By Senator Harrell

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to overpayment of claims; amending ss. 627.6131 and 641.3155, F.S.; revising the timeframe for submission of insurer and health maintenance organization claims, respectively, for overpayment to providers; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsections (6) and (18) of section 627.6131, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

627.6131 Payment of claims.-

- (6) If a health insurer determines that it has made an overpayment to a provider for services rendered to an insured, the health insurer must make a claim for such overpayment to the provider's designated location. A health insurer that makes a claim for overpayment to a provider under this section shall give the provider a written or electronic statement specifying the basis for the retroactive denial or payment adjustment. The insurer must identify the claim or claims, or overpayment claim portion thereof, for which a claim for overpayment is submitted.
- (a) If an overpayment determination is the result of retroactive review or audit of coverage decisions or payment levels not related to fraud, a health insurer shall adhere to the following procedures:
- 1. All claims for overpayment must be submitted to a provider within $\underline{12}$ 30 months after the health insurer's payment of the claim. A provider must pay, deny, or contest the health

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insurer's claim for overpayment within 40 days after the receipt of the claim. All contested claims for overpayment must be paid or denied within 120 days after receipt of the claim. Failure to pay or deny overpayment and claim within 140 days after receipt creates an uncontestable obligation to pay the claim.

- 2. A provider that denies or contests a health insurer's claim for overpayment or any portion of a claim shall notify the health insurer, in writing, within 35 days after the provider receives the claim that the claim for overpayment is contested or denied. The notice that the claim for overpayment is denied or contested must identify the contested portion of the claim and the specific reason for contesting or denying the claim and, if contested, must include a request for additional information. If the health insurer submits additional information, the health insurer must, within 35 days after receipt of the request, mail or electronically transfer the information to the provider. The provider shall pay or deny the claim for overpayment within 45 days after receipt of the information. The notice is considered made on the date the notice is mailed or electronically transferred by the provider.
- 3. The health insurer may not reduce payment to the provider for other services unless the provider agrees to the reduction in writing or fails to respond to the health insurer's overpayment claim as required by this paragraph.
- 4. Payment of an overpayment claim is considered made on the date the payment was mailed or electronically transferred. An overdue payment of a claim bears simple interest at the rate of 12 percent per year. Interest on an overdue payment for a claim for an overpayment begins to accrue when the claim should

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have been paid, denied, or contested.

(b) A claim for overpayment shall not be permitted beyond 30 months after the health insurer's payment of a claim, except that Claims for overpayment may be sought beyond the 12-month period provided in this subsection that time from providers convicted of fraud pursuant to s. 817.234.

(18) Notwithstanding the 30-month period provided in subsection (6), all claims for overpayment submitted to a provider licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter 466 must be submitted to the provider within 12 months after the health insurer's payment of the claim. A claim for overpayment may not be permitted beyond 12 months after the health insurer's payment of a claim, except that claims for overpayment may be sought beyond that time from providers convicted of fraud pursuant to s. 817.234.

Section 2. Subsections (5) and (16) of section 641.3155, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

641.3155 Prompt payment of claims.-

(5) If a health maintenance organization determines that it has made an overpayment to a provider for services rendered to a subscriber, the health maintenance organization must make a claim for such overpayment to the provider's designated location. A health maintenance organization that makes a claim for overpayment to a provider under this section shall give the provider a written or electronic statement specifying the basis for the retroactive denial or payment adjustment. The health maintenance organization must identify the claim or claims, or overpayment claim portion thereof, for which a claim for overpayment is submitted.

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(a) If an overpayment determination is the result of retroactive review or audit of coverage decisions or payment levels not related to fraud, a health maintenance organization shall adhere to the following procedures:

- 1. All claims for overpayment must be submitted to a provider within $\underline{12}$ 30 months after the health maintenance organization's payment of the claim. A provider must pay, deny, or contest the health maintenance organization's claim for overpayment within 40 days after the receipt of the claim. All contested claims for overpayment must be paid or denied within 120 days after receipt of the claim. Failure to pay or deny overpayment and claim within 140 days after receipt creates an uncontestable obligation to pay the claim.
- 2. A provider that denies or contests a health maintenance organization's claim for overpayment or any portion of a claim shall notify the organization, in writing, within 35 days after the provider receives the claim that the claim for overpayment is contested or denied. The notice that the claim for overpayment is denied or contested must identify the contested portion of the claim and the specific reason for contesting or denying the claim and, if contested, must include a request for additional information. If the organization submits additional information, the organization must, within 35 days after receipt of the request, mail or electronically transfer the information to the provider. The provider shall pay or deny the claim for overpayment within 45 days after receipt of the information. The notice is considered made on the date the notice is mailed or electronically transferred by the provider.
 - 3. The health maintenance organization may not reduce

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payment to the provider for other services unless the provider agrees to the reduction in writing or fails to respond to the health maintenance organization's overpayment claim as required by this paragraph.

- 4. Payment of an overpayment claim is considered made on the date the payment was mailed or electronically transferred. An overdue payment of a claim bears simple interest at the rate of 12 percent per year. Interest on an overdue payment for a claim for an overpayment payment begins to accrue when the claim should have been paid, denied, or contested.
- (b) A claim for overpayment shall not be permitted beyond 30 months after the health maintenance organization's payment of a claim, except that Claims for overpayment may be sought beyond the 12-month period provided in this subsection that time from providers convicted of fraud pursuant to s. 817.234.
- (16) Notwithstanding the 30-month period provided in subsection (5), all claims for overpayment submitted to a provider licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter 466 must be submitted to the provider within 12 months after the health maintenance organization's payment of the claim. A claim for overpayment may not be permitted beyond 12 months after the health maintenance organization's payment of a claim, except that claims for overpayment may be sought beyond that time from providers convicted of fraud pursuant to s. 817.234.
 - Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.