By Senator Lee

20-00216A-18 201880

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to direct primary care; creating s. 456.0625, F.S.; defining terms; authorizing primary care providers or their agents to enter into direct primary care agreements for providing primary care services; providing applicability; specifying requirements for direct primary care agreements; creating s. 624.27, F.S.; providing construction and applicability of the Florida Insurance Code as to direct primary care agreements; providing an exception for primary care providers or their agents from certain requirements under the code under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 456.0625, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

456.0625 Direct primary care agreements.-

- (1) As used in this section, the term:
- (a) "Direct primary care agreement" means a contract between a primary care provider and a patient, the patient's legal representative, or an employer which meets the requirements specified under subsection (3) and which does not indemnify for services provided by a third party.
- (b) "Primary care provider" means a health care practitioner licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, or chapter 464 or a primary care group practice that provides medical services to patients which are commonly

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provided without referral from another health care provider.

(c) "Primary care service" means the screening, assessment, diagnosis, and treatment of a patient for the purpose of promoting health or detecting and managing disease or injury within the competency and training of the primary care provider.

- (2) A primary care provider or an agent of the primary care provider may enter into a direct primary care agreement for providing primary care services. Section 624.27 applies to a direct primary care agreement.
 - (3) A direct primary care agreement must:
 - (a) Be in writing.
- (b) Be signed by the primary care provider or an agent of the primary care provider and the patient, the patient's legal representative, or an employer.
- (c) Allow a party to terminate the agreement by giving the other party at least 30 days' advance written notice. The agreement may provide for immediate termination due to a violation of the physician-patient relationship or a breach of the terms of the agreement.
- (d) Describe the scope of primary care services that are covered by the monthly fee.
- (e) Specify the monthly fee and any fees for primary care services not covered by the monthly fee.
- (f) Specify the duration of the agreement and any automatic renewal provisions.
- (g) Offer a refund to the patient of monthly fees paid in advance if the primary care provider ceases to offer primary care services for any reason.
 - (h) Contain, in contrasting color and in not less than 12-

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point type, the following statements on the same page as the applicant's signature:

- 1. This agreement is not health insurance, and the primary care provider will not file any claims against the patient's health insurance policy or plan for reimbursement of any primary care services covered by this agreement.
- 2. This agreement does not qualify as minimum essential coverage to satisfy the individual shared responsibility provision of the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, Pub. L. No. 111-148.
- 3. This agreement is not workers' compensation insurance and may not replace the employer's obligations under chapter 440.
- Section 2. Section 624.27, Florida Statutes, is created to read:
- 624.27 Application of code as to direct primary care agreements.—
- (1) A direct primary care agreement, as defined in s.

 456.0625, does not constitute insurance and is not subject to any chapter of the Florida Insurance Code. The act of entering into a direct primary care agreement does not constitute the business of insurance and is not subject to any chapter of the Florida Insurance Code.
- (2) A primary care provider or an agent of a primary care provider is not required to obtain a certificate of authority or license under any chapter of the Florida Insurance Code to market, sell, or offer to sell a direct primary care agreement pursuant to s. 456.0625.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.