

136 S. Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32301 Phone: (850) 521-1200 Fax: (850) 521-1203

www.floridachamber.com

January 16, 2018

The Honorable Anitere Flores The Florida Senate 404 South Monroe Street 404 Senate Office Building Tallahassee, FL 32399-1100

RE: Support SB 280, Telehealth When the 2018 Florida Chamber Business Agenda Wins, Florida Wins

**Dear Senator Flores:** 

The Florida Chamber of Commerce urges you to **support SB 280**. This bill, which is sponsored by Senator Aaron Bean, will be heard Tuesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, in the Senate Banking & Insurance Committee.

The Florida Chamber is working to secure Florida's future by ensuring a healthy quality of life for all Floridians. To provide healthcare to the almost 6 million more Floridians our state will have by 2030, the Florida Chamber supports proactive and innovative policies that will deliver greater access and quality of care while also controlling escalating healthcare costs. We believe implementing a regulatory framework for telehealth policy that protects free market principles, as is done in SB 280, will allow this innovative industry to flourish and patients to benefit. This legislation is important to Florida's businesses because the bill:

• Authorizes Florida-licensed health care professionals to use telehealth and articulates a standard of care.

The Florida Chamber urges you to **support SB 280**, and will consider votes on this legislation, and any substantive amendments to it in committee or on the floor, in our annual *How They Voted* report card. The grade that you earn will be based on your voting record on the issues. We will make every effort to notify you prior to a vote that may be included in our annual legislative report card. If you have any questions about this or other issues, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards,

Frank C. Walker, III

Frak C. Walk III

Vice President of Government Affairs

CC: Bob Grammig, Chair, Florida Chamber of Commerce

Mark Wilson, President & CEO, Florida Chamber of Commerce David Hart, Executive Vice President, Florida Chamber of Commerce