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Leader Driskell's and Representative Campbell's Bill to Provide Relief to Florida's Disproportionate Sickle Cell Population is Signed into Law

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. – Earlier this week, [Senate Bill 1352 Sickle Cell Disease Medications, Treatment, and Screening](#) was signed into law by the Governor. [House Bill 1481](#), the companion legislation to **SB 1352**, was sponsored this session by **Leader Fentrice Driskell (D-Tampa)** and **Representative Daryl Campbell (D-Fort Lauderdale)**. **SB 1352** directs \$1.3 million dollars to the Agency for Health Care Administration and community organizations to study the treatment, services, and medications available to those suffering with sickle cell disease on Medicaid. It also establishes an infant sickle cell disease registry. Coupled with another \$5 million dollars in the 2023-24 fiscal year budget to create 10 sickle cell disease centers throughout Florida, this represents the State's biggest investment in understanding and treating sickle cell disease in the state of Florida.

“For a long time, the State of Florida has turned a blind eye to those suffering from Sickle Cell Disease. With the signing bill and the record number funding accompanying it, we are setting a new path, one where the Florida health care system provides sickle cell patients with the proper care and compassion they need. I would like to thank Leader Driskell for her amazing partnership in this journey as well as the Foundation for Sickle Cell Research for their dedication to serving the community.

Today the State of Florida sent a message to those with Sickle Cell: We see you! Following this message, I am excited to continue to fight for more equitable care in all our communities,” said **Representative Campbell**.

“I am happy to share that **HB 1481/SB 1352** Sickle Cell Disease Medications, Treatment, and Screening was signed into law. Florida has the highest number of sickle cell births nationwide. Therefore, the data collection mandated in this bill will be revolutionary for Floridians living with sickle cell disease.

“I am grateful for the collaboration of Representative Campbell and Senators Rouson and Davis on this bill, which will provide relief to some of Florida's most vulnerable communities and help bolster the state's preparedness for their treatment. The unanimous support of my colleagues in both the House and the Senate for this bill is deeply appreciated, and I look forward to seeing the impact it will have on our great state.

I am committed to working towards a Florida where everyone has the freedom to be healthy, prosperous, and safe,” said **Leader Driskell**.

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