



April 1, 2024

The Honorable Ron DeSantis  
Governor of Florida  
Executive Office of Governor Ron DeSantis  
400 South Monroe Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399

RE: Request to Support House Bill 1023, St. Lucie County

Dear Governor Ron DeSantis:

In the best interest of St. Lucie County residents, the City of Fort Pierce requests your favorable support for HB 1023, St. Lucie County sponsored by Representative Dana Trabulsky.

In St. Lucie County, inmate medical bills on average are marked up 9,000 percent of the allowable Medicare rate but reach up to 27,000 percent for some procedures. Absent appropriate cost management tools, the egregious billing practices present a significant financial hardship to St. Lucie County and its taxpayers.

HB 1023 establishes standard and uniform rates to effectively manage public funds by limiting the reimbursement rate at the allowable Medicare rate plus ten percent. The bill not only provides safeguards to taxpayer dollars, but also aligns with the effective and longstanding tool for cost management measures for the Department of Corrections implemented by the state since 2008.

Accordingly, the City of Fort Pierce requests your favorable support of HB 1023.

Sincerely,

Linda Hudson  
Mayor