



RICK SCOTT
GOVERNOR

June 10, 2015

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

Secretary Kenneth W. Detzner
Secretary of State
Florida Department of State
R.A. Gray Building
500 South Bronough Street

Dear Secretary Detzner:

By the authority vested in me as Governor of the State of Florida, under the provisions of Article III, Section 8, of the Constitution of Florida, I do hereby veto and transmit my objections to House Bill 1305, enacted during the 117th Session of the Legislature of Florida, during the Regular Session of 2015 and entitled:

An act relating to Home Medical Equipment Providers...

This bill provides an exemption to the home medical equipment provider license for certain physicians who sell or rent electrostimulation medical equipment to their patients.

The regulation and licensure of providers of home medical equipment is ripe with exemptions and carve outs for various groups including, but not limited to: nursing homes, assisted living facilities, home health agencies, hospices, hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers, manufacturers and wholesale distributors, and pharmacies. The exemptions that exist in law, coupled with the carve outs this legislation proposes, demonstrate how this regulation burdens healthcare providers, while providing little benefit to consumers.

We take fraud very seriously and that is why we have invested \$8 million over the last two years to protect consumers. Certain parts of this license however, have outlived their usefulness by regulating pieces of equipment that do not warrant a

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burdensome licensing process - and I encourage members to further review this license as a whole. While I agree with the Legislature's attempt to deregulate and remove burdensome regulations, carve outs add additional levels of complexity to regulatory requirements while allowing outdated regulations to remain on the books. Carve outs also present an unfair advantage to certain entities competing within the same industry.

I appreciate the hard work and dedication of the bill sponsors on this issue and during the next legislative session, I encourage members to pass a bill that fully streamlines the healthcare regulatory process and eliminates burdensome or redundant regulations.

For the reasons stated above, I withhold my approval of House Bill 1305 and do hereby veto the same.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rick Scott
Governor