

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2264

Amendment No. ____ Barcode 111766

	<u>Senate</u>	CHAMBER ACTION	<u>House</u>
1		.	
		.	
2		.	
		.	
3		.	
		.	
4		.	
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11	Senator Atwater moved the following amendment:		
12			
13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)		
14	On page 8, between lines 17 and 18,		
15			
16	insert:		
17	Section 3. Effective July 1, 2004, section 627.6410,		
18	Florida Statutes, is created to read:		
19	<u>627.6410 Optional coverage for speech, language,</u>		
20	<u>swallowing, and hearing disorders.--</u>		
21	<u>(1) Insurers issuing individual health insurance</u>		
22	<u>policies in this state shall make available to the</u>		
23	<u>policyholder as part of the application for any such policy of</u>		
24	<u>insurance, for an appropriate additional premium, the benefits</u>		
25	<u>or levels of benefits specified in the December 1999 Florida</u>		
26	<u>Medicaid Therapy Services Handbook for genetic or congenital</u>		
27	<u>disorders or conditions involving speech, language,</u>		
28	<u>swallowing, and hearing and a hearing aid and earmolds benefit</u>		
29	<u>at the level of benefits specified in the January 2001 Florida</u>		
30	<u>Medicaid Hearing Services Handbook.</u>		
31	<u>(2) This section does not apply to specified-accident,</u>		

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2264

Amendment No. Barcode 111766

1 specified-disease, hospital indemnity, limited benefit,
2 disability income, or long-term care insurance policies.

3 (3) Such optional coverage is not required to be
4 offered when substantially similar benefits are included in
5 the policy of insurance issued to the policyholder.

6 (4) This section does not require or prohibit the use
7 of a provider network.

8 (5) This section does not prohibit an insurer from
9 requiring prior authorization for the benefits under this
10 section.

11 Section 4. Effective July 1, 2004, section 627.66912,
12 Florida Statutes, is created to read:

13 627.66912 Optional coverage for speech, language,
14 swallowing, and hearing disorders.--

15 (1) Insurers issuing group health insurance policies
16 in this state shall make available to the policyholder as part
17 of the application for any such policy of insurance, for an
18 appropriate additional premium, the benefits or levels of
19 benefits specified in the December 1999 Florida Medicaid
20 Therapy Services Handbook for genetic or congenital disorders
21 or conditions involving speech, language, swallowing, and
22 hearing and a hearing aid and earmolds benefit at the level of
23 benefits specified in the January 2001 Florida Medicaid
24 Hearing Services Handbook.

25 (2) This section does not apply to specified-accident,
26 specified-disease, hospital indemnity, limited benefit,
27 disability income, or long-term care insurance policies.

28 (3) Such optional coverage is not required to be
29 offered when substantially similar benefits are included in
30 the policy of insurance issued to the policyholder.

31 (4) This section does not require or prohibit the use

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2264

Amendment No. ____ Barcode 111766

1 of a provider network.

2 (5) This section does not prohibit an insurer from
3 requiring prior authorization for the benefits under this
4 section.

5 Section 5. Effective July 1, 2004, subsection (40) is
6 added to section 641.31, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 641.31 Health maintenance contracts.--

8 (40) Health maintenance organizations shall make
9 available to the contract holder as part of the application
10 for any such contract, for an appropriate additional premium,
11 the benefits or levels of benefits specified in the December
12 1999 Florida Medicaid Therapy Services Handbook for genetic or
13 congenital disorders or conditions involving speech, language,
14 swallowing, and hearing and a hearing aid and earmolds benefit
15 at the level of benefits specified in the January 2001 Florida
16 Medicaid Hearing Services Handbook.

17 (a) Such optional coverage is not required to be
18 offered when substantially similar benefits are included in
19 the contract issued to the subscriber.

20 (b) This section does not require or prohibit the use
21 of a provider network.

22 (c) This section does not prohibit an organization
23 from requiring prior authorization for the benefits under this
24 subsection.

25 (d) This subsection does not apply to health
26 maintenance organizations issuing individual coverage to fewer
27 than 50,000 members.

28
29 (Redesignate subsequent sections.)

30

31

Bill No. CS for CS for SB 2264

Amendment No. ____ Barcode 111766

1 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

2 And the title is amended as follows:

3 On page 1, lines 15 and 16, delete those lines

4

5 and insert:

6 rulemaking authority; creating s. 627.6410,
7 F.S.; requiring insurers issuing individual
8 health insurance policies to offer coverage for
9 speech, language, swallowing and hearing
10 disorders; providing certain exceptions and
11 authorizing certain conditions; creating s.
12 27.66912, F.S.; requiring group health insurers
13 to offer such coverage; amending s. 641.31,
14 F.S.; requiring health maintenance
15 organizations to offer such coverage; providing
16 effective dates.

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31