

ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA
**LEGISLATIVE
INTERIM BRIEF**



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WEEKLY INTERIM LEGISLATIVE BRIEF FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 27-31, 2003
SOURCE: ASSOCIATED INDUSTRIES OF FLORIDA

All was quiet this week in the halls of the Legislature. Legislators took a break from committee meetings to spend time with constituents back home.

In several conference calls this week, the Governor's Select Task Force on Health Care Professional Liability Insurance reaffirmed its draft recommendation to cap pain and suffering to \$250,000 in medical malpractice cases. It also rejected a proposal to sunset the cap. However, the panel did add a recommendation for an interim report to the Legislature in five years on the success of this cap.

The Task Force unanimously approved a massive report to the Legislature Thursday afternoon. Task Force Chairman, Dr. John C. Hitt, Ph.D, President of the University of Central Florida, will deliver a copy of their report and recommendations on February 4, to Governor Jeb Bush, Speaker of the House Representative Johnnie Byrd (R-Plant City), and Senate President Jim King (R-Jacksonville). Dr. Hitt has also been asked to testify about the report before the Senate Health Care Committee on Tuesday.

Next week the House and Senate returns for their regular committee hearings. The House will hold a 2003 Alzheimer's Summit this upcoming Thursday and Friday.

Please send your comments or suggestions to us at aif@aif.com or call the Governmental Affairs department at (850)224-7173.

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