

By Senator Miller

18-799-04

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to minority health care;
3 creating s. 381.736, F.S.; providing for the
4 Department of Health to develop a Florida
5 Healthy People 2010 Program; providing program
6 goals and guidelines; requiring a report to the
7 Legislature; amending s. 409.901, F.S.;
8 defining the term "minority physician network";
9 amending s. 409.912, F.S.; requiring the Agency
10 for Health Care Administration to provide a
11 Medicaid minority physician network; providing
12 guidelines for the operation of the network;
13 providing an effective date.

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

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17 Section 1. Section 381.736, Florida Statutes, is
18 created to read:

19 381.736 Florida Healthy People 2010 Program.--

20 (1) The Department of Health shall develop and
21 implement, using existing resources, the Florida Healthy
22 People 2010 Program, based upon the federal Healthy People
23 2010 Program, designed to improve the health of all Americans
24 by advancing the following goals:

25 (a) Increase the quality and years of healthy life;
26 and

27 (b) Eliminate health disparities among different
28 segments of the population.

29 (2) The department shall report to the Legislature by
30 December 31 of each year regarding progress in meeting the
31 program's goals and shall report on the status of disparities

1 in health among minorities and nonminorities, using health
2 indicators that are consistent with those identified by the
3 federal Healthy People 2010 Program.

4 (3) To reduce negative health consequences that result
5 from ignoring racial and ethnic cultures, the department shall
6 support the development of programs to educate health care
7 professionals about the importance of culture in health
8 status. These programs shall include, but need not be limited
9 to:

10 (a) The education of health care providers about the
11 prevalence of specific health conditions among certain
12 minority groups;

13 (b) The training of clinicians to be sensitive to
14 cultural diversity among patients and to recognize that
15 inherent biases can lead to disparate treatments;

16 (c) The creation of initiatives that educate
17 private-sector health care and managed care organizations
18 about the importance of cross-cultural training of health care
19 professionals and the effect of such training on the
20 professional-patient relationship; and

21 (d) The fostering of increased use of interpreter
22 services in health care settings.

23 (4) The department shall support the establishment of
24 public and private partnerships with charitable organizations,
25 hospitals, and minority physician networks to increase the
26 proportion of health care professionals from minority
27 backgrounds.

28 (5) The department shall support and promote research
29 on methods by which to reduce disparities in health care at
30 colleges and universities that have historically large
31 minority enrollments, including centers of excellence in this

1 state identified by the National Center on Minority Health and
2 Health Disparities, by working with community representatives
3 to encourage local minority students to pursue professions in
4 health care.

5 Section 2. Subsection (23) is added to section
6 409.901, Florida Statutes, to read:

7 409.901 Definitions; ss. 409.901-409.920.--As used in
8 ss. 409.901-409.920, except as otherwise specifically
9 provided, the term:

10 (23) "Minority physician network" means a network of
11 primary care physicians that is predominantly minority-owned,
12 as defined in s. 288.703, which has a collaborative
13 partnership with a public college or university and a
14 tax-exempt charitable corporation.

15 Section 3. Subsection (45) is added to section
16 409.912, Florida Statutes, to read:

17 409.912 Cost-effective purchasing of health care.--The
18 agency shall purchase goods and services for Medicaid
19 recipients in the most cost-effective manner consistent with
20 the delivery of quality medical care. The agency shall
21 maximize the use of prepaid per capita and prepaid aggregate
22 fixed-sum basis services when appropriate and other
23 alternative service delivery and reimbursement methodologies,
24 including competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, designed
25 to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of a case-managed
26 continuum of care. The agency shall also require providers to
27 minimize the exposure of recipients to the need for acute
28 inpatient, custodial, and other institutional care and the
29 inappropriate or unnecessary use of high-cost services. The
30 agency may establish prior authorization requirements for
31 certain populations of Medicaid beneficiaries, certain drug

1 classes, or particular drugs to prevent fraud, abuse, overuse,
2 and possible dangerous drug interactions. The Pharmaceutical
3 and Therapeutics Committee shall make recommendations to the
4 agency on drugs for which prior authorization is required. The
5 agency shall inform the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics
6 Committee of its decisions regarding drugs subject to prior
7 authorization.

8 (45) The agency shall contract with an established
9 minority physician network that provides services to
10 historically underserved minority patients. The network must
11 provide cost-effective Medicaid services, comply with the
12 requirements to be a MediPass provider, and provide its
13 primary care physicians with access to data and other
14 management tools necessary to assist them in ensuring the
15 appropriate use of services, including inpatient hospital
16 services and pharmaceuticals.

17 (a) The agency shall provide for the development and
18 expansion of minority physician networks in each service area
19 to provide services to Medicaid recipients who are eligible to
20 participate under federal law and rules.

21 (b) The agency shall reimburse the minority physician
22 network as a fee-for-service provider for Medicaid services
23 and shall also pay a case-management fee for primary care. Any
24 savings shall be used to promote the Florida Healthy People
25 2010 Program in conjunction with the Department of Health.

26 (c) Medicaid recipients shall be assigned to a
27 minority physician network pursuant to the assignment ratios
28 provided in s. 409.9122.

29 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Provides for the Department of Health to develop a Florida Healthy People 2010 Program to advance the goals of a similar federal program. Provides program goals and guidelines. Requires the Agency for Health Care Administration to develop a Medicaid minority physician network. (See bill for details.)