

# Eliminating Certificate of Need in Florida Led to Costly Hospital-Building Boom, Don't Let Kentucky Be Next

## What is Certificate of Need?

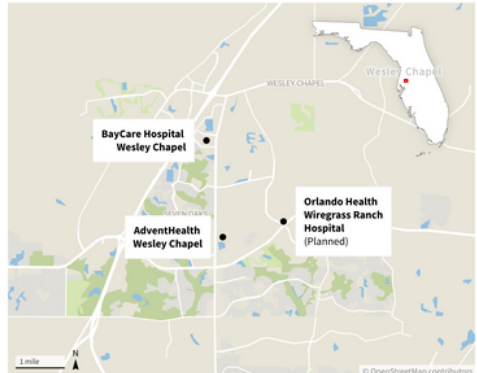
Kentucky has a Certificate of Need process that helps ensure everyone in the community, including vulnerable, low-income populations, can access comprehensive, high-quality care. About two-thirds of states still have CON in place, but legislation has been introduced in several, including Kentucky, to remove this process.

## Florida Dropped Certificate of Need Requirement in 2019. What Happened After?

Between 2020 and 2022, companies announced plans to build at least 65 new hospitals in Florida, many of which are in South Florida, Tampa and Orlando. Today, the region faces a problem of "excess medical capacity" that's driving up health costs and diluting care quality.

### A Microcosm of Florida's Hospital-Building Boom

Wesley Chapel, Florida, has two general hospitals within a five-minute drive of each other. A third — owned by Orlando Health — is on the way.



## USA Today: Florida's Law Led to Hospital Boom, Shows Real Need to Protect CON

- In most industries competition drives down prices, but excess competition in healthcare is inflationary and increases costs for patients.
- Hospitals aren't being built in areas that need it most and instead are growing in markets that yield the highest profits. In Florida, there are no hospitals being built between Jacksonville and Pensacola, a more than 300-mile swath of rural counties.
- Patients tend to go where insurers allow and where doctors send them instead of shopping around and comparing prices.
- The healthcare system is already facing staff shortages, which will worsen with more hospitals in one region.

**PROTECT QUALITY, ACCESSIBLE CARE.  
MAINTAIN CERTIFICATE OF NEED IN KY!**