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CHAMBER ACTION

<u>Senate</u>	.	<u>House</u>
Comm: RCS	.	
4/10/2008	.	
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1 The Committee on General Government Appropriations (Baker)  
2 recommended the following **substitute for amendment (578626)** :

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4 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

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) 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, licensed ambulance provider, doctor, or  
14 other person who provided the services, in accordance with the  
15 provisions of the policy. To comply with this section, the words  
16 "or to the hospital, licensed ambulance provider, doctor, or  
17 person rendering services covered by this policy," or similar



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

20 (2) Whenever, in any health insurance claim form, an  
21 insured specifically authorizes payment of benefits directly to  
22 any recognized hospital, licensed ambulance provider, physician,  
23 or dentist, the insurer shall make such payment to the designated  
24 provider of such services, unless otherwise provided in the  
25 insurance contract. The insurance contract may not prohibit, and  
26 claims forms must provide an option for, the payment of benefits  
27 directly to a licensed hospital, licensed ambulance provider,  
28 physician, or dentist for care provided pursuant to s. 395.1041  
29 or part III of chapter 401. The insurer may require written  
30 attestation of assignment of benefits. Payment to the provider  
31 from the insurer may not be more than the amount that the insurer  
32 would otherwise have paid without the assignment.

33 (3) Any insurer who has contracted with a preferred  
34 provider, as defined in s. 627.6471(1)(b), for the delivery of  
35 health care services to its insureds shall make payments directly  
36 to the preferred provider for such services.

37  
38 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

39 And the title is amended as follows:

40 Delete lines 5-7

41 and insert:

42 requiring that an insurer make payments directly to the  
43 preferred provider for the delivery of health care  
44 services; creating s. 627.64731, F.S.; providing  
45 requirements