

CHAPTER 98-285

Committee Substitute for Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1021

An act relating to health care; amending s. 627.6472, F.S., and creating s. 641.3923, F.S.; prohibiting exclusive provider organizations and health maintenance organizations from discriminating against participation by licensed and certified advanced registered nurse practitioners, solely on the basis of such license or certification; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (17) is added to section 627.6472, Florida Statutes, to read:

627.6472 Exclusive provider organizations.—

(17) An exclusive provider organization shall not discriminate with respect to participation as to any advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed and certified pursuant to s. 464.012, who is acting within the scope of such license and certification, solely on the basis of such license or certification. This subsection shall not be construed to prohibit a plan from including providers only to the extent necessary to meet the needs of the plan's enrollees or from establishing any measure designed to maintain quality and control costs consistent with the responsibilities of the plan.

Section 2. Section 641.3923, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

641.3923 Discrimination against providers prohibited.—A health maintenance organization shall not discriminate with respect to participation as to any advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed and certified pursuant to s. 464.012, who is acting within the scope of such license and certification, solely on the basis of such license or certification. This section shall not be construed to prohibit a plan from including providers only to the extent necessary to meet the needs of the plan's enrollees or from establishing any measure designed to maintain quality and control costs consistent with the responsibilities of the plan.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 28, 1998.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 28, 1998.