

By Representatives Posey, Jones, King, Littlefield,  
Jacobs, Kelly, Brooks, Peadar, Minton and Bronson

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to managed care; amending s.  
3           627.6472, F.S.; requiring exclusive provider  
4           organizations to provide direct patient access  
5           to a dermatologist under contract with the  
6           organization and to develop criteria for  
7           compliance; amending s. 641.31, F.S.; requiring  
8           health maintenance organizations to provide  
9           direct patient access to a dermatologist under  
10          contract with the organization and to develop  
11          criteria for compliance; providing an effective  
12          date.

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

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16           Section 1. Subsection (16) is added to section  
17           627.6472, Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, to read:

18                   627.6472 Exclusive provider organizations.--

19                   (16) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to  
20                   the contrary, an exclusive provider organization which offers  
21                   dermatological services shall provide direct patient access,  
22                   for office visits and minor procedures and testing, to a  
23                   dermatologist who is under contract with the exclusive  
24                   provider organization. The exclusive provider organization  
25                   shall, by July 1, 1997, develop criteria for compliance with  
26                   the provisions of this subsection which do not impede or  
27                   inhibit access to dermatological services for policyholders of  
28                   the exclusive provider organization.

29           Section 2. Subsection (29) is added to section 641.31,  
30           Florida Statutes, 1996 Supplement, to read:

31                   641.31 Health maintenance contracts.--

1       (29) Notwithstanding any provision of this section to  
2 the contrary, a health maintenance organization which offers  
3 dermatological services shall provide direct patient access,  
4 for office visits and minor procedures and testing, to a  
5 dermatologist who is under contract with the health  
6 maintenance organization. The health maintenance organization  
7 shall, by July 1, 1997, develop criteria for compliance with  
8 the provisions of this subsection which do not impede or  
9 inhibit access to dermatological services for policyholders of  
10 the health maintenance organization.

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

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15                           HOUSE SUMMARY

16           Requires exclusive provider organizations and health  
17 maintenance organizations to provide direct patient  
18 access to dermatologists under contract with such  
19 organizations and to develop criteria for compliance.  
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