

By Senator Silver

38-1020-99

See HB

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to workers' compensation;
3 amending s. 440.13, F.S.; deleting an exclusion
4 of certain chiropractic services from medically
5 necessary treatment, care, and services under
6 certain circumstances; amending s. 440.134,
7 F.S.; including chiropractic physicians under
8 the term "medical care coordinator" for certain
9 purposes; providing for access to chiropractic
10 physicians; providing an effective date.

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

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14 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
15 440.13, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:
16 440.13 Medical services and supplies; penalty for
17 violations; limitations.--

18 (2) MEDICAL TREATMENT; DUTY OF EMPLOYER TO FURNISH.--

19 (a) Subject to the limitations specified elsewhere in
20 this chapter, the employer shall furnish to the employee such
21 medically necessary remedial treatment, care, and attendance
22 for such period as the nature of the injury or the process of
23 recovery may require, including medicines, medical supplies,
24 durable medical equipment, orthoses, prostheses, and other
25 medically necessary apparatus. Remedial treatment, care, and
26 attendance, including work-hardening programs or
27 pain-management programs accredited by the Commission on
28 Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities or Joint Commission
29 on the Accreditation of Health Organizations or
30 pain-management programs affiliated with medical schools,
31 shall be considered as covered treatment only when such care

1 is given based on a referral by a physician as defined in this
2 chapter. Each facility shall maintain outcome data, including
3 work status at discharges, total program charges, total number
4 of visits, and length of stay. The department shall utilize
5 such data and report to the President of the Senate and the
6 Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding the efficacy
7 and cost-effectiveness of such program, no later than October
8 1, 1994. ~~Medically necessary treatment, care, and attendance~~
9 ~~does not include chiropractic services in excess of 18~~
10 ~~treatments or rendered 8 weeks beyond the date of the initial~~
11 ~~chiropractic treatment, whichever comes first, unless the~~
12 ~~carrier authorizes additional treatment or the employee is~~
13 ~~catastrophically injured.~~

14 Section 2. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section
15 440.134, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to
16 read:

17 440.134 Workers' compensation managed care
18 arrangement.--

19 (1) As used in this section, the term:

20 (i) "Medical care coordinator" means a primary care
21 provider within a provider network who is responsible for
22 managing the medical care of an injured worker including
23 determining other health care providers and health care
24 facilities to which the injured employee will be referred for
25 evaluation or treatment. A medical care coordinator shall be a
26 physician licensed under chapter 458 or an osteopathic
27 physician licensed under chapter 459, or a chiropractic
28 physician licensed under chapter 460. An injured worker shall
29 have direct access to any chiropractic physician on the
30 managed care panel for the first 18 visits of chiropractic
31 services, after which a chiropractic medical care coordinator

1 shall determine whether the patient needs additional
2 chiropractic services.

3 Section 3. This act shall take effect October 1, 1999.

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6 HOUSE SUMMARY

7 Provides for access to chiropractic physician services
8 under workers' compensation managed care arrangements.

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