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CHAMBER ACTION

<u>Senate</u>	.	<u>House</u>
Comm: UNFAV	.	
3/26/2008	.	
	.	
	.	

1 The Committee on Health Regulation (Lawson) recommended the
2 following **substitute for amendment (578626)**:

3
4 **Senate Amendment (with title amendments)**

5 Delete lines 34-61

6 and insert:

7 Section 1. Section 627.638, Florida Statutes, is amended to
8 read:

9 627.638 Direct payment for hospital, medical services.--

10 (1) A ~~Any~~ health insurance policy insuring against loss or
11 expense due to hospital confinement or to medical and related
12 services may provide for payment of benefits directly to any
13 ~~recognized~~ hospital, doctor, or other person who provided the
14 services, in accordance with the provisions of the policy. To
15 comply with this section, the words "or to the hospital, doctor,
16 or person rendering services covered by this policy," or similar



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17 words appropriate to the terms of the policy, shall be added to
18 applicable provisions of the policy.

19 (2) ~~If Whenever, in any health insurance claim form,~~ an
20 insured specifically authorizes payment of benefits directly to
21 any ~~recognized~~ hospital, physician, or dentist, in accordance
22 with the provisions of the policy, the insurer shall make such
23 payment to the designated provider of such services, unless
24 otherwise provided in the insurance contract. The insurance
25 contract may not prohibit, and claims forms must provide an
26 option for, the payment of benefits directly to a licensed
27 hospital, physician, or dentist for care provided pursuant to s.
28 395.1041. The insurer may require the person who provided the
29 services to retain and make available upon request a written
30 attestation of assignment of benefits. Such attestation assigning
31 benefits may be transferred to the insurer in electronic form.
32 Payment to the provider from the insurer may not be more than the
33 amount that the insurer would otherwise have paid without the
34 assignment.

35
36 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

37 And the title is amended as follows:

38 Delete lines 5 and 6

39 and insert:

40 authorizing an insurer to require a provider to make
41 available a written attestation of assignment of benefits;
42 authorizing the attestation to be transferred to the
43 insurer in electronic