

If You Live in Florida... You May Not Be Able to Get the Health Care You Need.



FLORIDA'S HEALTH CARE SYSTEM IS IN CRISIS.

An out-of-control lawsuit system is forcing doctors to drop services or leave the state.

Patients are paying the price.

- With fewer physicians or those who are avoiding high-risk cases, access to health care will suffer. Jim Chaffin, a local obstetrician, has a pregnant patient who needs gallbladder surgery, and he cannot find a surgeon to handle it.
- Florida is one of the hardest-hit states. The insurance companies say the big jury verdicts and payouts lead to big premium increases...many doctors, unable to afford the escalating premiums close practices, retire early or move out of state.

The Florida Times-Union, June 30, 2002

St. Petersburg Times, July 1, 2002

- The [liability insurance] rate increase this year for most physicians ranges from 25 percent to a whopping 350 percent.
- "Are we supposed to go to the lawyers for surgery?"

St. Petersburg Times, July 1, 2002

The husband of a cancer patient whose surgeon may not be able to continue her care.

The Florida Times-Union, June 30, 2002

There's a bill before Congress that can make a difference!

Call Rep. Karen Thurman today at 352.344.3044.

Ask her to support H.R. 4600, the HEALTH Act to make sure you get the health care you need.



To learn more about the health care liability crisis, visit www.hcla.org

Paid for by the Health Care Liability Alliance