Florida Senate - 2007

By Senator Margolis

35-185-07

1	A bill to be entitled		
2	An act relating to cystic fibrosis treatment;		
3	creating s. 627.6614, F.S.; requiring a group		
4	health insurance policy to cover services		
5	needed to treat cystic fibrosis authorized by a		
6	physician; amending s. 641.31, F.S.; requiring		
7	a contract by a health maintenance organization		
8	to cover services needed to treat cystic		
9	fibrosis as authorized by a physician; amending		
10	s. 627.6515, F.S., relating to out-of-state		
11	groups; conforming a cross-reference to changes		
12	made by the act; providing that the act		
13	fulfills an important state interest; providing		
14	an effective date.		
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16	WHEREAS, cystic fibrosis is a genetic disease that		
17	adversely affects the respiratory system and the digestive		
18	system, and		
19	WHEREAS, only half of those suffering with cystic		
20	fibrosis live to the age of 32, and		
21	WHEREAS, the treatments for individuals with cystic		
22	fibrosis include ingesting pancreatic enzymes or a wide		
23	assortment of nutritional supplements, frequent postural		
24	draining to clear the respiratory system, or using a feeding		
25	tube to provide sustenance, and		
26	WHEREAS, insurance companies oftentimes do not fully		
27	cover the costs associated with treating cystic fibrosis, a		
28	fatal disease, NOW, THEREFORE,		
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30	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:		
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SB 274

1 Section 1. Section 627.6614, Florida Statutes, is 2 created to read: 3 627.6614 Cystic fibrosis treatment services.--A group 4 health insurance policy sold in this state must provide 5 coverage for all medically necessary chest physiotherapy 6 provided by a respiratory therapist licensed under part V of 7 chapter 468, home health care, equipment, supplies, and enteral formulas described in s. 627.42395 which are used to 8 treat cystic fibrosis if the patient's treating physician or a 9 10 physician authorized by the insurer who specializes in the treatment of cystic fibrosis certifies that such services are 11 12 medically necessary. The insurer may require the policyholder 13 to be responsible for any deductible or copayment that generally applies under the policy. 14 Section 2. Present subsections (36), (37), (38), (39), 15 and (40) of section 641.31, Florida Statutes, are redesignated 16 17 as subsections (37), (38), (39), (40), and (41), respectively, and a new subsection (36) is added to that section, to read: 18 641.31 Health maintenance contracts.--19 (36) A group health maintenance contract sold in this 20 21 state must provide coverage for all medically necessary chest 2.2 physiotherapy provided by a respiratory therapist licensed 23 under part V of chapter 468, home health care, equipment, supplies, and enteral formulas described in s. 627.42395 which 2.4 are used to treat cystic fibrosis if the patient's treating 25 physician or a physician authorized by the health maintenance 26 27 organization who specializes in the treatment of cystic 2.8 fibrosis certifies that such services are medically necessary. The health maintenance organization may require the subscriber 29 to be responsible for any deductible or copayment that 30 generally applies under the contract. 31

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1 Section 3. Subsection (2) of section 627.6515, Florida 2 Statutes, is amended to read: 3 627.6515 Out-of-state groups.--4 (2) Except as otherwise provided in this part, this 5 part does not apply to a group health insurance policy issued 6 or delivered outside this state under which a resident of this 7 state is provided coverage if: 8 (a) The policy is issued to an employee group the composition of which is substantially as described in s. 9 627.653; a labor union group or association group the 10 composition of which is substantially as described in s. 11 12 627.654; an additional group the composition of which is 13 substantially as described in s. 627.656; a group insured under a blanket health policy when the composition of the 14 group is substantially in compliance with s. 627.659; a group 15 insured under a franchise health policy when the composition 16 17 of the group is substantially in compliance with s. 627.663; an association group to cover persons associated in any other 18 common group, which common group is formed primarily for 19 purposes other than providing insurance; a group that is 20 21 established primarily for the purpose of providing group 22 insurance, provided the benefits are reasonable in relation to 23 the premiums charged thereunder and the issuance of the group policy has resulted, or will result, in economies of 2.4 administration; or a group of insurance agents of an insurer, 25 26 which insurer is the policyholder; 27 (b) Certificates evidencing coverage under the policy 2.8 are issued to residents of this state and contain in 29 contrasting color and not less than 10-point type the 30 following statement: "The benefits of the policy providing 31

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SB 274

1 your coverage are governed primarily by the law of a state 2 other than Florida"; and (c) The policy provides the benefits specified in ss. 3 4 627.419, 627.6574, 627.6575, 627.6579, 627.6612, 627.66121, 627.66122, 627.6613, 627.6614, 627.667, 627.6675, 627.6691, 5 б and 627.66911. 7 (d) Applications for certificates of coverage offered 8 to residents of this state must contain, in contrasting color and not less than 12-point type, the following statement on 9 the same page as the applicant's signature: 10 11 12 "This policy is primarily governed by the laws 13 of ... insert state where the master policy if filed.... As a result, all of the rating laws 14 applicable to policies filed in this state do 15 not apply to this coverage, which may result in 16 17 increases in your premium at renewal that would 18 not be permissible under a Florida-approved policy. Any purchase of individual health 19 insurance should be considered carefully, as 20 21 future medical conditions may make it 22 impossible to qualify for another individual 23 health policy. For information concerning individual health coverage under a 2.4 Florida-approved policy, consult your agent or 25 the Florida Department of Financial Services." 26 27 2.8 This paragraph applies only to group certificates providing 29 health insurance coverage which require individualized 30 underwriting to determine coverage eligibility for an 31

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1 individual or premium rates to be charged to an individual 2 except for the following: 3 1. Policies issued to provide coverage to groups of 4 persons all of whom are in the same or functionally related licensed professions, and providing coverage only to such 5 6 licensed professionals, their employees, or their dependents; 7 2. Policies providing coverage to small employers as defined by s. 627.6699. Such policies shall be subject to, and 8 governed by, the provisions of s. 627.6699; 9 10 3. Policies issued to a bona fide association, as defined by s. 627.6571(5), provided that there is a person or 11 12 board acting as a fiduciary for the benefit of the members, 13 and such association is not owned, controlled by, or otherwise associated with the insurance company; or 14 15 4. Any accidental death, accidental death and dismemberment, accident-only, vision-only, dental-only, 16 17 hospital indemnity-only, hospital accident-only, cancer, 18 specified disease, Medicare supplement, products that supplement Medicare, long-term care, or disability income 19 insurance, or similar supplemental plans provided under a 20 21 separate policy, certificate, or contract of insurance, which 22 cannot duplicate coverage under an underlying health plan, 23 coinsurance, or deductibles or coverage issued as a supplement to workers' compensation or similar insurance, or automobile 2.4 25 medical-payment insurance. Section 4. The Legislature finds that this act 26 27 fulfills an important state interest. 28 Section 5. This act shall take effect October 1, 2007, 29 and applies to policies and contracts issued or renewed on or after that date. 30 31

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SB	274
SB	274

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2	SENATE SUMMARY
3	Requires an individual health insurance policy, a group
4	health insurance policy, or a contract by a health maintenance organization to cover services needed to treat cystic fibrosis as authorized by a physician.
5	treat cystic librosis as authorized by a physician.
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