



DAILY LEGISLATIVE BRIEF FROM JANUARY 22, 2003

Source: Associated Industries of Florida

Today, the **House Elder Affairs and Long Term Care Committee** met to review the implementation of the 2001 nursing home reform bill (Senate Bill 1202) and to review Florida's current home and community based long term care programs. Molly McKinstry from the Agency for Health Care Administration stated that lawsuits continue to be filed against Florida's nursing homes. Her latest figures reflected 81 claims reported in November 2002 and 74 claims reported in December 2002. In the past two years, 17 nursing homes have closed. This is higher than normal. In addition, Ms. McKinstry stated, the Agency is aware of only one nursing home that does not currently meet the liability insurance requirement mandated by Senate Bill 1202. However, five licensees for assisted living facilities have been denied because they could not meet the insurance requirement.

The **Senate Health Aging and Long-Term Care Committee** approved Senate Bill 74 and Senate Bill 76. Senate Bill 74 would require licensed pharmacists and other health care practitioners to report pharmaceutical adverse incidents to the Department of Health. Senate Bill 76 would create a public records exemption for certain information contained in those adverse incident reports.

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

- For more information on all of the important legislative information concerning the business community, go to our "members only" Florida Business Network web site at <http://fbnnet.com>
- Send us your E-mail address and we will begin to send this report to you automatically via E-mail.