



Florida
CHAPTER

Message from the President

David Perloff, MD, FACC



President's Message

May 2019

Dear FCACC Members:

Advocacy absolutely makes a difference! If you aren't sure it does - see the below report from our lobbyist, Marnie George, on the 2019 Tallahassee legislative session. As physicians and care team members, historically we have been poorly engaged. Advocacy is NON-PARTISAN!!! The FCACC works with both parties to advocate for Medicine, Cardiology and our patients. You can get involved by donating to the [FLCardioPAC](#), by making your calendars to be a delegate to the ACC Legislative Conference in Washington, DC this November 3-5, and by responding when we send alerts. Get involved!

David Perloff, MD, FACC

President
Florida Chapter, American College of Cardiology

2019 Legislative Session Recap

Soon after being sworn-in as Florida's House Speaker last November, Representative Jose Oliva (R-Hialeah) announced that "comprehensive" health care reform and tackling rising health-care costs would be a legislative priority. The Florida House soon became laser-focused on revising the delivery of health care... and the Senate ultimately concurred.

Among the Speaker's priority issues that passed both chambers and await Governor DeSantis' final approval, include the elimination of the Certificate of Need review for certain hospitals; the use of telehealth to deliver health care services; and the importation of certain prescription drugs. The 2019 Session was challenging for organized medicine; the medical specialties worked tirelessly to help shape health care legislation to protect patients and to improve their medical care.

Throughout the recent 60-day Session, the Florida Chapter remained on high alert as a multitude of health care issues were debated and discussed. The Chapter teamed up with the Florida Medical Association and others to help finesse the telehealth legislation as it moved through the process. The Chapter worked with the American Heart Association to increase the legal age of tobacco use to 21; then worked to stop the legislation after it was amended to exempt cigars. We provided feedback and guidance on pediatric cardiac legislation and helped secure its passage. And, we successfully convinced legislative bill sponsors that advancing legislation to alter the STEMI reporting requirements was not in the best interest of patients; stopping the legislation from ever being considered.

But one of the most meaningful opportunities for the FCACC came during the Annual Fly-In. Twelve Cardiologists from around the state gathered in Tallahassee during the second week of the Session to meet with Governor Ron DeSantis and legislative leaders to discuss the Chapter's legislative priorities. Chapter members are encouraged to attend the 2020 Tallahassee Fly-In next January and to join our efforts to improve health care laws in Florida for our patients and our practice.



Annual Meeting

Our flagship annual meeting is the place where national speakers come to your backyard. This year we gather August 16-18 at Disney's Grand Floridian Resort & Spa. The agenda is packed with hot topics and clinical decision criteria that you will use in clinic immediately. Clear your calendar, and tell your family they are coming because all of our social events are designed to include spouses and families. Additional information is [here](#) and specific links are below.

[Registration & Hotel Agenda](#)
[FIT Competitions](#)
[CVTeam Case Competition](#)

Live & Local: State-wide CV Education Courses

FCACC members are experts and teachers, committed to a CV community that has the most up-to-date science at the bedside. The programs on [this page](#) have a member of the Florida Chapter, ACC, as a part of the planning committee.

FOLLOW US!

[FACEBOOK AND TWITTER \(@FloridaACC\)](#)



Missed last month's message? Find it [here](#).

Florida Chapter, American College of Cardiology
3208 E. Colonial Drive, Suite 264, Orlando, FL 32803 www.acfl.org