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Senior Editor, The Miami Herald

January 27, 2020

The Honorable Margaret Good Florida House of Representatives 402 South Monroe Street, 319 CAP Tallahassee, FL 32301

RE: HB 1295 Pub. Meetings and Rec./Prescription Drug Affordability Commission

Dear Representative Good:

I am writing on behalf of the First Amendment Foundation in response to House Bill 1295. The bill allows the Prescription Drug Affordability Commission to establish parameters for what is designated a trade secret, and therefore exempt from public disclosure. However, the proposed legislation does not provide standards for determining such parameters. Such broad discretion may permit the commission to exempt more than is necessary to protect proprietary information.

We respectfully request that House Bill 1295 be amended to provide standards based on the definition of trade secret found in Section 688.002(4) of the Florida Statutes.

Thank you for your consideration of our concerns. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Sincerely,

Pamela C. Marsh

Cc: The Honorable Jose Oliva, Speaker, Florida House of Representatives Mr. Jim Baltzelle, Associated Press, Chair, First Amendment Foundation Mr. Samuel Morley, General Counsel, Florida Press Association Ms. Lisa Nellessen Savage, Chair, Florida Society of News Editors

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