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Teaching Hospitals

Broward Health

Jackson Health System

Mount Sinai  
Medical Center

Orlando Health

UF Health Shands Hospital

UF Health Jacksonville

Tampa General Hospital

Public Hospitals

Halifax Health

Lee Health

Memorial Healthcare System

Sarasota Memorial  
Health Care System

Children's Hospitals

Johns Hopkins All Children's Hospital

Nicklaus Children's Hospital

Regional Perinatal Intensive  
Care Center

Sacred Heart Health System

Anthony Carvalho

President

For Immediate Release

**Safety Net Hospitals Applaud Constitution Revision Commission  
for Maintaining Strategic Planning Process for New Hospitals**

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (April 2, 2018) – Florida’s top teaching, public, children’s and regional perinatal intensive care hospitals today applauded Commissioner Frank Kruppenbacher for agreeing to withdraw his proposal to eliminate the state’s strategic planning process for new hospitals. “Working with the Constitution Revision Commission (CRC) members has been a privilege, and their willingness to listen to the concerns of the Safety Net Hospital Alliance members has been gratifying,” said Lindy Kennedy, Executive Vice President of the Safety Net Hospital Alliance of Florida.

“Preserving Florida’s health care strategic planning process is vital for a strong safety net hospital system, which provides the most highly specialized medical care regardless of a patient’s ability to pay,” Kennedy said. “With fewer commercially insured patients to help cover the costs of caring for the poor and uninsured, safety net hospitals would have been forced to cut vital services that benefit all Floridians, such as neonatal care, trauma, burn, and transplants.”

During a CRC public hearing in St. Petersburg last month, Kennedy spoke against the proposal to repeal the certificate of need (CON) process. “Hospitals shouldn’t have to choose between maintaining specialty care for premature babies or fragile elderly patients, but that is just what would happen if you eliminate CON.”

Today, Kennedy added, “I also would like to thank Governor Scott for his open-door approach to governing and his willingness to hear all sides of complicated issues like health care strategic planning.”

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*The Safety Net Hospital Alliance of Florida is a 14-member coalition of teaching, public, children’s and regional perinatal intensive care hospitals that together make up only 10 percent of the state’s hospitals, yet provide the majority of the state’s highly specialized medical care, train tomorrow’s doctors, and provide almost half of the Medicaid and charity care.*