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## Prescription drug legislation a great move

The Florida Legislature recently made a wonderful step in the right direction. In bipartisan showing, legislation passed that will dramatically increase the amount of prescription pain medication needed to kick in mandatory-minimum sentencing laws.

Partisan politics were thrown aside in the name of common-sense solutions to the expensive problems created when low-level, non-violent drug abusers are subject to minimum-mandatory jail sentences for feeding their addictions. The bill's sponsors — Reps. Katie Edwards, D-Plantation; Rep. Dave Hood, R-Daytona Beach; and Sen. Rob Bradley, R-Fleming Island — identified these problems and took huge strides to begin reforming our state's drug-sentencing laws. The legislation now awaits the governor's signature to become law.

Florida citizens addicted to prescription drug medication can receive the counseling and drug treatment they need much more economically than being warehoused in our prisons and labeled convicted felons.

Let us applaud this common sense approach by the Florida Legislature and the champion of this change, Rep. Edwards.

***Jamie Benjamin, president, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, Fort Lauderdale***