*

#### **Bill sponsors:**

- Rep. Robin Bartleman (D- Part of Broward) Co-Sponsor Daryl Campbell (D-Part of Broward)
- Sen. Alexis Calatayud (R-Miami)



## **SB 112:/HB 591: Children with Developmental Disabilities**

*Revising the scope of the Dr. and Mrs. Alfonse and Kathleen Cinotti Health Care Screening and Services Grant Program to include autism-related services. Updating the Early Steps Program grant application to align with new regulations. Establishing the Early Steps Extended Option, with the Department of Health authorized to implement it without federal funding. Requiring the University of Florida Center for Autism and Neurodevelopment to fund specialized summer programs for children with autism spectrum disorder. (2/21/2025 Senate - Now in Fiscal Policy; 2/19/2025 House - Now in Student Academic Success Subcommittee)*

### **Bill sponsors:**

- Sen. Gayle Harrell (R- Consists of Martin County and parts of Palm Beach, St. Lucie)
- Rep. Randall Scott "Randy" Maggard (R- Part of Paco)

