

By Representative Maygarden

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to children; amending s.
3 624.91, F.S.; revising provisions relating to
4 matching funds under the Florida Healthy Kids
5 program to eliminate local government
6 contribution requirements and provide for
7 voluntary local contributions; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and
13 paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 624.91, Florida
14 Statutes, are amended to read:

15 624.91 The Florida Healthy Kids Corporation Act.--

16 (2) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.--

17 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature that the
18 Florida Healthy Kids Corporation serve as one of several
19 providers of services to children eligible for medical
20 assistance under Title XXI of the Social Security Act.
21 Although the corporation may serve other children, the
22 Legislature intends the primary recipients of services
23 provided through the corporation be school-age children with a
24 family income below 200 percent of the federal poverty level,
25 who do not qualify for Medicaid. It is also the intent of the
26 Legislature that state and any local ~~government~~ voluntarily
27 contributed Florida Healthy Kids funds, to the extent
28 permissible under federal law, be used to obtain matching
29 federal dollars.

30 (4) CORPORATION AUTHORIZATION, DUTIES, POWERS.--

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- 1 (b) The Florida Healthy Kids Corporation shall phase
2 in a program to:
- 3 1. Organize school children groups to facilitate the
4 provision of comprehensive health insurance coverage to
5 children;
- 6 2. Arrange for the collection of any family, voluntary
7 local contributions, or employer payment or premium, in an
8 amount to be determined by the board of directors, to provide
9 for payment of premiums for comprehensive insurance coverage
10 and for the actual or estimated administrative expenses;
- 11 3. Establish the administrative and accounting
12 procedures for the operation of the corporation;
- 13 4. Establish, with consultation from appropriate
14 professional organizations, standards for preventive health
15 services and providers and comprehensive insurance benefits
16 appropriate to children; provided that such standards for
17 rural areas shall not limit primary care providers to
18 board-certified pediatricians;
- 19 5. Establish eligibility criteria which children must
20 meet in order to participate in the program;
- 21 6. Establish procedures under which applicants to and
22 participants in the program may have grievances reviewed by an
23 impartial body and reported to the board of directors of the
24 corporation;
- 25 7. Establish participation criteria and, if
26 appropriate, contract with an authorized insurer, health
27 maintenance organization, or insurance administrator to
28 provide administrative services to the corporation;
- 29 8. Establish enrollment criteria which shall include
30 penalties or waiting periods of not fewer than 60 days for
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1 reinstatement of coverage upon voluntary cancellation for
2 nonpayment of family premiums;

3 9. If a space is available, establish a special open
4 enrollment period of 30 days' duration for any child who is
5 enrolled in Medicaid or Medikids if such child loses Medicaid
6 or Medikids eligibility and becomes eligible for the Florida
7 Healthy Kids program;

8 10. Contract with authorized insurers or any provider
9 of health care services, meeting standards established by the
10 corporation, for the provision of comprehensive insurance
11 coverage to participants. Such standards shall include
12 criteria under which the corporation may contract with more
13 than one provider of health care services in program sites.
14 Health plans shall be selected through a competitive bid
15 process. The selection of health plans shall be based
16 primarily on quality criteria established by the board. The
17 health plan selection criteria and scoring system, and the
18 scoring results, shall be available upon request for
19 inspection after the bids have been awarded;

20 11. Develop and implement a plan to publicize the
21 Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the eligibility requirements
22 of the program, and the procedures for enrollment in the
23 program and to maintain public awareness of the corporation
24 and the program;

25 12. Secure staff necessary to properly administer the
26 corporation. Staff costs shall be funded from state ~~and local~~
27 matching funds and such other private or public funds as
28 become available. The board of directors shall determine the
29 number of staff members necessary to administer the
30 corporation;

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1 13. As appropriate, enter into contracts with local
2 school boards or other agencies to provide onsite information,
3 enrollment, and other services necessary to the operation of
4 the corporation;

5 14. Provide a report on an annual basis to the
6 Governor, Insurance Commissioner, Commissioner of Education,
7 Senate President, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and
8 Minority Leaders of the Senate and the House of
9 Representatives;

10 15. Each fiscal year, establish a maximum number of
11 participants by county, on a statewide basis, who may enroll
12 in the program without the benefit of voluntary local matching
13 funds. Thereafter, the corporation may establish a policy for
14 utilization of local matching funds ~~requirements~~ for
15 supplemental participation in the program. ~~The corporation may~~
16 ~~vary local matching requirements and enrollment by county~~
17 ~~depending on factors which may influence the generation of~~
18 ~~local match, including, but not limited to, population~~
19 ~~density, per capita income, existing local tax effort, and~~
20 ~~other factors.~~ The corporation also may accept in-kind match
21 ~~in lieu of cash for the local match requirement~~ to the extent
22 allowed by Title XXI of the Social Security Act; and

23 16. Establish eligibility criteria, premium and
24 cost-sharing requirements, and benefit packages which conform
25 to the provisions of the Florida Kidcare program, as created
26 in ss. 409.810-409.820.

27 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2002.

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HOUSE SUMMARY

Eliminates provisions relating to local government matching fund requirements under the Florida Healthy Kids program. Provides for use of voluntary local contributions for obtaining federal matching funds for the program.