

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association is a trade association representing hospitals, health canthers, long term care providers, educational institutions, managed care companies, medical schools, medical transportation companies and a variety of other organizations committed to improving the community's healthcare delivery system, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association has been representing its members' interests before elected officials, the public and key healthcare decision-makers since 1944, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association has long-established policies that seek to strengthen the healthcare delivery system by securing healthcare coverage for all residents using any and all available private and public funds, while maximizing all available resources, including facilities, funding and personnel, while at the same time encouraging care coordination and cost effective use of those resources, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association Board of Directors recognizes the Governor's Commission and State Legislators' interest in limiting unnecessary regulatory requirements that are perceived as stifling competition and burdensome to providers, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association opposes efforts to eliminate the Certificate of Need program and/or any other deregulation proposals that would result in further development of excess hospital capacity that could impair quality and/or raise the cost of medical care in South Florida, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association opposes changes that may allow overnight stays at ambulatory surgery centers and/or the creation of a new category of institutions called "recovery centers," subjecting the state to possible proliferation of facilities that: do not share community hospitals' responsibility for 24/7 access to the full spectrum of emergency services, are not required to care for all persons regardless of their ability to pay (including Medicaid and other indigent or unfunded patients), and are not part of the local organized disaster readiness and response system, and

WHEREAS, the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association acknowledges that not all modifications of the CON program will be welcomed equally by all of its members, but all agree that South Florida has more than sufficient hospital capacity to meet the needs of the region's current and future population.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the South Florida Hospital and Healthcare Association members pledge to work collaboratively with the Governor's Commission on Hospitals, the South Florida legislative delegation, and other organizations to assure that any changes proposed to the state's market entry regulation (CON) or provider and professional licensure standards will have the least deleterious effect on the cost, quality and equal access to care in South Florida.

Unanimously approved this 10th Day of July, 2015

Lincoln Mendez
Chairman

Linda Quick
President