

By Senator King

8-291-00

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A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to workers' compensation;  
amending s. 440.13, F.S.; providing for  
chiropractic medical treatment; amending s.  
440.134, F.S.; redefining the term "medical  
care coordinator"; providing for chiropractic  
services; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
440.13, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

440.13 Medical services and supplies; penalty for  
violations; limitations.--

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

(a) Subject to the limitations specified elsewhere in  
this chapter, the employer shall furnish to the employee such  
medically necessary remedial treatment, care, and attendance  
for such period as the nature of the injury or the process of  
recovery may require, including medicines, medical supplies,  
durable medical equipment, orthoses, prostheses, and other  
medically necessary apparatus. Remedial treatment, care, and  
attendance, including work-hardening programs or  
pain-management programs accredited by the Commission on  
Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities or Joint Commission  
on the Accreditation of Health Organizations or  
pain-management programs affiliated with medical schools,  
shall be considered as covered treatment only when such care  
is given based on a referral by a physician as defined in this  
chapter. Each facility shall maintain outcome data, including  
work status at discharges, total program charges, total number

1 of visits, and length of stay. The department shall utilize  
2 such data and report to the President of the Senate and the  
3 Speaker of the House of Representatives regarding the efficacy  
4 and cost-effectiveness of such program, no later than October  
5 1, 1994. ~~Medically necessary treatment, care, and attendance~~  
6 ~~does not include chiropractic services in excess of 18~~  
7 ~~treatments or rendered 8 weeks beyond the date of the initial~~  
8 ~~chiropractic treatment, whichever comes first, unless the~~  
9 ~~carrier authorizes additional treatment or the employee is~~  
10 ~~catastrophically injured.~~

11 Section 2. Paragraph (i) of subsection (1) of section  
12 440.134, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

13 440.134 Workers' compensation managed care  
14 arrangement.--

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

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

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

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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides for the delivery of chiropractic services under the Workers' Compensation Law.