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 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: The Florida House of Representatives Unanimously Passes Rep. Gallop Franklin's Home Health Care Services Bill

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The Florida House of Representatives Unanimously Passes Rep. Gallop Franklin's Home Health Care Services Bill

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – The Florida House of Representatives today unanimously passed **Representative Gallop Franklin's (D-Tallahassee)** legislation (<u>CS/CS/HB 935</u>) to increase the number of health care professionals ordering home health care in Florida.

"It is better for patients to recover at home with personalized care for as long as possible. Home health care promotes greater independence, reduces costly hospital stays, and helps maintain patient independence," **Representative Franklin** said. "I'm grateful to my colleagues in the Florida House for supporting this caring, compassionate, and cost-saving strategy to provide patients with a care plan that is tailored to their specific needs."

Representative Franklin's bill ensures better health outcomes for Floridians by allowing advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to order medically necessary home health care services. The bill also better aligns Florida's Medicaid safety net for low-income residents with Medicare and private insurers to pay for home health care services ordered by advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants.

Health care services offered in the home may include:

- Doctor care;
- Nursing care;
- Physical, occupational, respiratory, or speech therapy;
- Home health aide services;
- Medical social services; and
- Homemaker/companion services.

The Senate companion bill to **Representative Franklin**'s House Home Health Care proposal (<u>CS/SB 1798</u>) sponsored by <u>Senator Jay Trumbull</u> **R-Panama City** is in the Florida Senate Fiscal Policy Committee.

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