

CHAPTER 97-5

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 7

An act relating to health insurance; amending s. 627.419, F.S.; including physician assistants within certain benefits or services payment provisions; limiting application; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 627.419, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, is amended to read:

627.419 Construction of policies.—

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, when any health insurance policy, health care services plan, or other contract provides for payment for surgical first assisting benefits or services, the policy, plan, or contract is to be construed as providing for payment to a registered nurse first assistant or employers of a physician assistant or nurse first assistant who performs such services that are within the scope of a physician assistant's or a registered nurse first assistant's professional license. The provisions of this subsection apply only if reimbursement for an assisting physician, licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, would be covered and a physician assistant or a registered nurse first assistant who performs such services is used as a substitute.

Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1997.

Became a law without the Governor's approval April 9, 1997.

Filed in Office Secretary of State April 8, 1997.