CHAPTER 2006-28

House Bill No. 5007

An act relating to health care; amending s. 391.026, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to contract with a third-party administrator for certain services necessary to the operation of the Children's Medical Services network; authorizing the department to maintain a specified minimum reserve for the network; amending s. 400.141, F.S.; providing a reference for purposes of assessing compliance with standards for staffing levels in nursing homes; amending s. 400.179, F.S.; revising the amount of a certain fee to be paid by a leasehold licensee upon transfer of ownership of a nursing facility under certain circumstances; amending s. 400.23, F.S.; revising minimum staffing requirements for nursing homes; amending s. 409.811, F.S.; deleting the definition of the term "enrollment ceiling"; amending s. 409.8134, F.S.; deleting references to enrollment ceilings for the Florida KidCare program; providing for enrollment to cease when the expenditure ceiling is reached; amending ss. 409.814 and 409.818, F.S.; deleting references to enrollment ceilings for the Florida KidCare program; amending s. 409.904, F.S.; revising requirements relating to eligibility of certain women for family planning services; amending s. 409.905, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the implementation of a hospitalist program; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to procure hospitalist services by individual county or combined counties; requiring a qualified organization to contract with or employ board-eligible physicians in specified counties; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; revising provisions relating to optional dental, hearing, and visual services covered by Medicaid; amending s. 409.907, F.S.; revising the enrollment effective date for Medicaid providers; providing procedures for payment for certain claims for services; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the effect of changes of ownership or of licensed operator of a Medicaid provider on reimbursement rates under certain circumstances; revising provisions to permit rather than require a certain limit on the indirect care component of the long-term care reimbursement plan; amending s. 409.9081, F.S.; revising the limitation on Medicaid recipient copayments for emergency room services; amending s. 409.911, F.S., relating to the hospital disproportionate share program; revising the method for calculating disproportionate share payments to hospitals; deleting obsolete provisions; amending s. 409.9113, F.S.; providing guidelines for distribution of disproportionate share funds to certain teaching hospitals; amending s. 409.9117, F.S., relating to the primary care disproportionate share program; revising the time period during which the agency shall not distribute certain moneys; amending s. 409.912, F.S., relating to cost-effective purchasing of health care; authorizing the agency to post a preferred drug list and updates thereto on an Internet website without following the rulemaking procedures of ch. 120, F.S.; providing that adjustments for health status be considered in agency evaluations of the cost-effectiveness of Medicaid managed care plans; amending s. 409.9122, F.S.; revising enrollment limits

for Medicaid recipients who are subject to mandatory assignment to managed care plans and MediPass; creating s. 409.9301, F.S.; establishing a pharmaceutical expense assistance program; providing eligibility requirements; providing for the Agency for Health Care Administration to pay certain coinsurance and deductibles for specified medications; requiring the agency, in collaboration with the Department of Elderly Affairs and the Department of Children and Family Services, to administer the program; authorizing the agency to adopt rules; requiring a report to the Legislature; declaring that the program is not an entitlement; providing for a waiting list; amending s. 430.04, F.S.; designating the Department of Elderly Affairs as the state agency to receive federal funds for adults eligible for assistance through the Adult Care Food Program; requiring the department to develop standards and procedures to govern sponsoring organizations and adult day care centers for certain purposes; providing rulemaking authority to the department; amending s. 430.705, F.S., relating to implementation of the long-term care community diversion pilot projects; providing for certain prospective participants in the pilot projects to be designated "Medicaid Pending" while eligibility is determined; providing conditions for reimbursement of contractors; amending s. 624.91, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation to establish a local match policy for the enrollment of certain children in the Healthy Kids program; requiring the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability to review functions performed by the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services Program; requiring a report to the Legislature; repealing s. 409.8201, F.S., relating to the enrollment ceiling for the non-Medicaid portion of the Florida KidCare program; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (16) of section 391.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

391.026 Powers and duties of the department.—The department shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities:

(16) To receive and manage health care premiums, capitation payments, and funds from federal, state, local, and private entities for the program. The department may contract with a third-party administrator for processing claims, monitoring medical expenses, and other related services necessary to the efficient and cost-effective operation of the Children's Medical Services network. The department is authorized to maintain a minimum reserve for the Children's Medical Services network in an amount that is the greater of:

(a) Ten percent of total projected expenditures for Title XIX-funded and Title XXI-funded children; or

(b) Two percent of total annualized payments from the Agency for Health Care Administration for Title XIX and Title XXI of the Social Security Act.

Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (15) of section 400.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.141 Administration and management of nursing home facilities.—Every licensed facility shall comply with all applicable standards and rules of the agency and shall:

(15) Submit semiannually to the agency, or more frequently if requested by the agency, information regarding facility staff-to-resident ratios, staff turnover, and staff stability, including information regarding certified nursing assistants, licensed nurses, the director of nursing, and the facility administrator. For purposes of this reporting:

(e) A nursing facility which does not have a conditional license may be cited for failure to comply with the standards in s. 400.23(3)(a)1.a. only if it has failed to meet those standards on 2 consecutive days or if it has failed to meet at least 97 percent of those standards on any one day.

Nothing in this section shall limit the agency's ability to impose a deficiency or take other actions if a facility does not have enough staff to meet the residents' needs.

Facilities that have been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235 may develop a plan to provide certified nursing assistant training as prescribed by federal regulations and state rules and may apply to the agency for approval of their program.

Section 3. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 400.179, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.179 Sale or transfer of ownership of a nursing facility; liability for Medicaid underpayments and overpayments.—

(5) Because any transfer of a nursing facility may expose the fact that Medicaid may have underpaid or overpaid the transferor, and because in most instances, any such underpayment or overpayment can only be determined following a formal field audit, the liabilities for any such underpayments or overpayments shall be as follows:

(d) Where the transfer involves a facility that has been leased by the transferor:

1. The transferee shall, as a condition to being issued a license by the agency, acquire, maintain, and provide proof to the agency of a bond with a term of 30 months, renewable annually, in an amount not less than the total of 3 months' ~~months~~ Medicaid payments to the facility computed on the basis of the preceding 12-month average Medicaid payments to the facility.

2. A leasehold licensee may meet the requirements of subparagraph 1. by payment of a nonrefundable fee, paid at initial licensure, paid at the time

of any subsequent change of ownership, and paid at the time of any subsequent annual license renewal, in the amount of 1 ~~2~~ percent of the total of 3 months' Medicaid payments to the facility computed on the basis of the preceding 12-month average Medicaid payments to the facility. If a preceding 12-month average is not available, projected Medicaid payments may be used. The fee shall be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund and shall be accounted for separately as a Medicaid nursing home overpayment account. These fees shall be used at the sole discretion of the agency to repay nursing home Medicaid overpayments. Payment of this fee shall not release the licensee from any liability for any Medicaid overpayments, nor shall payment bar the agency from seeking to recoup overpayments from the licensee and any other liable party. As a condition of exercising this lease bond alternative, licensees paying this fee must maintain an existing lease bond through the end of the 30-month term period of that bond. The agency is herein granted specific authority to promulgate all rules pertaining to the administration and management of this account, including withdrawals from the account, subject to federal review and approval. This provision shall take effect upon becoming law and shall apply to any leasehold license application. The financial viability of the Medicaid nursing home overpayment account shall be determined by the agency through annual review of the account balance and the amount of total outstanding, unpaid Medicaid overpayments owing from leasehold licensees to the agency as determined by final agency audits.

3. The leasehold licensee may meet the bond requirement through other arrangements acceptable to the agency. The agency is herein granted specific authority to promulgate rules pertaining to lease bond arrangements.

4. All existing nursing facility licensees, operating the facility as a leasehold, shall acquire, maintain, and provide proof to the agency of the 30-month bond required in subparagraph 1., above, on and after July 1, 1993, for each license renewal.

5. It shall be the responsibility of all nursing facility operators, operating the facility as a leasehold, to renew the 30-month bond and to provide proof of such renewal to the agency annually at the time of application for license renewal.

6. Any failure of the nursing facility operator to acquire, maintain, renew annually, or provide proof to the agency shall be grounds for the agency to deny, cancel, revoke, or suspend the facility license to operate such facility and to take any further action, including, but not limited to, enjoining the facility, asserting a moratorium, or applying for a receiver, deemed necessary to ensure compliance with this section and to safeguard and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the facility's residents. A lease agreement required as a condition of bond financing or refinancing under s. 154.213 by a health facilities authority or required under s. 159.30 by a county or municipality is not a leasehold for purposes of this paragraph and is not subject to the bond requirement of this paragraph.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 400.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.23 Rules; evaluation and deficiencies; licensure status.—

(3)(a)1. The agency shall adopt rules providing minimum staffing requirements for nursing homes. These requirements shall include, for each nursing home facility:~~,~~

a. A minimum certified nursing assistant staffing of ~~2.3 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2002, increasing to~~ 2.6 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2003, and increasing to 2.7 ~~2.9~~ hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2007 ~~July 1, 2006~~. Beginning January 1, 2002, no facility shall staff below one certified nursing assistant per 20 residents, and a minimum licensed nursing staffing of 1.0 hour of direct ~~resident~~ care per resident per day but never below one licensed nurse per 40 residents.

b. Beginning January 1, 2007, a minimum weekly average certified nursing assistant staffing of 2.9 hours of direct care per resident per day. For the purpose of this sub-subparagraph, a week is defined as Sunday through Saturday.

2. Nursing assistants employed under s. 400.211(2) may be included in computing the staffing ratio for certified nursing assistants only if their job responsibilities include only nursing-assistant-related duties ~~they provide nursing assistance services to residents on a full-time basis~~.

3. Each nursing home must document compliance with staffing standards as required under this paragraph and post daily the names of staff on duty for the benefit of facility residents and the public.

4. The agency shall recognize the use of licensed nurses for compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants, provided that the facility otherwise meets the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses and that the licensed nurses are performing the duties of a certified nursing assistant. Unless otherwise approved by the agency, licensed nurses counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants must exclusively perform the duties of a certified nursing assistant for the entire shift and not also be counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses. If the agency approved a facility's request to use a licensed nurse to perform both licensed nursing and certified nursing assistant duties, the facility must allocate the amount of staff time specifically spent on certified nursing assistant duties for the purpose of documenting compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified and licensed nursing staff. In no event may the hours of a licensed nurse with dual job responsibilities be counted twice.

Section 5. Subsections (12) through (27) of section 409.811, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (11) through (26), respectively, and present subsection (11) of that section is amended to read:

409.811 Definitions relating to Florida KidCare Act.—As used in ss. 409.810-409.820, the term:

~~(11) "Enrollment ceiling" means the maximum number of children receiving premium assistance payments, excluding children enrolled in Medi-~~

~~caid, that may be enrolled at any time in the Florida KidCare program. The maximum number shall be established annually in the General Appropriations Act or by general law.~~

Section 6. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 409.8134, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.8134 Program ~~enrollment and~~ expenditure ceiling ~~ceilings~~.—

(1) Except for the Medicaid program, a ceiling shall be placed on annual federal and state expenditures for ~~and on enrollment in~~ the Florida KidCare program as provided each year in the General Appropriations Act.

(2) The Florida KidCare program may conduct enrollment at any time throughout the year for the purpose of enrolling children eligible for all program components listed in s. 409.813 except Medicaid. The four Florida KidCare administrators shall work together to ensure that the year-round enrollment period is announced statewide. Eligible children shall be enrolled on a first-come, first-served basis using the date the enrollment application is received. Enrollment shall immediately cease when the expenditure ~~enrollment~~ ceiling is reached. Year-round enrollment shall only be held if the Social Services Estimating Conference determines that sufficient federal and state funds will be available to finance the increased enrollment through federal fiscal year 2007. Any individual who is not enrolled must reapply by submitting a new application. The application for the Florida KidCare program shall be valid for a period of 120 days after the date it was received. At the end of the 120-day period, if the applicant has not been enrolled in the program, the application shall be invalid and the applicant shall be notified of the action. The applicant may resubmit the application after notification of the action taken by the program. Except for the Medicaid program, whenever the Social Services Estimating Conference determines that there are presently, or will be by the end of the current fiscal year, insufficient funds to finance the current or projected enrollment in the Florida KidCare program, all additional enrollment must cease and additional enrollment may not resume until sufficient funds are available to finance such enrollment.

Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 409.814, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.814 Eligibility.—A child who has not reached 19 years of age whose family income is equal to or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level is eligible for the Florida KidCare program as provided in this section. For enrollment in the Children's Medical Services Network, a complete application includes the medical or behavioral health screening. If, subsequently, an individual is determined to be ineligible for coverage, he or she must immediately be disenrolled from the respective Florida KidCare program component.

(5) A child whose family income is above 200 percent of the federal poverty level or a child who is excluded under the provisions of subsection (4) may participate in the Florida KidCare program, excluding the Medicaid program, but is subject to the following provisions:

~~(d) Children described in this subsection are not counted in the annual enrollment ceiling for the Florida KidCare program.~~

Section 8. Paragraphs (c) through (g) of subsection (3) of section 409.818, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (b) through (f), respectively, and present paragraphs (b) and (g) of subsection (3) of that section are amended to read:

409.818 Administration.—In order to implement ss. 409.810-409.820, the following agencies shall have the following duties:

(3) The Agency for Health Care Administration, under the authority granted in s. 409.914(1), shall:

~~(b) Annually calculate the program enrollment ceiling based on estimated per child premium assistance payments and the estimated appropriation available for the program.~~

(f)~~(g)~~ Adopt rules necessary for calculating premium assistance payment levels, ~~calculating the program enrollment ceiling,~~ making premium assistance payments, monitoring access and quality assurance standards, investigating and resolving complaints and grievances, administering the Medikids program, and approving health benefits coverage.

The agency is designated the lead state agency for Title XXI of the Social Security Act for purposes of receipt of federal funds, for reporting purposes, and for ensuring compliance with federal and state regulations and rules.

Section 9. Subsection (5) of section 409.904, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.904 Optional payments for eligible persons.—The agency may make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who are determined to be eligible subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(5) Subject to specific federal authorization, a ~~postpartum~~ woman living in a family that has an income that is at or below 185 percent of the most current federal poverty level is eligible for family planning services as specified in s. 409.905(3) for a period of up to 24 months following a loss of Medicaid benefits ~~pregnancy for which Medicaid paid for pregnancy-related services~~.

Section 10. Paragraph (d) of subsection (5) of section 409.905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.905 Mandatory Medicaid services.—The agency may make payments for the following services, which are required of the state by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, furnished by Medicaid providers to recipients who are determined to be eligible on the dates on which the services were provided. Any service under this section shall be provided only when medically

necessary and in accordance with state and federal law. Mandatory services rendered by providers in mobile units to Medicaid recipients may be restricted by the agency. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, number of services, or any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(5) HOSPITAL INPATIENT SERVICES.—The agency shall pay for all covered services provided for the medical care and treatment of a recipient who is admitted as an inpatient by a licensed physician or dentist to a hospital licensed under part I of chapter 395. However, the agency shall limit the payment for inpatient hospital services for a Medicaid recipient 21 years of age or older to 45 days or the number of days necessary to comply with the General Appropriations Act.

(d) The agency shall implement a hospitalist program in nonteaching ~~certain high-volume participating~~ hospitals, select counties, or statewide. The program shall require hospitalists to ~~authorize and~~ manage Medicaid recipients' hospital admissions and lengths of stay. Individuals who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid are exempted from this requirement. Medicaid participating physicians and other practitioners with hospital admitting privileges shall coordinate and review admissions of Medicaid recipients with the hospitalist. The agency may competitively bid a contract for selection of a single qualified organization to provide hospitalist services. The agency may procure hospitalist services by individual county or may combine counties in a single procurement. The qualified organization shall contract with or employ board-eligible ~~board certified~~ physicians in Miami-Dade, Palm Beach, Hillsborough, Pasco, and Pinellas Counties ~~who are full-time dedicated employees of the contractor and have no outside practice~~. ~~Where used, the hospitalist program shall replace the existing hospital utilization review program.~~ The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers to implement this program.

Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsections (12) and (23) of section 409.906, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.906 Optional Medicaid services.—Subject to specific appropriations, the agency may make payments for services which are optional to the state under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and are furnished by Medicaid providers to recipients who are determined to be eligible on the dates on which the services were provided. Any optional service that is provided shall be provided only when medically necessary and in accordance with state and federal law. Optional services rendered by providers in mobile units to Medicaid recipients may be restricted or prohibited by the agency. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. If necessary to safeguard the state's systems of providing services to elderly and disabled persons and subject to the notice and review provisions of s. 216.177, the Governor may

direct the Agency for Health Care Administration to amend the Medicaid state plan to delete the optional Medicaid service known as "Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled." Optional services may include:

(1) ADULT DENTAL SERVICES.—

(b) Beginning July 1, 2006 ~~January 1, 2005~~, the agency may pay for full or partial dentures, the procedures required to seat full or partial dentures, and the repair and reline of full or partial dentures, provided by or under the direction of a licensed dentist, for a recipient who is 21 years of age or older.

(12) ~~CHILDREN'S~~ HEARING SERVICES.—The agency may pay for hearing and related services, including hearing evaluations, hearing aid devices, dispensing of the hearing aid, and related repairs, if provided to a recipient ~~younger than 21 years of age~~ by a licensed hearing aid specialist, otolaryngologist, otologist, audiologist, or physician.

(23) ~~CHILDREN'S~~ VISUAL SERVICES.—The agency may pay for visual examinations, eyeglasses, and eyeglass repairs for a recipient ~~younger than 21 years of age,~~ if they are prescribed by a licensed physician specializing in diseases of the eye or by a licensed optometrist. Eyeglasses for adult recipients shall be limited to two pairs per year per recipient, except a third pair may be provided after prior authorization.

Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (9) of section 409.907, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.907 Medicaid provider agreements.—The agency may make payments for medical assistance and related services rendered to Medicaid recipients only to an individual or entity who has a provider agreement in effect with the agency, who is performing services or supplying goods in accordance with federal, state, and local law, and who agrees that no person shall, on the grounds of handicap, race, color, or national origin, or for any other reason, be subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the provider receives payment from the agency.

(9) Upon receipt of a completed, signed, and dated application, and completion of any necessary background investigation and criminal history record check, the agency must either:

(a) Enroll the applicant as a Medicaid provider ~~no earlier than the effective date of the approval of the provider application. With respect to providers who were recently granted a change of ownership and those who primarily provide emergency medical services transportation or emergency services and care pursuant to s. 395.1041 or s. 401.45, or services provided by entities under s. 409.91255, and out-of-state providers,~~ upon approval of the provider application.~~,~~ The enrollment effective date shall be ~~of approval is considered to be~~ the date the agency receives the provider application. Payment for any claims for services provided to Medicaid recipients between the date of receipt of the application and the date of approval is contingent on

applying any and all applicable audits and edits contained in the agency's claims adjudication and payment processing systems; or

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 409.908, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.908 Reimbursement of Medicaid providers.—Subject to specific appropriations, the agency shall reimburse Medicaid providers, in accordance with state and federal law, according to methodologies set forth in the rules of the agency and in policy manuals and handbooks incorporated by reference therein. These methodologies may include fee schedules, reimbursement methods based on cost reporting, negotiated fees, competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, and other mechanisms the agency considers efficient and effective for purchasing services or goods on behalf of recipients. If a provider is reimbursed based on cost reporting and submits a cost report late and that cost report would have been used to set a lower reimbursement rate for a rate semester, then the provider's rate for that semester shall be retroactively calculated using the new cost report, and full payment at the recalculated rate shall be effected retroactively. Medicare-granted extensions for filing cost reports, if applicable, shall also apply to Medicaid cost reports. Payment for Medicaid compensable services made on behalf of Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. Further, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, provided the adjustment is consistent with legislative intent.

(2)

(b) Subject to any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, the agency shall establish and implement a Florida Title XIX Long-Term Care Reimbursement Plan (Medicaid) for nursing home care in order to provide care and services in conformance with the applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations, and quality and safety standards and to ensure that individuals eligible for medical assistance have reasonable geographic access to such care.

1. Changes of ownership or of licensed operator may or may ~~do~~ not qualify for increases in reimbursement rates associated with the change of ownership or of licensed operator. The agency may ~~shall~~ amend the Title XIX Long Term Care Reimbursement Plan to provide that the initial nursing home reimbursement rates, for the operating, patient care, and MAR components, associated with related and unrelated party changes of ownership or licensed operator filed on or after September 1, 2001, are equivalent to the previous owner's reimbursement rate.

2. The agency shall amend the long-term care reimbursement plan and cost reporting system to create direct care and indirect care subcomponents of the patient care component of the per diem rate. These two subcomponents together shall equal the patient care component of the per diem rate.

Separate cost-based ceilings shall be calculated for each patient care subcomponent. The direct care subcomponent of the per diem rate shall be limited by the cost-based class ceiling, and the indirect care subcomponent may ~~shall~~ be limited by the lower of the cost-based class ceiling, the target rate class ceiling, or the individual provider target.

3. The direct care subcomponent shall include salaries and benefits of direct care staff providing nursing services including registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants who deliver care directly to residents in the nursing home facility. This excludes nursing administration, minimum data set, and care plan coordinators, staff development, and staffing coordinator.

4. All other patient care costs shall be included in the indirect care cost subcomponent of the patient care per diem rate. There shall be no costs directly or indirectly allocated to the direct care subcomponent from a home office or management company.

5. On July 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislature direct and indirect care costs, including average direct and indirect care costs per resident per facility and direct care and indirect care salaries and benefits per category of staff member per facility.

6. In order to offset the cost of general and professional liability insurance, the agency shall amend the plan to allow for interim rate adjustments to reflect increases in the cost of general or professional liability insurance for nursing homes. This provision shall be implemented to the extent existing appropriations are available.

It is the intent of the Legislature that the reimbursement plan achieve the goal of providing access to health care for nursing home residents who require large amounts of care while encouraging diversion services as an alternative to nursing home care for residents who can be served within the community. The agency shall base the establishment of any maximum rate of payment, whether overall or component, on the available moneys as provided for in the General Appropriations Act. The agency may base the maximum rate of payment on the results of scientifically valid analysis and conclusions derived from objective statistical data pertinent to the particular maximum rate of payment.

Section 14. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 409.9081, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9081 Copayments.—

(1) The agency shall require, subject to federal regulations and limitations, each Medicaid recipient to pay at the time of service a nominal copayment for the following Medicaid services:

(c) Hospital emergency department visits for nonemergency care: 5 percent of up to the first $300 of the Medicaid payment for emergency room services, not to exceed $15 ~~for each emergency department visit~~.

Section 15. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 409.911, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.911 Disproportionate share program.—Subject to specific allocations established within the General Appropriations Act and any limitations established pursuant to chapter 216, the agency shall distribute, pursuant to this section, moneys to hospitals providing a disproportionate share of Medicaid or charity care services by making quarterly Medicaid payments as required. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

(2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall use the following actual audited data to determine the Medicaid days and charity care to be used in calculating the disproportionate share payment:

(a) The average of the ~~1998, 1999, and~~ 2000, 2001, and 2002 audited disproportionate share data to determine each hospital's Medicaid days and charity care for the 2006-2007 ~~2004-2005~~ state fiscal year ~~and the average of the 1999, 2000, and 2001 audited disproportionate share data to determine the Medicaid days and charity care for the 2005-2006 state fiscal year~~.

(b) If the Agency for Health Care Administration does not have the prescribed 3 years of audited disproportionate share data as noted in paragraph (a) for a hospital, the agency shall use the average of the years of the audited disproportionate share data as noted in paragraph (a) which is available.

(c) In accordance with s. 1923(b) of the Social Security Act, a hospital with a Medicaid inpatient utilization rate greater than one standard deviation above the statewide mean or a hospital with a low-income utilization rate of 25 percent or greater shall qualify for reimbursement.

(3) Hospitals that qualify for a disproportionate share payment solely under paragraph (2)(c) shall have their payment calculated in accordance with the following formulas:

DSHP = (HMD/TMSD) x $1 million

Where:

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payment.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TSD = total state Medicaid days.

Any funds not allocated to hospitals qualifying under this section shall be redistributed to the non-state government owned or operated hospitals with greater than 3,100 ~~3,300~~ Medicaid days.

(4) The following formulas shall be used to pay disproportionate share dollars to public hospitals:

(a) For state mental health hospitals:

DSHP = (HMD/TMDMH) x TAAMH

shall be the difference between the federal cap for Institutions for Mental Diseases and the amounts paid under the mental health disproportionate share program.

Where:

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payment.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TMDHH = total Medicaid days for state mental health hospitals.

TAAMH = total amount available for mental health hospitals.

(b) For non-state government owned or operated hospitals with 3,100 ~~3,300~~ or more Medicaid days:

DSHP = [(.82 x HCCD/TCCD) + (.18 x HMD/TMD)]
x TAAPH
TAAPH = TAA - TAAMH

Where:

TAA = total available appropriation.

TAAPH = total amount available for public hospitals.

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payments.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TMD = total state Medicaid days for public hospitals.

HCCD = hospital charity care dollars.

TCCD = total state charity care dollars for public non-state hospitals.

~~1. For the 2005-2006 state fiscal year only, the DSHP for the public nonstate hospitals shall be computed using a weighted average of the disproportionate share payments for the 2004-2005 state fiscal year which uses an average of the 1998, 1999, and 2000 audited disproportionate share data and the disproportionate share payments for the 2005-2006 state fiscal year as computed using the formula above and using the average of the 1999, 2000, and 2001 audited disproportionate share data. The final DSHP for the public nonstate hospitals shall be computed as an average using the calculated payments for the 2005-2006 state fiscal year weighted at 65 percent and the disproportionate share payments for the 2004-2005 state fiscal year weighted at 35 percent.~~

~~2.~~ The TAAPH shall be reduced by $6,365,257 before computing the DSHP for each public hospital. The $6,365,257 shall be distributed equally between the public hospitals that are also designated statutory teaching hospitals.

(c) For non-state government owned or operated hospitals with less than 3,100 ~~3,300~~ Medicaid days, a total of $750,000 shall be distributed equally among these hospitals.

Section 16. Section 409.9113, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9113 Disproportionate share program for teaching hospitals.—In addition to the payments made under ss. 409.911 and 409.9112, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall make disproportionate share payments to statutorily defined teaching hospitals for their increased costs associated with medical education programs and for tertiary health care services provided to the indigent. This system of payments shall conform with federal requirements and shall distribute funds in each fiscal year for which an appropriation is made by making quarterly Medicaid payments. Notwithstanding s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients. For the state fiscal year 2006-2007 ~~2005-2006~~, the agency shall ~~not~~ distribute the moneys provided in the General Appropriations Act to statutorily defined teaching hospitals and family practice teaching hospitals under the teaching hospital disproportionate share program. The funds provided for statutorily defined teaching hospitals shall be distributed in the same proportion as the state fiscal year 2003-2004 teaching hospital disproportionate share funds were distributed. The funds provided for family practice teaching hospitals shall be distributed equally among family practice teaching hospitals.

(1) On or before September 15 of each year, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall calculate an allocation fraction to be used for distributing funds to state statutory teaching hospitals. Subsequent to the end of each quarter of the state fiscal year, the agency shall distribute to each statutory teaching hospital, as defined in s. 408.07, an amount determined by multiplying one-fourth of the funds appropriated for this purpose by the Legislature times such hospital's allocation fraction. The allocation fraction for each such hospital shall be determined by the sum of three primary factors, divided by three. The primary factors are:

(a) The number of nationally accredited graduate medical education programs offered by the hospital, including programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics programs acceptable to both the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics at the beginning of the state fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the hospital represents of the total number of programs, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

(b) The number of full-time equivalent trainees in the hospital, which comprises two components:

1. The number of trainees enrolled in nationally accredited graduate medical education programs, as defined in paragraph (a). Full-time equivalents are computed using the fraction of the year during which each trainee is primarily assigned to the given institution, over the state fiscal year

preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the hospital represents of the total number of full-time equivalent trainees enrolled in accredited graduate programs, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

2. The number of medical students enrolled in accredited colleges of medicine and engaged in clinical activities, including required clinical clerkships and clinical electives. Full-time equivalents are computed using the fraction of the year during which each trainee is primarily assigned to the given institution, over the course of the state fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in accredited colleges of medicine, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

The primary factor for full-time equivalent trainees is computed as the sum of these two components, divided by two.

(c) A service index that comprises three components:

1. The Agency for Health Care Administration Service Index, computed by applying the standard Service Inventory Scores established by the Agency for Health Care Administration to services offered by the given hospital, as reported on Worksheet A-2 for the last fiscal year reported to the agency before the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total Agency for Health Care Administration Service Index values, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

2. A volume-weighted service index, computed by applying the standard Service Inventory Scores established by the Agency for Health Care Administration to the volume of each service, expressed in terms of the standard units of measure reported on Worksheet A-2 for the last fiscal year reported to the agency before the date on which the allocation factor is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total volume-weighted service index values, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

3. Total Medicaid payments to each hospital for direct inpatient and outpatient services during the fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation factor is calculated. This includes payments made to each hospital for such services by Medicaid prepaid health plans, whether the plan was administered by the hospital or not. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that each hospital represents of the total of such Medicaid payments, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

The primary factor for the service index is computed as the sum of these three components, divided by three.

(2) By October 1 of each year, the agency shall use the following formula to calculate the maximum additional disproportionate share payment for statutorily defined teaching hospitals:

TAP = THAF x A

Where:

TAP = total additional payment.

THAF = teaching hospital allocation factor.

A = amount appropriated for a teaching hospital disproportionate share program.

Section 17. Section 409.9117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9117 Primary care disproportionate share program.—For the state fiscal year 2006-2007 ~~2005-2006~~, the agency shall not distribute moneys under the primary care disproportionate share program.

(1) If federal funds are available for disproportionate share programs in addition to those otherwise provided by law, there shall be created a primary care disproportionate share program.

(2) The following formula shall be used by the agency to calculate the total amount earned for hospitals that participate in the primary care disproportionate share program:

TAE = HDSP/THDSP

Where:

TAE = total amount earned by a hospital participating in the primary care disproportionate share program.

HDSP = the prior state fiscal year primary care disproportionate share payment to the individual hospital.

THDSP = the prior state fiscal year total primary care disproportionate share payments to all hospitals.

(3) The total additional payment for hospitals that participate in the primary care disproportionate share program shall be calculated by the agency as follows:

TAP = TAE x TA

Where:

TAP = total additional payment for a primary care hospital.

TAE = total amount earned by a primary care hospital.

TA = total appropriation for the primary care disproportionate share program.

(4) In the establishment and funding of this program, the agency shall use the following criteria in addition to those specified in s. 409.911, payments may not be made to a hospital unless the hospital agrees to:

(a) Cooperate with a Medicaid prepaid health plan, if one exists in the community.

(b) Ensure the availability of primary and specialty care physicians to Medicaid recipients who are not enrolled in a prepaid capitated arrangement and who are in need of access to such physicians.

(c) Coordinate and provide primary care services free of charge, except copayments, to all persons with incomes up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level who are not otherwise covered by Medicaid or another program administered by a governmental entity, and to provide such services based on a sliding fee scale to all persons with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level who are not otherwise covered by Medicaid or another program administered by a governmental entity, except that eligibility may be limited to persons who reside within a more limited area, as agreed to by the agency and the hospital.

(d) Contract with any federally qualified health center, if one exists within the agreed geopolitical boundaries, concerning the provision of primary care services, in order to guarantee delivery of services in a nonduplicative fashion, and to provide for referral arrangements, privileges, and admissions, as appropriate. The hospital shall agree to provide at an onsite or offsite facility primary care services within 24 hours to which all Medicaid recipients and persons eligible under this paragraph who do not require emergency room services are referred during normal daylight hours.

(e) Cooperate with the agency, the county, and other entities to ensure the provision of certain public health services, case management, referral and acceptance of patients, and sharing of epidemiological data, as the agency and the hospital find mutually necessary and desirable to promote and protect the public health within the agreed geopolitical boundaries.

(f) In cooperation with the county in which the hospital resides, develop a low-cost, outpatient, prepaid health care program to persons who are not eligible for the Medicaid program, and who reside within the area.

(g) Provide inpatient services to residents within the area who are not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare, and who do not have private health insurance, regardless of ability to pay, on the basis of available space, except that nothing shall prevent the hospital from establishing bill collection programs based on ability to pay.

(h) Work with the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the Florida Health Care Purchasing Cooperative, and business health coalitions, as appropriate, to develop a feasibility study and plan to provide a low-cost comprehensive health insurance plan to persons who reside within the area and who do not have access to such a plan.

(i) Work with public health officials and other experts to provide community health education and prevention activities designed to promote healthy lifestyles and appropriate use of health services.

(j) Work with the local health council to develop a plan for promoting access to affordable health care services for all persons who reside within the

area, including, but not limited to, public health services, primary care services, inpatient services, and affordable health insurance generally.

Any hospital that fails to comply with any of the provisions of this subsection, or any other contractual condition, may not receive payments under this section until full compliance is achieved.

Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (39) and subsection (44) of section 409.912, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.912 Cost-effective purchasing of health care.—The agency shall purchase goods and services for Medicaid recipients in the most cost-effective manner consistent with the delivery of quality medical care. To ensure that medical services are effectively utilized, the agency may, in any case, require a confirmation or second physician's opinion of the correct diagnosis for purposes of authorizing future services under the Medicaid program. This section does not restrict access to emergency services or poststabilization care services as defined in 42 C.F.R. part 438.114. Such confirmation or second opinion shall be rendered in a manner approved by the agency. The agency shall maximize the use of prepaid per capita and prepaid aggregate fixed-sum basis services when appropriate and other alternative service delivery and reimbursement methodologies, including competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, designed to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of a case-managed continuum of care. The agency shall also require providers to minimize the exposure of recipients to the need for acute inpatient, custodial, and other institutional care and the inappropriate or unnecessary use of high-cost services. The agency shall contract with a vendor to monitor and evaluate the clinical practice patterns of providers in order to identify trends that are outside the normal practice patterns of a provider's professional peers or the national guidelines of a provider's professional association. The vendor must be able to provide information and counseling to a provider whose practice patterns are outside the norms, in consultation with the agency, to improve patient care and reduce inappropriate utilization. The agency may mandate prior authorization, drug therapy management, or disease management participation for certain populations of Medicaid beneficiaries, certain drug classes, or particular drugs to prevent fraud, abuse, overuse, and possible dangerous drug interactions. The Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee shall make recommendations to the agency on drugs for which prior authorization is required. The agency shall inform the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee of its decisions regarding drugs subject to prior authorization. The agency is authorized to limit the entities it contracts with or enrolls as Medicaid providers by developing a provider network through provider credentialing. The agency may competitively bid single-source-provider contracts if procurement of goods or services results in demonstrated cost savings to the state without limiting access to care. The agency may limit its network based on the assessment of beneficiary access to care, provider availability, provider quality standards, time and distance standards for access to care, the cultural competence of the provider network, demographic characteristics of Medicaid beneficiaries, practice and provider-to-beneficiary standards, appointment wait times, beneficiary use of services, provider turnover, provider profiling, pro-

vider licensure history, previous program integrity investigations and findings, peer review, provider Medicaid policy and billing compliance records, clinical and medical record audits, and other factors. Providers shall not be entitled to enrollment in the Medicaid provider network. The agency shall determine instances in which allowing Medicaid beneficiaries to purchase durable medical equipment and other goods is less expensive to the Medicaid program than long-term rental of the equipment or goods. The agency may establish rules to facilitate purchases in lieu of long-term rentals in order to protect against fraud and abuse in the Medicaid program as defined in s. 409.913. The agency may seek federal waivers necessary to administer these policies.

(39)(a) The agency shall implement a Medicaid prescribed-drug spending-control program that includes the following components:

1. A Medicaid preferred drug list, which shall be a listing of cost-effective therapeutic options recommended by the Medicaid Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee established pursuant to s. 409.91195 and adopted by the agency for each therapeutic class on the preferred drug list. At the discretion of the committee, and when feasible, the preferred drug list should include at least two products in a therapeutic class. <u>The agency may post the preferred drug list and updates to the preferred drug list on an Internet website without following the rulemaking procedures of chapter 120.</u> Antiretroviral agents are excluded from the preferred drug list. The agency shall also limit the amount of a prescribed drug dispensed to no more than a 34-day supply unless the drug products' smallest marketed package is greater than a 34-day supply, or the drug is determined by the agency to be a maintenance drug in which case a 100-day maximum supply may be authorized. The agency is authorized to seek any federal waivers necessary to implement these cost-control programs and to continue participation in the federal Medicaid rebate program, or alternatively to negotiate state-only manufacturer rebates. The agency may adopt rules to implement this subparagraph. The agency shall continue to provide unlimited contraceptive drugs and items. The agency must establish procedures to ensure that:

a. There will be a response to a request for prior consultation by telephone or other telecommunication device within 24 hours after receipt of a request for prior consultation; and

b. A 72-hour supply of the drug prescribed will be provided in an emergency or when the agency does not provide a response within 24 hours as required by sub-subparagraph a.

2. Reimbursement to pharmacies for Medicaid prescribed drugs shall be set at the lesser of: the average wholesale price (AWP) minus 15.4 percent, the wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 5.75 percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider.

3. The agency shall develop and implement a process for managing the drug therapies of Medicaid recipients who are using significant numbers of prescribed drugs each month. The management process may include, but is not limited to, comprehensive, physician-directed medical-record reviews,

claims analyses, and case evaluations to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of a patient's treatment plan and drug therapies. The agency may contract with a private organization to provide drug-program-management services. The Medicaid drug benefit management program shall include initiatives to manage drug therapies for HIV/AIDS patients, patients using 20 or more unique prescriptions in a 180-day period, and the top 1,000 patients in annual spending. The agency shall enroll any Medicaid recipient in the drug benefit management program if he or she meets the specifications of this provision and is not enrolled in a Medicaid health maintenance organization.

4. The agency may limit the size of its pharmacy network based on need, competitive bidding, price negotiations, credentialing, or similar criteria. The agency shall give special consideration to rural areas in determining the size and location of pharmacies included in the Medicaid pharmacy network. A pharmacy credentialing process may include criteria such as a pharmacy's full-service status, location, size, patient educational programs, patient consultation, disease management services, and other characteristics. The agency may impose a moratorium on Medicaid pharmacy enrollment when it is determined that it has a sufficient number of Medicaid-participating providers. The agency must allow dispensing practitioners to participate as a part of the Medicaid pharmacy network regardless of the practitioner's proximity to any other entity that is dispensing prescription drugs under the Medicaid program. A dispensing practitioner must meet all credentialing requirements applicable to his or her practice, as determined by the agency.

5. The agency shall develop and implement a program that requires Medicaid practitioners who prescribe drugs to use a counterfeit-proof prescription pad for Medicaid prescriptions. The agency shall require the use of standardized counterfeit-proof prescription pads by Medicaid-participating prescribers or prescribers who write prescriptions for Medicaid recipients. The agency may implement the program in targeted geographic areas or statewide.

6. The agency may enter into arrangements that require manufacturers of generic drugs prescribed to Medicaid recipients to provide rebates of at least 15.1 percent of the average manufacturer price for the manufacturer's generic products. These arrangements shall require that if a generic-drug manufacturer pays federal rebates for Medicaid-reimbursed drugs at a level below 15.1 percent, the manufacturer must provide a supplemental rebate to the state in an amount necessary to achieve a 15.1-percent rebate level.

7. The agency may establish a preferred drug list as described in this subsection, and, pursuant to the establishment of such preferred drug list, it is authorized to negotiate supplemental rebates from manufacturers that are in addition to those required by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and at no less than 14 percent of the average manufacturer price as defined in 42 U.S.C. s. 1936 on the last day of a quarter unless the federal or supplemental rebate, or both, equals or exceeds 29 percent. There is no upper limit on the supplemental rebates the agency may negotiate. The agency may determine that specific products, brand-name or generic, are competitive at lower rebate percentages. Agreement to pay the minimum supplemental

rebate percentage will guarantee a manufacturer that the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee will consider a product for inclusion on the preferred drug list. However, a pharmaceutical manufacturer is not guaranteed placement on the preferred drug list by simply paying the minimum supplemental rebate. Agency decisions will be made on the clinical efficacy of a drug and recommendations of the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, as well as the price of competing products minus federal and state rebates. The agency is authorized to contract with an outside agency or contractor to conduct negotiations for supplemental rebates. For the purposes of this section, the term "supplemental rebates" means cash rebates. Effective July 1, 2004, value-added programs as a substitution for supplemental rebates are prohibited. The agency is authorized to seek any federal waivers to implement this initiative.

8. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall expand home delivery of pharmacy products. To assist Medicaid patients in securing their prescriptions and reduce program costs, the agency shall expand its current mail-order-pharmacy diabetes-supply program to include all generic and brand-name drugs used by Medicaid patients with diabetes. Medicaid recipients in the current program may obtain nondiabetes drugs on a voluntary basis. This initiative is limited to the geographic area covered by the current contract. The agency may seek and implement any federal waivers necessary to implement this subparagraph.

9. The agency shall limit to one dose per month any drug prescribed to treat erectile dysfunction.

10.a. The agency may implement a Medicaid behavioral drug management system. The agency may contract with a vendor that has experience in operating behavioral drug management systems to implement this program. The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers to implement this program.

b. The agency, in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services, may implement the Medicaid behavioral drug management system that is designed to improve the quality of care and behavioral health prescribing practices based on best practice guidelines, improve patient adherence to medication plans, reduce clinical risk, and lower prescribed drug costs and the rate of inappropriate spending on Medicaid behavioral drugs. The program may include the following elements:

(I) Provide for the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for behavioral health-related drugs such as antipsychotics, antidepressants, and medications for treating bipolar disorders and other behavioral conditions; translate them into practice; review behavioral health prescribers and compare their prescribing patterns to a number of indicators that are based on national standards; and determine deviations from best practice guidelines.

(II) Implement processes for providing feedback to and educating prescribers using best practice educational materials and peer-to-peer consultation.

(III) Assess Medicaid beneficiaries who are outliers in their use of behavioral health drugs with regard to the numbers and types of drugs taken, drug dosages, combination drug therapies, and other indicators of improper use of behavioral health drugs.

(IV) Alert prescribers to patients who fail to refill prescriptions in a timely fashion, are prescribed multiple same-class behavioral health drugs, and may have other potential medication problems.

(V) Track spending trends for behavioral health drugs and deviation from best practice guidelines.

(VI) Use educational and technological approaches to promote best practices, educate consumers, and train prescribers in the use of practice guidelines.

(VII) Disseminate electronic and published materials.

(VIII) Hold statewide and regional conferences.

(IX) Implement a disease management program with a model quality-based medication component for severely mentally ill individuals and emotionally disturbed children who are high users of care.

11.a. The agency shall implement a Medicaid prescription drug management system. The agency may contract with a vendor that has experience in operating prescription drug management systems in order to implement this system. Any management system that is implemented in accordance with this subparagraph must rely on cooperation between physicians and pharmacists to determine appropriate practice patterns and clinical guidelines to improve the prescribing, dispensing, and use of drugs in the Medicaid program. The agency may seek federal waivers to implement this program.

b. The drug management system must be designed to improve the quality of care and prescribing practices based on best practice guidelines, improve patient adherence to medication plans, reduce clinical risk, and lower prescribed drug costs and the rate of inappropriate spending on Medicaid prescription drugs. The program must:

(I) Provide for the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for the prescribing and use of drugs in the Medicaid program, including translating best practice guidelines into practice; reviewing prescriber patterns and comparing them to indicators that are based on national standards and practice patterns of clinical peers in their community, statewide, and nationally; and determine deviations from best practice guidelines.

(II) Implement processes for providing feedback to and educating prescribers using best practice educational materials and peer-to-peer consultation.

(III) Assess Medicaid recipients who are outliers in their use of a single or multiple prescription drugs with regard to the numbers and types of

drugs taken, drug dosages, combination drug therapies, and other indicators of improper use of prescription drugs.

(IV) Alert prescribers to patients who fail to refill prescriptions in a timely fashion, are prescribed multiple drugs that may be redundant or contraindicated, or may have other potential medication problems.

(V) Track spending trends for prescription drugs and deviation from best practice guidelines.

(VI) Use educational and technological approaches to promote best practices, educate consumers, and train prescribers in the use of practice guidelines.

(VII) Disseminate electronic and published materials.

(VIII) Hold statewide and regional conferences.

(IX) Implement disease management programs in cooperation with physicians and pharmacists, along with a model quality-based medication component for individuals having chronic medical conditions.

12. The agency is authorized to contract for drug rebate administration, including, but not limited to, calculating rebate amounts, invoicing manufacturers, negotiating disputes with manufacturers, and maintaining a database of rebate collections.

13. The agency may specify the preferred daily dosing form or strength for the purpose of promoting best practices with regard to the prescribing of certain drugs as specified in the General Appropriations Act and ensuring cost-effective prescribing practices.

14. The agency may require prior authorization for Medicaid-covered prescribed drugs. The agency may, but is not required to, prior-authorize the use of a product:

a. For an indication not approved in labeling;

b. To comply with certain clinical guidelines; or

c. If the product has the potential for overuse, misuse, or abuse.

The agency may require the prescribing professional to provide information about the rationale and supporting medical evidence for the use of a drug. The agency may post prior authorization criteria and protocol and updates to the list of drugs that are subject to prior authorization on an Internet website without amending its rule or engaging in additional rulemaking.

15. The agency, in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, may require age-related prior authorizations for certain prescribed drugs. The agency may preauthorize the use of a drug for a recipient who may not meet the age requirement or may exceed the length of therapy for use of this product as recommended by the manufacturer and approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Prior authorization may

require the prescribing professional to provide information about the rationale and supporting medical evidence for the use of a drug.

16. The agency shall implement a step-therapy prior authorization approval process for medications excluded from the preferred drug list. Medications listed on the preferred drug list must be used within the previous 12 months prior to the alternative medications that are not listed. The step-therapy prior authorization may require the prescriber to use the medications of a similar drug class or for a similar medical indication unless contraindicated in the Food and Drug Administration labeling. The trial period between the specified steps may vary according to the medical indication. The step-therapy approval process shall be developed in accordance with the committee as stated in s. 409.91195(7) and (8). A drug product may be approved without meeting the step-therapy prior authorization criteria if the prescribing physician provides the agency with additional written medical or clinical documentation that the product is medically necessary because:

a. There is not a drug on the preferred drug list to treat the disease or medical condition which is an acceptable clinical alternative;

b. The alternatives have been ineffective in the treatment of the beneficiary's disease; or

c. Based on historic evidence and known characteristics of the patient and the drug, the drug is likely to be ineffective, or the number of doses have been ineffective.

The agency shall work with the physician to determine the best alternative for the patient. The agency may adopt rules waiving the requirements for written clinical documentation for specific drugs in limited clinical situations.

17. The agency shall implement a return and reuse program for drugs dispensed by pharmacies to institutional recipients, which includes payment of a $5 restocking fee for the implementation and operation of the program. The return and reuse program shall be implemented electronically and in a manner that promotes efficiency. The program must permit a pharmacy to exclude drugs from the program if it is not practical or cost-effective for the drug to be included and must provide for the return to inventory of drugs that cannot be credited or returned in a cost-effective manner. The agency shall determine if the program has reduced the amount of Medicaid prescription drugs which are destroyed on an annual basis and if there are additional ways to ensure more prescription drugs are not destroyed which could safely be reused. The agency's conclusion and recommendations shall be reported to the Legislature by December 1, 2005.

(44) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall ensure that any Medicaid managed care plan as defined in s. 409.9122(2)(f)~~(h)~~, whether paid on a capitated basis or a shared savings basis, is cost-effective. For purposes of this subsection, the term "cost-effective" means that a network's per-member, per-month costs to the state, including, but not limited to, fee-for-service costs, administrative costs, and case-management fees, if any, must

be no greater than the state's costs associated with contracts for Medicaid services established under subsection (3), which may ~~shall~~ be ~~actuarially~~ adjusted for health status ~~case mix, model, and service area~~. The agency shall conduct actuarially sound adjustments for health status ~~audits adjusted for case mix and model~~ in order to ensure such cost-effectiveness and shall publish the ~~audit~~ results on its Internet website and submit the ~~audit~~ results annually to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 31 of each year. Contracts established pursuant to this subsection which are not cost-effective may not be renewed.

Section 19. Paragraphs (f) and (k) of subsection (2) of section 409.9122, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.9122 Mandatory Medicaid managed care enrollment; programs and procedures.—

(2)

(f) When a Medicaid recipient does not choose a managed care plan or MediPass provider, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a managed care plan or MediPass provider. Medicaid recipients who are subject to mandatory assignment but who fail to make a choice shall be assigned to managed care plans until an enrollment of 35 ~~40~~ percent in MediPass and 65 ~~60~~ percent in managed care plans, of all those eligible to choose managed care, is achieved. Once this enrollment is achieved, the assignments shall be divided in order to maintain an enrollment in MediPass and managed care plans which is in a 35 ~~40~~ percent and 65 ~~60~~ percent proportion, respectively. Thereafter, assignment of Medicaid recipients who fail to make a choice shall be based proportionally on the preferences of recipients who have made a choice in the previous period. Such proportions shall be revised at least quarterly to reflect an update of the preferences of Medicaid recipients. The agency shall disproportionately assign Medicaid-eligible recipients who are required to but have failed to make a choice of managed care plan or MediPass, including children, and who are to be assigned to the MediPass program to children's networks as described in s. 409.912(4)(g), Children's Medical Services Network as defined in s. 391.021, exclusive provider organizations, provider service networks, minority physician networks, and pediatric emergency department diversion programs authorized by this chapter or the General Appropriations Act, in such manner as the agency deems appropriate, until the agency has determined that the networks and programs have sufficient numbers to be economically operated. For purposes of this paragraph, when referring to assignment, the term "managed care plans" includes health maintenance organizations, exclusive provider organizations, provider service networks, minority physician networks, Children's Medical Services Network, and pediatric emergency department diversion programs authorized by this chapter or the General Appropriations Act. When making assignments, the agency shall take into account the following criteria:

1. A managed care plan has sufficient network capacity to meet the need of members.

2. The managed care plan or MediPass has previously enrolled the recipient as a member, or one of the managed care plan's primary care providers or MediPass providers has previously provided health care to the recipient.

3. The agency has knowledge that the member has previously expressed a preference for a particular managed care plan or MediPass provider as indicated by Medicaid fee-for-service claims data, but has failed to make a choice.

4. The managed care plan's or MediPass primary care providers are geographically accessible to the recipient's residence.

(k) When a Medicaid recipient does not choose a managed care plan or MediPass provider, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a managed care plan, except in those counties in which there are fewer than two managed care plans accepting Medicaid enrollees, in which case assignment shall be to a managed care plan or a MediPass provider. Medicaid recipients in counties with fewer than two managed care plans accepting Medicaid enrollees who are subject to mandatory assignment but who fail to make a choice shall be assigned to managed care plans until an enrollment of 35 ~~40~~ percent in MediPass and 65 ~~60~~ percent in managed care plans, of all those eligible to choose managed care, is achieved. Once that enrollment is achieved, the assignments shall be divided in order to maintain an enrollment in MediPass and managed care plans which is in a 35 ~~40~~ percent and 65 ~~60~~ percent proportion, respectively. In service areas 1 and 6 of the Agency for Health Care Administration where the agency is contracting for the provision of comprehensive behavioral health services through a capitated prepaid arrangement, recipients who fail to make a choice shall be assigned equally to MediPass or a managed care plan. For purposes of this paragraph, when referring to assignment, the term "managed care plans" includes exclusive provider organizations, provider service networks, Children's Medical Services Network, minority physician networks, and pediatric emergency department diversion programs authorized by this chapter or the General Appropriations Act. When making assignments, the agency shall take into account the following criteria:

1. A managed care plan has sufficient network capacity to meet the need of members.

2. The managed care plan or MediPass has previously enrolled the recipient as a member, or one of the managed care plan's primary care providers or MediPass providers has previously provided health care to the recipient.

3. The agency has knowledge that the member has previously expressed a preference for a particular managed care plan or MediPass provider as indicated by Medicaid fee-for-service claims data, but has failed to make a choice.

4. The managed care plan's or MediPass primary care providers are geographically accessible to the recipient's residence.

5. The agency has authority to make mandatory assignments based on quality of service and performance of managed care plans.

Section 20. Section 409.9301, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

409.9301 Pharmaceutical expense assistance.—

(1) PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.—A program is established in the Agency for Health Care Administration to provide pharmaceutical expense assistance to individuals diagnosed with cancer or individuals who have received organ transplants who were medically needy recipients prior to January 1, 2006.

(2) ELIGIBILITY.—Eligibility for the program is limited to an individual who:

(a) Is a resident of this state;

(b) Was a Medicaid recipient under the Florida Medicaid medically needy program prior to January 1, 2006;

(c) Is eligible for Medicare;

(d) Is a cancer patient or an organ transplant recipient; and

(e) Requests to be enrolled in the program.

(3) BENEFITS.—Subject to an appropriation in the General Appropriations Act and the availability of funds, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall pay, using Medicaid payment policies, the Medicare Part-B prescription drug coinsurance and deductibles for Medicare Part-B medications that treat eligible cancer and organ transplant patients.

(4) ADMINISTRATION.—The pharmaceutical expense assistance program shall be administered by the agency, in collaboration with the Department of Elderly Affairs and the Department of Children and Family Services.

(a) The agency may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement the provisions of this section.

(b) By January 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislature on the operation of the program. The report shall include information on the number of individuals served, use rates, and expenditures under the program.

(5) NONENTITLEMENT.—The pharmaceutical expense assistance program established by this section is not an entitlement. The agency may develop a waiting list based on application dates to use in enrolling individuals when funds become available for unfilled enrollment slots.

Section 21. Subsection (17) is added to section 430.04, Florida Statutes, to read:

430.04 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of Elderly Affairs.—The Department of Elderly Affairs shall:

(17) Be designated as a state agency that is eligible to receive federal funds for adults who are eligible for assistance through the portion of the federal Child and Adult Care Food Program for adults, which is referred to as the Adult Care Food Program, and that is responsible for establishing and administering the program. The purpose of the Adult Care Food Program is to provide nutritious and wholesome meals and snacks for adults in nonresidential day care centers or residential treatment facilities. To ensure the quality and integrity of the program, the department shall develop standards and procedures that govern sponsoring organizations and adult day care centers. The department shall follow federal requirements and may adopt any rules necessary pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 for the implementation of the Adult Care Food Program. With respect to the Adult Care Food Program, the department shall adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 that implement relevant federal regulations, including 7 C.F.R. part 226. The rules may address, at a minimum, the program requirements and procedures identified in this subsection.

Section 22. Subsection (5) of section 430.705, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.705 Implementation of the long-term care community diversion pilot projects.—

(5) A prospective participant who applies for the long-term care community diversion pilot project and is determined by the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) Program within the Department of Elderly Affairs to be medically eligible, but has not been determined financially eligible by the Department of Children and Family Services, shall be designated "Medicaid Pending." CARES shall determine each applicant's eligibility within 22 days after receiving the application. Contractors may elect to provide services to Medicaid Pending individuals until their financial eligibility is determined. If the individual is determined financially eligible, the agency shall pay the contractor that provided the services a capitated rate retroactive to the first of the month following the CARES eligibility determination. If the individual is not financially eligible for Medicaid, the contractor may terminate services and seek reimbursement from the individual. ~~In order to achieve rapid enrollment into the program and efficient diversion of applicants from nursing home care, the department and the agency shall allow enrollment of Medicaid beneficiaries on the date that eligibility for the community diversion pilot project is approved. The provider shall receive a prorated capitated rate for those enrollees who are enrolled after the first of each month.~~

Section 23. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 624.91, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

624.91 The Florida Healthy Kids Corporation Act.—

(5) CORPORATION AUTHORIZATION, DUTIES, POWERS.—

(b) The Florida Healthy Kids Corporation shall:

1. Arrange for the collection of any family, local contributions, or employer payment or premium, in an amount to be determined by the board of directors, to provide for payment of premiums for comprehensive insurance coverage and for the actual or estimated administrative expenses.

2. Arrange for the collection of any voluntary contributions to provide for payment of premiums for children who are not eligible for medical assistance under Title XXI of the Social Security Act. ~~Each fiscal year, the corporation shall establish a local match policy for the enrollment of non-Title-XXI-eligible children in the Healthy Kids program. By May 1 of each year, the corporation shall provide written notification of the amount to be remitted to the corporation for the following fiscal year under that policy. Local match sources may include, but are not limited to, funds provided by municipalities, counties, school boards, hospitals, health care providers, charitable organizations, special taxing districts, and private organizations. The minimum local match cash contributions required each fiscal year and local match credits shall be determined by the General Appropriations Act. The corporation shall calculate a county's local match rate based upon that county's percentage of the state's total non-Title-XXI expenditures as reported in the corporation's most recently audited financial statement. In awarding the local match credits, the corporation may consider factors including, but not limited to, population density, per capita income, and existing child-health-related expenditures and services.~~

3. Subject to the provisions of s. 409.8134, accept voluntary supplemental local match contributions that comply with the requirements of Title XXI of the Social Security Act for the purpose of providing additional coverage in contributing counties under Title XXI.

4. Establish the administrative and accounting procedures for the operation of the corporation.

5. Establish, with consultation from appropriate professional organizations, standards for preventive health services and providers and comprehensive insurance benefits appropriate to children, provided that such standards for rural areas shall not limit primary care providers to board-certified pediatricians.

6. Determine eligibility for children seeking to participate in the Title XXI-funded components of the Florida KidCare program consistent with the requirements specified in s. 409.814, as well as the non-Title-XXI-eligible children as provided in subsection (3).

7. Establish procedures under which providers of local match to, applicants to and participants in the program may have grievances reviewed by an impartial body and reported to the board of directors of the corporation.

8. Establish participation criteria and, if appropriate, contract with an authorized insurer, health maintenance organization, or third-party administrator to provide administrative services to the corporation.

9. Establish enrollment criteria which shall include penalties or waiting periods of not fewer than 60 days for reinstatement of coverage upon voluntary cancellation for nonpayment of family premiums.

10. Contract with authorized insurers or any provider of health care services, meeting standards established by the corporation, for the provision of comprehensive insurance coverage to participants. Such standards shall include criteria under which the corporation may contract with more than one provider of health care services in program sites. Health plans shall be selected through a competitive bid process. The Florida Healthy Kids Corporation shall purchase goods and services in the most cost-effective manner consistent with the delivery of quality medical care. The maximum administrative cost for a Florida Healthy Kids Corporation contract shall be 15 percent. For health care contracts, the minimum medical loss ratio for a Florida Healthy Kids Corporation contract shall be 85 percent. For dental contracts, the remaining compensation to be paid to the authorized insurer or provider under a Florida Healthy Kids Corporation contract shall be no less than an amount which is 85 percent of premium; to the extent any contract provision does not provide for this minimum compensation, this section shall prevail. The health plan selection criteria and scoring system, and the scoring results, shall be available upon request for inspection after the bids have been awarded.

11. Establish disenrollment criteria in the event local matching funds are insufficient to cover enrollments.

12. Develop and implement a plan to publicize the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the eligibility requirements of the program, and the procedures for enrollment in the program and to maintain public awareness of the corporation and the program.

13. Secure staff necessary to properly administer the corporation. Staff costs shall be funded from state and local matching funds and such other private or public funds as become available. The board of directors shall determine the number of staff members necessary to administer the corporation.

14. Provide a report annually to the Governor, Chief Financial Officer, Commissioner of Education, Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Minority Leaders of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

15. Establish benefit packages which conform to the provisions of the Florida KidCare program, as created in ss. 409.810-409.820.

Section 24. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall review the functions currently performed by the Comprehensive Assessment Review and Evaluation for Long-Term Care Services (CARES) Program within the Department of Elderly Affairs. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall identify the factors affecting the time currently required for CARES staff to assess an individual's eligibility for long-term care services. As part of this study, the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall also examine circumstances that could delay an individual's placement into the long-term care community diversion pilot project. The Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability shall report its findings to

the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 1, 2007.

Section 25. Section 409.8201, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 26. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

Approved by the Governor May 25, 2006.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 25, 2006.