

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

February 15, 2022

**Twenty-Seven Organizations and Experts Demand the Veto of [Florida Senate Bill 7014](#)
The bill would restrict medical treatments available to Floridians and increase the risk of
bad medical outcomes and deaths**

PRESS CONFERENCE TO BE HELD

February 17, 2022

1:00 PM Eastern

Office of Dr. Littell

300 Park Pl Blvd

Kissimmee, FL 34741

KISSIMMEE, FL— A group of 27 civic organizations and leaders have come together to oppose the signing of [Florida Senate Bill 7014](#) in favor of more common-sense reforms.

“Senate Bill 7014 effectively prolongs emergency medical laws that will restrict patient choice and may lead to increased deaths” said Attorney R. Shawn McBride who acts as the President of the [American Freedom Information Institute, Inc.](#)

“Florida put in emergency liability protections for health care providers early in the Covid-19 pandemic” he continued. “And now, in practice, we are seeing hospitals holding rigidly to Covid-19 treatment protocols from the CDC or other organizations and effectively stopping patients from getting the treatments that their doctors may otherwise prescribe.”

Since March, 2021 Florida Statute 768.381 has provided liability protection for Covid-19 claims to any “health care provider” that follows “government-issued health standards”. And while there has been amazing innovation in treatments available to patients as the nation's and the world's doctors have found new ways to help Covid-19 patients many of the “government-issued health standards” remain in place from the early days of Covid-19 when they were implemented when the medical community's knowledge of Covid-19 and it's treatments were less developed.

Now, well into 2022, we find many patients with doctors who wish to follow innovative treatments that are blocked by hospitals because the hospitals fear liability. Attorney Jeff Childers, a litigator that has represented a number of patients in Covid-19 cases, stated “I've literally had clients die without getting the treatments for Covid-19 that their doctor wanted to give them. Most people assume that their doctor will be able to give them the treatments the doctor thinks is best, but that's not what is happening in Florida in many cases. And the courts have been reluctant to force the hospitals to give access to the patient's non-hospital doctors.”

“While the original intent of this legislation was to protect both physicians and hospitals at a time when little was known about the appropriate treatment of Covid-19, what we have seen - what I have seen - during the past two years with regards to the treatment of - or the failure to treat - Covid patients has been a travesty. Patients who have been denied treatments which they requested, patients who have received treatments which they refused, and patients who were

denied the right to have their closest advocates at their side so as to help them make truly informed decisions - have died unnecessarily because of this liability law. The fear of lawsuits has led to a top-down, one size fits all approach to the care of hospitalized patients with Covid 19 - and the refusal by hospitals to allow patients and physicians to work collaboratively with nursing staff, respiratory therapists, and intensivists to employ emerging treatments which cause little or no harm and had have been demonstrated to reduce hospital morbidity and mortality. This can and must no longer be tolerated” stated Dr. Littell a Kissimmee based doctor that has been active in speaking out on medical choice and innovation in Covid- 19 care.

"I helplessly watched my sister die as the hospital refused to provide life-saving treatments to my sister because they would only follow the CDC COVID protocols which ultimately led to her death." stated Lori Bontell. Since then, she's taken up the charge and hand-carried a letter written by the American Freedom Information Institute, Inc. and signed by 26 different organizations and leaders to the Governor's office. That letter asked the Governor to veto SB 7014 so that different liability protection could be considered for healthcare providers. “We aren't against the healthcare providers. We just want patients to have the right to choose the treatments that they want and need and for their own doctors to have the freedom to exercise their independent medical judgment on a case-by-case basis to help their patients. Otherwise, these unnecessary deaths will continue and families like mine will be left to suffer the consequences of these protocols that several doctors have stated are outdated, ineffective, and lead to ventilation and death. One death is too many.”

The [letter demanding the veto of Senate Bill 7014](#) delivered to Governor DeSantis on February 14, 2022 was extraordinary in that the voices of so many freedom-oriented organizations were united in the fight to protect life, individual liberty and the freedom of medical choice.

The media is invited to gather for a conference on February 17, 2022 to listen to civic leaders discuss why SB 7014 needs to be vetoed to allow for better medical care in Florida.

Details on the conference:

WHEN: February 17, 2022, 1:00 PM Eastern

WHERE: Office of Dr. Littell MD

300 Park Pl Blvd.

Kissimmee, FL 34741

Confirmed Speakers:

Attorney R. Shawn McBride, President American Freedom Information Institute, Inc.

Dr. John Littell MD, International Alliance Physicians and Scientists

Lori Bontell, Medical Freedom Coalition, Right to Try Alliance, and Florida Republican Assembly

Nick Caturano, Medical Freedom Coalition

####

References:

Letter to Governor DeSantis showing the signatures of the first 26 organizations and leaders to sign-on at the end: <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WJAdEbYjKbrssqmoGOu53j7tA-GUYH2B/view?usp=sharing>

####

About the American Freedom Information Institute, Inc.

AFII is a grassroots-based non-profit. Its mission is to spread seeds of knowledge and inform citizens on freedom issues such as forced vaccine laws. Its goal is to also teach citizens how they can change laws. For more information, visit www.amfreedomii.com.

###

To schedule media interviews with Attorney R. Shawn McBride, Dr. Littell, Attorney Jeff Childers or Lori Bontell please contact R. Shawn McBride or Lori Bontell:

R. Shawn McBride
(407) 349-3085
shawn.mcbride@amfreedomii.com

Lori Bontell
407-496-9951
LBONTELL496@GMAIL.COM

--

R. Shawn McBride
American Freedom Information Institute, Inc.
555 Winderley Place
Suite 300
Maitland, Florida 32751
(407) 349-3085
www.AmFreedomII.com

Shawn.McBride@AmFreedomII.com

Let's [connect on LinkedIn!](#)

Notwithstanding The Uniform Electronic Transactions Act or the applicability of any other law of similar substance or effect, absent an express statement to the contrary hereinabove, this email message, its contents, and any attachments hereto are not intended to represent an offer or acceptance to enter into a contract and are not otherwise intended to bind the sender, any of his or her clients, or any other person or entity.

American Freedom Information Institute, Inc. is not a law firm and does not provide legal advice. Consult your own counsel before taking an action or not acting based on our statements.

To opt-out of e-mails from us just reply to this message and say "Stop".