A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health care; transferring and reassigning certain functions and responsibilities, including records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations and other resources, from the Department of Health to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation by a type two transfer; providing for the continued validity of pending judicial or administrative actions to which the Department of Health is a party; providing for the continued validity of lawful orders issued by the Department of Health; transferring rules created by the Department of Health to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; providing for the continued validity of permits and certifications issued by the Department of Health; amending s. 400.179, F.S.; authorizing the Agency for Health Care Administration to transfer funds to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund for certain repayments; amending s. 409.905, F.S.; prohibiting payment for certain hospital inpatient per diem rate adjustment for 2 fiscal years; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; prohibiting payment for Medicaid chiropractic services, hospice care services, and podiatric services for 2 fiscal years; authorizing payment of a specified amount for Medicaid services provided by an anesthesiologist assistant; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; deleting a provision prohibiting Medicaid from making any payment toward deductibles and coinsurance for services not covered by Medicaid; providing limitations on Medicaid

payments for coinsurance; revising reimbursement rates for providers of Medicaid prescribed drugs; requiring the agency to revise reimbursement rates for hospitals, nursing homes, county health departments, and community intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled for 2 fiscal years; requiring the agency to apply the effect of the revised reimbursement rates to set payment rates for managed care plans and nursing home diversion programs; requiring the agency to establish workgroups to evaluate alternative reimbursement and payment methodologies for hospitals, nursing facilities, and managed care plans; requiring a report; providing for future repeal of the suspension of the use of cost data to set certain rates; amending s. 409.911, F.S.; revising the share data used to calculate disproportionate share payments to hospitals; amending s. 409.9112, F.S.; revising the time period during which the agency is prohibited from distributing disproportionate share payments to regional perinatal intensive care centers; amending s. 409.9113, F.S.; requiring the agency to distribute moneys provided in the General Appropriations Act to statutorily defined teaching hospitals and family practice teaching hospitals under the teaching hospital disproportionate share program for the 2008-2009 fiscal year; amending s. 409.9117, F.S.; prohibiting the agency from distributing moneys under the primary care disproportionate share program for the 2008-2009 fiscal year; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; adding a county for

participation in the Medicaid behavioral health care services specialty prepaid plan; revising reimbursement rates to pharmacies for Medicaid prescribed drugs; requiring the agency to notify the Legislature before seeking an amendment to the state plan in order to implement programs authorized by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005; creating s. 409.91206, F.S.; providing for proposed alternatives for health and long-term care reforms; amending s. 409.91211, F.S.; providing for expansion of the Medicaid managed care pilot program to Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties; permitting fee-for-service provider service networks to be reimbursed on a risk-adjusted capitated basis for certain services; requiring the agency to encourage cost-effective administration by provider service networks; requiring quarterly monitoring and annual evaluation of plan network adequacy; requiring that Medicaid recipients receive prescription drug coverage information for each plan; requiring the agency to set standards for prompt claims payment; revising assignment processes for certain recipients; amending s. 409.9124, F.S.; removing the limitation on the application of certain rates and rate reductions used by the agency to reimburse managed care plans; amending s. 409.913, F.S.; prohibiting mailing of the explanation of benefits for certain Medicaid services; repealing s. 381.0271, F.S., relating to the Florida Patient Safety Corporation; repealing s. 381.0273, F.S.,

relating to public records exemption for patient safety data; repealing s. 394.4595, F.S., relating to access to patient records by the Florida statewide and local advocacy councils; repealing s. 402.164, F.S., relating to the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council and the Florida local advocacy councils; repealing s. 402.165, F.S., relating to the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council; repealing s. 402.166, F.S., relating to Florida local advocacy councils; repealing s. 402.167, F.S., relating to duties of state agencies that provide client services relating to the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council and the Florida local advocacy councils; repealing s. 409.9061, F.S., relating to authority for a statewide laboratory services contract; repealing s. 430.80, F.S., relating to implementation of a teaching nursing home pilot project; repealing s. 430.83, F.S., relating to the Sunshine for Seniors Program; repealing ss. 464.0195, 464.0196, and 464.0197, F.S., relating to the Florida Center for Nursing; repealing s. 464.0198, F.S., relating to the Florida Center for Nursing Trust Fund; amending ss. 39.001, 39.0011, 39.202, 39.302, 215.22, 394.459, 394.4597, 394.4598, 394.4599, 394.4615, 400.0065, 400.118, 400.141, 415.1034, 415.104, 415.1055, 415.106, 415.107, 429.19, 429.28, 429.34, and 430.04, F.S.; conforming provisions and correcting cross-references; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) Effective April 1, 2009, all of the statutory powers, duties and functions, records, personnel, property, and unexpended balances of appropriations, allocations, or other funds for the administration of part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, relating to drugs, devices, cosmetics, and household products shall be transferred by a type two transfer, as defined in s. 20.06(2), Florida Statutes, from the Department of Health to the Department of Business and Professional Regulation.

(2) The transfer of regulatory authority under part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, provided by this act shall not affect the validity of any judicial or administrative action pending as of 11:59 p.m. on the day before the effective date of this act to which the Department of Health is at that time a party, and the Department of Business and Professional Regulation shall be substituted as a party in interest in any such action.

(3) All lawful orders issued by the Department of Health implementing or enforcing or otherwise in regard to any provision of part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, issued prior to the effective date of this act shall remain in effect and be enforceable after the effective date of this act unless thereafter modified in accordance with law.

(4) The rules of the Department of Health relating to the implementation of part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, that were in effect at 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to this act taking effect shall become the rules of the Department of Business and

Professional Regulation and shall remain in effect until amended or repealed in the manner provided by law.

(5) Notwithstanding the transfer of regulatory authority under part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, provided by this act, persons and entities holding in good standing any permit under part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, as of 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to the effective date of this act shall, as of the effective date of this act, be deemed to hold in good standing a permit in the same capacity as that for which the permit was formerly issued.

(6) Notwithstanding the transfer of regulatory authority under part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, provided by this act, persons holding in good standing any certification under part I of chapter 499, Florida Statutes, as of 11:59 p.m. on the day prior to the effective date of this act shall, as of the effective date of this act, be deemed to be certified in the same capacity in which they were formerly certified.

Section 2. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 400.179, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.179 Liability for Medicaid underpayments and overpayments.--

(2) Because any transfer of a nursing facility may expose the fact that Medicaid may have underpaid or overpaid the transferor, and because in most instances, any such underpayment or overpayment can only be determined following a formal field audit, the liabilities for any such underpayments or overpayments shall be as follows:

(d) Where the transfer involves a facility that has been leased by the transferor:

1. The transferee shall, as a condition to being issued a license by the agency, acquire, maintain, and provide proof to the agency of a bond with a term of 30 months, renewable annually, in an amount not less than the total of 3 months' Medicaid payments to the facility computed on the basis of the preceding 12-month average Medicaid payments to the facility.

2. A leasehold licensee may meet the requirements of subparagraph 1. by payment of a nonrefundable fee, paid at initial licensure, paid at the time of any subsequent change of ownership, and paid annually thereafter, in the amount of 1 percent of the total of 3 months' Medicaid payments to the facility computed on the basis of the preceding 12-month average Medicaid payments to the facility. If a preceding 12-month average is not available, projected Medicaid payments may be used. The fee shall be deposited into the Health Care Trust Fund and shall be accounted for separately as a Medicaid nursing home overpayment account. These fees shall be used at the sole discretion of the agency to repay nursing home Medicaid overpayments. The agency is authorized to transfer funds to the Grants and Donations Trust Fund for such repayments. Payment of this fee shall not release the licensee from any liability for any Medicaid overpayments, nor shall payment bar the agency from seeking to recoup overpayments from the licensee and any other liable party. As a condition of exercising this lease bond alternative, licensees paying this fee must maintain an existing lease bond through the end of the 30-month term period of that

bond. The agency is herein granted specific authority to promulgate all rules pertaining to the administration and management of this account, including withdrawals from the account, subject to federal review and approval. This provision shall take effect upon becoming law and shall apply to any leasehold license application. The financial viability of the Medicaid nursing home overpayment account shall be determined by the agency through annual review of the account balance and the amount of total outstanding, unpaid Medicaid overpayments owing from leasehold licensees to the agency as determined by final agency audits.

3. The leasehold licensee may meet the bond requirement through other arrangements acceptable to the agency. The agency is herein granted specific authority to promulgate rules pertaining to lease bond arrangements.

4. All existing nursing facility licensees, operating the facility as a leasehold, shall acquire, maintain, and provide proof to the agency of the 30-month bond required in subparagraph 1., above, on and after July 1, 1993, for each license renewal.

5. It shall be the responsibility of all nursing facility operators, operating the facility as a leasehold, to renew the 30-month bond and to provide proof of such renewal to the agency annually.

6. Any failure of the nursing facility operator to acquire, maintain, renew annually, or provide proof to the agency shall be grounds for the agency to deny, revoke, and suspend the facility license to operate such facility and to

take any further action, including, but not limited to, enjoining the facility, asserting a moratorium pursuant to part II of chapter 408, or applying for a receiver, deemed necessary to ensure compliance with this section and to safeguard and protect the health, safety, and welfare of the facility's residents. A lease agreement required as a condition of bond financing or refinancing under s. 154.213 by a health facilities authority or required under s. 159.30 by a county or municipality is not a leasehold for purposes of this paragraph and is not subject to the bond requirement of this paragraph.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) of section 409.905, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.905 Mandatory Medicaid services.--The agency may make payments for the following services, which are required of the state by Title XIX of the Social Security Act, furnished by Medicaid providers to recipients who are determined to be eligible on the dates on which the services were provided. Any service under this section shall be provided only when medically necessary and in accordance with state and federal law. Mandatory services rendered by providers in mobile units to Medicaid recipients may be restricted by the agency. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, number of services, or any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(5) HOSPITAL INPATIENT SERVICES.--The agency shall pay for all covered services provided for the medical care and treatment of a recipient who is admitted as an inpatient by a licensed physician or dentist to a hospital licensed under part I of chapter 395. However, the agency shall limit the payment for inpatient hospital services for a Medicaid recipient 21 years of age or older to 45 days or the number of days necessary to comply with the General Appropriations Act.

(c) For 2 fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010, the Agency for Health Care Administration may not ~~shall~~ adjust a hospital's current inpatient per diem rate to reflect the cost of serving the Medicaid population at that institution if:

1. The hospital experiences an increase in Medicaid caseload by more than 25 percent in any year, primarily resulting from the closure of a hospital in the same service area occurring after July 1, 1995;

2. The hospital's Medicaid per diem rate is at least 25 percent below the Medicaid per patient cost for that year; or

3. The hospital is located in a county that has five or fewer hospitals, began offering obstetrical services on or after September 1999, and has submitted a request in writing to the agency for a rate adjustment after July 1, 2000, but before September 30, 2000, in which case such hospital's Medicaid inpatient per diem rate shall be adjusted to cost, effective July 1, 2002.

No later than October 1 of each year, the agency must provide

estimated costs for any adjustment in a hospital inpatient per diem pursuant to this paragraph to the Executive Office of the Governor, the House of Representatives General Appropriations Committee, and the Senate Appropriations Committee. Before the agency implements a change in a hospital's inpatient per diem rate pursuant to this paragraph, the Legislature must have specifically appropriated sufficient funds in the General Appropriations Act to support the increase in cost as estimated by the agency.

Section 4. Subsections (7), (14), and (19) of section 409.906, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (26) is added to that section, to read:

409.906 Optional Medicaid services.--Subject to specific appropriations, the agency may make payments for services which are optional to the state under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and are furnished by Medicaid providers to recipients who are determined to be eligible on the dates on which the services were provided. Any optional service that is provided shall be provided only when medically necessary and in accordance with state and federal law. Optional services rendered by providers in mobile units to Medicaid recipients may be restricted or prohibited by the agency. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. If necessary to safeguard the state's systems of

providing services to elderly and disabled persons and subject to the notice and review provisions of s. 216.177, the Governor may direct the Agency for Health Care Administration to amend the Medicaid state plan to delete the optional Medicaid service known as "Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled." Optional services may include:

(7) CHIROPRACTIC SERVICES.--For 2 fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010, the agency may not pay for chiropractic services. ~~The agency may pay for manual manipulation of the spine and initial services, screening, and X rays provided to a recipient by a licensed chiropractic physician.~~

(14) HOSPICE CARE SERVICES.--For 2 fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010, the agency may not pay for hospice care services. ~~The agency may pay for all reasonable and necessary services for the palliation or management of a recipient's terminal illness, if the services are provided by a hospice that is licensed under part IV of chapter 400 and meets Medicare certification requirements.~~

(19) PODIATRIC SERVICES.--For 2 fiscal years beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010, the agency may not pay for podiatric services. ~~The agency may pay for services, including diagnosis and medical, surgical, palliative, and mechanical treatment, related to ailments of the human foot and lower leg, if provided to a recipient by a podiatric physician licensed under state law.~~

(26) ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT SERVICES.--The agency may pay for all services provided to a recipient by an

anesthesiologist assistant licensed under s. 458.3475 or s. 459.023. Reimbursement for such services must be not less than 80 percent of the reimbursement that would be paid to a physician who provided the same services.

Section 5. Subsections (13) and (14) of section 409.908, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2007-331, Laws of Florida, are amended, and subsection (23) is added to that section, to read:

409.908 Reimbursement of Medicaid providers.--Subject to specific appropriations, the agency shall reimburse Medicaid providers, in accordance with state and federal law, according to methodologies set forth in the rules of the agency and in policy manuals and handbooks incorporated by reference therein. These methodologies may include fee schedules, reimbursement methods based on cost reporting, negotiated fees, competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, and other mechanisms the agency considers efficient and effective for purchasing services or goods on behalf of recipients. If a provider is reimbursed based on cost reporting and submits a cost report late and that cost report would have been used to set a lower reimbursement rate for a rate semester, then the provider's rate for that semester shall be retroactively calculated using the new cost report, and full payment at the recalculated rate shall be effected retroactively. Medicare-granted extensions for filing cost reports, if applicable, shall also apply to Medicaid cost reports. Payment for Medicaid compensable services made on behalf of Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions

provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. Further, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, provided the adjustment is consistent with legislative intent.

(13) Medicare premiums for persons eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid coverage shall be paid at the rates established by Title XVIII of the Social Security Act. For Medicare services rendered to Medicaid-eligible persons, Medicaid shall pay Medicare deductibles and coinsurance as follows:

~~(a) Medicaid shall make no payment toward deductibles and coinsurance for any service that is not covered by Medicaid.~~

(a) ~~(b)~~ Medicaid's financial obligation for deductibles and coinsurance payments shall be based on Medicare allowable fees, not on a provider's billed charges.

(b) ~~(c)~~ Medicaid will pay no portion of Medicare deductibles and coinsurance when payment that Medicare has made for the service equals or exceeds what Medicaid would have paid if it had been the sole payor. The combined payment of Medicare and Medicaid shall not exceed the amount Medicaid would have paid had it been the sole payor. The Legislature finds that there has been confusion regarding the reimbursement for services rendered to dually eligible Medicare beneficiaries. Accordingly, the Legislature clarifies that it has always been

the intent of the Legislature before and after 1991 that, in reimbursing in accordance with fees established by Title XVIII for premiums, deductibles, and coinsurance for Medicare services rendered by physicians to Medicaid eligible persons, physicians be reimbursed at the lesser of the amount billed by the physician or the Medicaid maximum allowable fee established by the Agency for Health Care Administration, as is permitted by federal law. It has never been the intent of the Legislature with regard to such services rendered by physicians that Medicaid be required to provide any payment for deductibles, coinsurance, or copayments for Medicare cost sharing, or any expenses incurred relating thereto, in excess of the payment amount provided for under the State Medicaid plan for such service. This payment methodology is applicable even in those situations in which the payment for Medicare cost sharing for a qualified Medicare beneficiary with respect to an item or service is reduced or eliminated. This expression of the Legislature is in clarification of existing law and shall apply to payment for, and with respect to provider agreements with respect to, items or services furnished on or after the effective date of this act. This paragraph applies to payment by Medicaid for items and services furnished before the effective date of this act if such payment is the subject of a lawsuit that is based on the provisions of this section, and that is pending as of, or is initiated after, the effective date of this act.

(c) ~~(d)~~ Notwithstanding paragraphs (a) and (b) ~~(a) - (c)~~:

1. Medicaid payments for Nursing Home Medicare part A coinsurance shall be limited to the Medicaid nursing home per diem rate less any amounts paid by Medicare, but only up to the amount of Medicare coinsurance. The Medicaid per diem rate shall be the rate in effect for the dates of service of the crossover claims and may not be subsequently adjusted due to subsequent per diem rate adjustments.

2. Medicaid shall pay all deductibles and coinsurance for Medicare-eligible recipients receiving freestanding end stage renal dialysis center services.

3. Medicaid payments for general hospital inpatient services shall be limited to the Medicare deductible and coinsurance per spell of illness. Medicaid payments for hospital Medicare Part A coinsurance shall be limited to the Medicaid hospital per diem rate less any amounts paid by Medicare, but only up to the amount of Medicare coinsurance. Medicaid payments for coinsurance shall be limited to the Medicaid per diem rate in effect for the dates of service of the crossover claims and may not be subsequently adjusted due to subsequent per diem adjustments. ~~Medicaid shall make no payment toward coinsurance for Medicare general hospital inpatient services.~~

4. Medicaid shall pay all deductibles and coinsurance for Medicare emergency transportation services provided by ambulances licensed pursuant to chapter 401.

(14) A provider of prescribed drugs shall be reimbursed the least of the amount billed by the provider, the provider's usual and customary charge, or the Medicaid maximum allowable fee established by the agency, plus a dispensing fee. The

Medicaid maximum allowable fee for ingredient cost will be based on the lower of: average wholesale price (AWP) minus 16.4 ~~15.4~~ percent, wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 4.75 ~~5.75~~ percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider. Medicaid providers are required to dispense generic drugs if available at lower cost and the agency has not determined that the branded product is more cost-effective, unless the prescriber has requested and received approval to require the branded product. The agency is directed to implement a variable dispensing fee for payments for prescribed medicines while ensuring continued access for Medicaid recipients. The variable dispensing fee may be based upon, but not limited to, either or both the volume of prescriptions dispensed by a specific pharmacy provider, the volume of prescriptions dispensed to an individual recipient, and dispensing of preferred-drug-list products. The agency may increase the pharmacy dispensing fee authorized by statute and in the annual General Appropriations Act by $0.50 for the dispensing of a Medicaid preferred-drug-list product and reduce the pharmacy dispensing fee by $0.50 for the dispensing of a Medicaid product that is not included on the preferred drug list. The agency may establish a supplemental pharmaceutical dispensing fee to be paid to providers returning unused unit-dose packaged medications to stock and crediting the Medicaid program for the ingredient cost of those medications if the ingredient costs to be credited exceed the value of the supplemental dispensing fee. The agency is authorized to limit

reimbursement for prescribed medicine in order to comply with any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, which may include implementing a prospective or concurrent utilization review program.

(23)(a) The agency shall establish rates at a level that ensures no increase in statewide expenditures resulting from a change in unit costs for 2 fiscal years effective July 1, 2008. Reimbursement rates for the 2 fiscal years shall be as provided in the General Appropriations Act.

(b) This subsection applies to the following provider types:

1. Inpatient hospitals.

2. Outpatient hospitals.

3. Nursing homes.

4. County health departments.

5. Community intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled.

The agency shall apply the effect of this subsection to the reimbursement rates for managed care plans and nursing home diversion programs.

(c) The agency shall create a workgroup on hospital reimbursement, a workgroup on nursing facility reimbursement, and a workgroup on managed care plan payment. The workgroups shall evaluate alternative reimbursement and payment methodologies for hospitals, nursing facilities, and managed care plans, including prospective payment methodologies for hospitals and nursing facilities. The nursing facility workgroup

shall also consider price-based methodologies for indirect care and acuity adjustments for direct care. The agency shall submit a report on the evaluated alternative reimbursement methodologies to the relevant committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives by November 1, 2009.

(d) This subsection expires June 30, 2010.

Section 6. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 409.911, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.911 Disproportionate share program.--Subject to specific allocations established within the General Appropriations Act and any limitations established pursuant to chapter 216, the agency shall distribute, pursuant to this section, moneys to hospitals providing a disproportionate share of Medicaid or charity care services by making quarterly Medicaid payments as required. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

(2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall use the following actual audited data to determine the Medicaid days and charity care to be used in calculating the disproportionate share payment:

(a) The average of the 2002, 2003, and 2004 ~~2000, 2001, and 2002~~ audited disproportionate share data to determine each hospital's Medicaid days and charity care for the 2008-2009 ~~2006-2007~~ state fiscal year.

Section 7. Section 409.9112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9112 Disproportionate share program for regional perinatal intensive care centers.--In addition to the payments made under s. 409.911, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall design and implement a system of making disproportionate share payments to those hospitals that participate in the regional perinatal intensive care center program established pursuant to chapter 383. This system of payments shall conform with federal requirements and shall distribute funds in each fiscal year for which an appropriation is made by making quarterly Medicaid payments. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients. For the state fiscal year 2008-2009 ~~2005-2006~~, the agency shall not distribute moneys under the regional perinatal intensive care centers disproportionate share program.

(1) The following formula shall be used by the agency to calculate the total amount earned for hospitals that participate in the regional perinatal intensive care center program:

TAE = HDSP/THDSP

Where:

TAE = total amount earned by a regional perinatal intensive care center.

HDSP = the prior state fiscal year regional perinatal intensive care center disproportionate share payment to the individual hospital.

THDSP = the prior state fiscal year total regional perinatal intensive care center disproportionate share payments to all hospitals.

(2) The total additional payment for hospitals that participate in the regional perinatal intensive care center program shall be calculated by the agency as follows:

TAP = TAE x TA

Where:

TAP = total additional payment for a regional perinatal intensive care center.

TAE = total amount earned by a regional perinatal intensive care center.

TA = total appropriation for the regional perinatal intensive care center disproportionate share program.

(3) In order to receive payments under this section, a hospital must be participating in the regional perinatal intensive care center program pursuant to chapter 383 and must meet the following additional requirements:

(a) Agree to conform to all departmental and agency requirements to ensure high quality in the provision of services, including criteria adopted by departmental and agency rule concerning staffing ratios, medical records, standards of care, equipment, space, and such other standards and criteria as the department and agency deem appropriate as specified by rule.

(b) Agree to provide information to the department and agency, in a form and manner to be prescribed by rule of the

department and agency, concerning the care provided to all patients in neonatal intensive care centers and high-risk maternity care.

(c) Agree to accept all patients for neonatal intensive care and high-risk maternity care, regardless of ability to pay, on a functional space-available basis.

(d) Agree to develop arrangements with other maternity and neonatal care providers in the hospital's region for the appropriate receipt and transfer of patients in need of specialized maternity and neonatal intensive care services.

(e) Agree to establish and provide a developmental evaluation and services program for certain high-risk neonates, as prescribed and defined by rule of the department.

(f) Agree to sponsor a program of continuing education in perinatal care for health care professionals within the region of the hospital, as specified by rule.

(g) Agree to provide backup and referral services to the department's county health departments and other low-income perinatal providers within the hospital's region, including the development of written agreements between these organizations and the hospital.

(h) Agree to arrange for transportation for high-risk obstetrical patients and neonates in need of transfer from the community to the hospital or from the hospital to another more appropriate facility.

(4) Hospitals which fail to comply with any of the conditions in subsection (3) or the applicable rules of the department and agency shall not receive any payments under this

section until full compliance is achieved. A hospital which is not in compliance in two or more consecutive quarters shall not receive its share of the funds. Any forfeited funds shall be distributed by the remaining participating regional perinatal intensive care center program hospitals.

Section 8. Section 409.9113, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9113 Disproportionate share program for teaching hospitals.--In addition to the payments made under ss. 409.911 and 409.9112, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall make disproportionate share payments to statutorily defined teaching hospitals for their increased costs associated with medical education programs and for tertiary health care services provided to the indigent. This system of payments shall conform with federal requirements and shall distribute funds in each fiscal year for which an appropriation is made by making quarterly Medicaid payments. Notwithstanding s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients. For the state fiscal year 2008-2009 ~~2006-2007~~, the agency shall distribute the moneys provided in the General Appropriations Act to statutorily defined teaching hospitals and family practice teaching hospitals under the teaching hospital disproportionate share program. The funds provided for statutorily defined teaching hospitals shall be distributed in the same proportion as the state fiscal year 2003-2004 teaching hospital disproportionate share funds were distributed or as otherwise provided in the General

Appropriations Act. The funds provided for family practice teaching hospitals shall be distributed equally among family practice teaching hospitals.

(1) On or before September 15 of each year, the Agency for Health Care Administration shall calculate an allocation fraction to be used for distributing funds to state statutory teaching hospitals. Subsequent to the end of each quarter of the state fiscal year, the agency shall distribute to each statutory teaching hospital, as defined in s. 408.07, an amount determined by multiplying one-fourth of the funds appropriated for this purpose by the Legislature times such hospital's allocation fraction. The allocation fraction for each such hospital shall be determined by the sum of three primary factors, divided by three. The primary factors are:

(a) The number of nationally accredited graduate medical education programs offered by the hospital, including programs accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education and the combined Internal Medicine and Pediatrics programs acceptable to both the American Board of Internal Medicine and the American Board of Pediatrics at the beginning of the state fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the hospital represents of the total number of programs, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

(b) The number of full-time equivalent trainees in the hospital, which comprises two components:

1. The number of trainees enrolled in nationally accredited graduate medical education programs, as defined in paragraph (a). Full-time equivalents are computed using the fraction of the year during which each trainee is primarily assigned to the given institution, over the state fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the hospital represents of the total number of full-time equivalent trainees enrolled in accredited graduate programs, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

2. The number of medical students enrolled in accredited colleges of medicine and engaged in clinical activities, including required clinical clerkships and clinical electives. Full-time equivalents are computed using the fraction of the year during which each trainee is primarily assigned to the given institution, over the course of the state fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total number of full-time equivalent students enrolled in accredited colleges of medicine, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

The primary factor for full-time equivalent trainees is computed as the sum of these two components, divided by two.

(c) A service index that comprises three components:

1. The Agency for Health Care Administration Service Index, computed by applying the standard Service Inventory Scores established by the Agency for Health Care Administration to services offered by the given hospital, as reported on Worksheet A-2 for the last fiscal year reported to the agency before the date on which the allocation fraction is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total Agency for Health Care Administration Service Index values, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

2. A volume-weighted service index, computed by applying the standard Service Inventory Scores established by the Agency for Health Care Administration to the volume of each service, expressed in terms of the standard units of measure reported on Worksheet A-2 for the last fiscal year reported to the agency before the date on which the allocation factor is calculated. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that the given hospital represents of the total volume-weighted service index values, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

3. Total Medicaid payments to each hospital for direct inpatient and outpatient services during the fiscal year preceding the date on which the allocation factor is calculated. This includes payments made to each hospital for such services by Medicaid prepaid health plans, whether the plan was administered by the hospital or not. The numerical value of this factor is the fraction that each hospital represents of the

total of such Medicaid payments, where the total is computed for all state statutory teaching hospitals.

The primary factor for the service index is computed as the sum of these three components, divided by three.

(2) By October 1 of each year, the agency shall use the following formula to calculate the maximum additional disproportionate share payment for statutorily defined teaching hospitals:

TAP = THAF x A

Where:

TAP = total additional payment.

THAF = teaching hospital allocation factor.

A = amount appropriated for a teaching hospital disproportionate share program.

Section 9. Section 409.9117, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9117 Primary care disproportionate share program.--For the state fiscal year 2008-2009 ~~2006-2007~~, the agency shall not distribute moneys under the primary care disproportionate share program.

(1) If federal funds are available for disproportionate share programs in addition to those otherwise provided by law, there shall be created a primary care disproportionate share program.

(2) The following formula shall be used by the agency to calculate the total amount earned for hospitals that participate in the primary care disproportionate share program:

TAE = HDSP/THDSP

Where:

TAE = total amount earned by a hospital participating in the primary care disproportionate share program.

HDSP = the prior state fiscal year primary care disproportionate share payment to the individual hospital.

THDSP = the prior state fiscal year total primary care disproportionate share payments to all hospitals.

(3) The total additional payment for hospitals that participate in the primary care disproportionate share program shall be calculated by the agency as follows:

TAP = TAE x TA

Where:

TAP = total additional payment for a primary care hospital.

TAE = total amount earned by a primary care hospital.

TA = total appropriation for the primary care disproportionate share program.

(4) In the establishment and funding of this program, the agency shall use the following criteria in addition to those specified in s. 409.911, payments may not be made to a hospital unless the hospital agrees to:

(a) Cooperate with a Medicaid prepaid health plan, if one exists in the community.

(b) Ensure the availability of primary and specialty care physicians to Medicaid recipients who are not enrolled in a prepaid capitated arrangement and who are in need of access to such physicians.

(c) Coordinate and provide primary care services free of charge, except copayments, to all persons with incomes up to 100 percent of the federal poverty level who are not otherwise covered by Medicaid or another program administered by a governmental entity, and to provide such services based on a sliding fee scale to all persons with incomes up to 200 percent of the federal poverty level who are not otherwise covered by Medicaid or another program administered by a governmental entity, except that eligibility may be limited to persons who reside within a more limited area, as agreed to by the agency and the hospital.

(d) Contract with any federally qualified health center, if one exists within the agreed geopolitical boundaries, concerning the provision of primary care services, in order to guarantee delivery of services in a nonduplicative fashion, and to provide for referral arrangements, privileges, and admissions, as appropriate. The hospital shall agree to provide at an onsite or offsite facility primary care services within 24 hours to which all Medicaid recipients and persons eligible under this paragraph who do not require emergency room services are referred during normal daylight hours.

(e) Cooperate with the agency, the county, and other entities to ensure the provision of certain public health services, case management, referral and acceptance of patients, and sharing of epidemiological data, as the agency and the hospital find mutually necessary and desirable to promote and protect the public health within the agreed geopolitical boundaries.

(f) In cooperation with the county in which the hospital resides, develop a low-cost, outpatient, prepaid health care program to persons who are not eligible for the Medicaid program, and who reside within the area.

(g) Provide inpatient services to residents within the area who are not eligible for Medicaid or Medicare, and who do not have private health insurance, regardless of ability to pay, on the basis of available space, except that nothing shall prevent the hospital from establishing bill collection programs based on ability to pay.

(h) Work with the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation, the Florida Health Care Purchasing Cooperative, and business health coalitions, as appropriate, to develop a feasibility study and plan to provide a low-cost comprehensive health insurance plan to persons who reside within the area and who do not have access to such a plan.

(i) Work with public health officials and other experts to provide community health education and prevention activities designed to promote healthy lifestyles and appropriate use of health services.

(j) Work with the local health council to develop a plan for promoting access to affordable health care services for all persons who reside within the area, including, but not limited to, public health services, primary care services, inpatient services, and affordable health insurance generally.

Any hospital that fails to comply with any of the provisions of this subsection, or any other contractual condition, may not receive payments under this section until full compliance is achieved.

Section 10. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) and paragraph (a) of subsection (39) of section 409.912, Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (53) is added to that section, to read:

409.912 Cost-effective purchasing of health care.--The agency shall purchase goods and services for Medicaid recipients in the most cost-effective manner consistent with the delivery of quality medical care. To ensure that medical services are effectively utilized, the agency may, in any case, require a confirmation or second physician's opinion of the correct diagnosis for purposes of authorizing future services under the Medicaid program. This section does not restrict access to emergency services or poststabilization care services as defined in 42 C.F.R. part 438.114. Such confirmation or second opinion shall be rendered in a manner approved by the agency. The agency shall maximize the use of prepaid per capita and prepaid aggregate fixed-sum basis services when appropriate and other alternative service delivery and reimbursement methodologies, including competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, designed

to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of a case-managed continuum of care. The agency shall also require providers to minimize the exposure of recipients to the need for acute inpatient, custodial, and other institutional care and the inappropriate or unnecessary use of high-cost services. The agency shall contract with a vendor to monitor and evaluate the clinical practice patterns of providers in order to identify trends that are outside the normal practice patterns of a provider's professional peers or the national guidelines of a provider's professional association. The vendor must be able to provide information and counseling to a provider whose practice patterns are outside the norms, in consultation with the agency, to improve patient care and reduce inappropriate utilization. The agency may mandate prior authorization, drug therapy management, or disease management participation for certain populations of Medicaid beneficiaries, certain drug classes, or particular drugs to prevent fraud, abuse, overuse, and possible dangerous drug interactions. The Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee shall make recommendations to the agency on drugs for which prior authorization is required. The agency shall inform the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee of its decisions regarding drugs subject to prior authorization. The agency is authorized to limit the entities it contracts with or enrolls as Medicaid providers by developing a provider network through provider credentialing. The agency may competitively bid single-source-provider contracts if procurement of goods or services results in demonstrated cost savings to the state without limiting access to care. The agency may limit its network based

on the assessment of beneficiary access to care, provider availability, provider quality standards, time and distance standards for access to care, the cultural competence of the provider network, demographic characteristics of Medicaid beneficiaries, practice and provider-to-beneficiary standards, appointment wait times, beneficiary use of services, provider turnover, provider profiling, provider licensure history, previous program integrity investigations and findings, peer review, provider Medicaid policy and billing compliance records, clinical and medical record audits, and other factors. Providers shall not be entitled to enrollment in the Medicaid provider network. The agency shall determine instances in which allowing Medicaid beneficiaries to purchase durable medical equipment and other goods is less expensive to the Medicaid program than long-term rental of the equipment or goods. The agency may establish rules to facilitate purchases in lieu of long-term rentals in order to protect against fraud and abuse in the Medicaid program as defined in s. 409.913. The agency may seek federal waivers necessary to administer these policies.

(4) The agency may contract with:

(b) An entity that is providing comprehensive behavioral health care services to certain Medicaid recipients through a capitated, prepaid arrangement pursuant to the federal waiver provided for by s. 409.905(5). Such an entity must be licensed under chapter 624, chapter 636, or chapter 641 and must possess the clinical systems and operational competence to manage risk and provide comprehensive behavioral health care to Medicaid recipients. As used in this paragraph, the term "comprehensive

behavioral health care services" means covered mental health and substance abuse treatment services that are available to Medicaid recipients. The secretary of the Department of Children and Family Services shall approve provisions of procurements related to children in the department's care or custody prior to enrolling such children in a prepaid behavioral health plan. Any contract awarded under this paragraph must be competitively procured. In developing the behavioral health care prepaid plan procurement document, the agency shall ensure that the procurement document requires the contractor to develop and implement a plan to ensure compliance with s. 394.4574 related to services provided to residents of licensed assisted living facilities that hold a limited mental health license. Except as provided in subparagraph 8., and except in counties where the Medicaid managed care pilot program is authorized pursuant to s. 409.91211, the agency shall seek federal approval to contract with a single entity meeting these requirements to provide comprehensive behavioral health care services to all Medicaid recipients not enrolled in a Medicaid managed care plan authorized under s. 409.91211 or a Medicaid health maintenance organization in an AHCA area. In an AHCA area where the Medicaid managed care pilot program is authorized pursuant to s. 409.91211 in one or more counties, the agency may procure a contract with a single entity to serve the remaining counties as an AHCA area or the remaining counties may be included with an adjacent AHCA area and shall be subject to this paragraph. Each entity must offer sufficient choice of providers in its network to ensure recipient access to care and the opportunity to select

a provider with whom they are satisfied. The network shall include all public mental health hospitals. To ensure unimpaired access to behavioral health care services by Medicaid recipients, all contracts issued pursuant to this paragraph shall require 80 percent of the capitation paid to the managed care plan, including health maintenance organizations, to be expended for the provision of behavioral health care services. In the event the managed care plan expends less than 80 percent of the capitation paid pursuant to this paragraph for the provision of behavioral health care services, the difference shall be returned to the agency. The agency shall provide the managed care plan with a certification letter indicating the amount of capitation paid during each calendar year for the provision of behavioral health care services pursuant to this section. The agency may reimburse for substance abuse treatment services on a fee-for-service basis until the agency finds that adequate funds are available for capitated, prepaid arrangements.

1. By January 1, 2001, the agency shall modify the contracts with the entities providing comprehensive inpatient and outpatient mental health care services to Medicaid recipients in Hillsborough, Highlands, Hardee, Manatee, and Polk Counties, to include substance abuse treatment services.

2. By July 1, 2003, the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services shall execute a written agreement that requires collaboration and joint development of all policy, budgets, procurement documents, contracts, and monitoring plans

that have an impact on the state and Medicaid community mental health and targeted case management programs.

3. Except as provided in subparagraph 8., by July 1, 2006, the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services shall contract with managed care entities in each AHCA area except area 6 or arrange to provide comprehensive inpatient and outpatient mental health and substance abuse services through capitated prepaid arrangements to all Medicaid recipients who are eligible to participate in such plans under federal law and regulation. In AHCA areas where eligible individuals number less than 150,000, the agency shall contract with a single managed care plan to provide comprehensive behavioral health services to all recipients who are not enrolled in a Medicaid health maintenance organization or a Medicaid capitated managed care plan authorized under s. 409.91211. The agency may contract with more than one comprehensive behavioral health provider to provide care to recipients who are not enrolled in a Medicaid capitated managed care plan authorized under s. 409.91211 or a Medicaid health maintenance organization in AHCA areas where the eligible population exceeds 150,000. In an AHCA area where the Medicaid managed care pilot program is authorized pursuant to s. 409.91211 in one or more counties, the agency may procure a contract with a single entity to serve the remaining counties as an AHCA area or the remaining counties may be included with an adjacent AHCA area and shall be subject to this paragraph. Contracts for comprehensive behavioral health providers awarded pursuant to this section shall be competitively procured. Both for-profit and not-for-profit corporations shall be eligible to

compete. Managed care plans contracting with the agency under subsection (3) shall provide and receive payment for the same comprehensive behavioral health benefits as provided in AHCA rules, including handbooks incorporated by reference. In AHCA area 11, the agency shall contract with at least two comprehensive behavioral health care providers to provide behavioral health care to recipients in that area who are enrolled in, or assigned to, the MediPass program. One of the behavioral health care contracts shall be with the existing provider service network pilot project, as described in paragraph (d), for the purpose of demonstrating the cost-effectiveness of the provision of quality mental health services through a public hospital-operated managed care model. Payment shall be at an agreed-upon capitated rate to ensure cost savings. Of the recipients in area 11 who are assigned to MediPass under the provisions of s. 409.9122(2)(k), a minimum of 50,000 of those MediPass-enrolled recipients shall be assigned to the existing provider service network in area 11 for their behavioral care.

4. By October 1, 2003, the agency and the department shall submit a plan to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives which provides for the full implementation of capitated prepaid behavioral health care in all areas of the state.

a. Implementation shall begin in 2003 in those AHCA areas of the state where the agency is able to establish sufficient capitation rates.

b. If the agency determines that the proposed capitation rate in any area is insufficient to provide appropriate services, the agency may adjust the capitation rate to ensure that care will be available. The agency and the department may use existing general revenue to address any additional required match but may not over-obligate existing funds on an annualized basis.

c. Subject to any limitations provided for in the General Appropriations Act, the agency, in compliance with appropriate federal authorization, shall develop policies and procedures that allow for certification of local and state funds.

5. Children residing in a statewide inpatient psychiatric program, or in a Department of Juvenile Justice or a Department of Children and Family Services residential program approved as a Medicaid behavioral health overlay services provider shall not be included in a behavioral health care prepaid health plan or any other Medicaid managed care plan pursuant to this paragraph.

6. In converting to a prepaid system of delivery, the agency shall in its procurement document require an entity providing only comprehensive behavioral health care services to prevent the displacement of indigent care patients by enrollees in the Medicaid prepaid health plan providing behavioral health care services from facilities receiving state funding to provide indigent behavioral health care, to facilities licensed under chapter 395 which do not receive state funding for indigent behavioral health care, or reimburse the unsubsidized facility for the cost of behavioral health care provided to the displaced indigent care patient.

7. Traditional community mental health providers under contract with the Department of Children and Family Services pursuant to part IV of chapter 394, child welfare providers under contract with the Department of Children and Family Services in areas 1 and 6, and inpatient mental health providers licensed pursuant to chapter 395 must be offered an opportunity to accept or decline a contract to participate in any provider network for prepaid behavioral health services.

8. All Medicaid-eligible children, except children in area 1 and children in Highlands, Hardee, Polk, or Manatee Counties of area 6 ~~For fiscal year 2004-2005, all Medicaid eligible children, except children in areas 1 and 6, whose cases are open for child welfare services in the HomeSafeNet system, shall be enrolled in MediPass or in Medicaid fee for service and all their behavioral health care services including inpatient, outpatient psychiatric, community mental health, and case management shall be reimbursed on a fee for service basis. Beginning July 1, 2005, such children~~, who are open for child welfare services in the HomeSafeNet system, shall receive their behavioral health care services through a specialty prepaid plan operated by community-based lead agencies either through a single agency or formal agreements among several agencies. The specialty prepaid plan must result in savings to the state comparable to savings achieved in other Medicaid managed care and prepaid programs. Such plan must provide mechanisms to maximize state and local revenues. The specialty prepaid plan shall be developed by the agency and the Department of Children and Family Services. The agency is authorized to seek any

federal waivers to implement this initiative. Medicaid-eligible children whose cases are open for child welfare services in the HomeSafeNet system and who reside in AHCA area 10 are exempt from the specialty prepaid plan upon the development of a service delivery mechanism for children who reside in area 10 as specified in s. 409.91211(3)(dd).

(39)(a) The agency shall implement a Medicaid prescribed-drug spending-control program that includes the following components:

1. A Medicaid preferred drug list, which shall be a listing of cost-effective therapeutic options recommended by the Medicaid Pharmacy and Therapeutics Committee established pursuant to s. 409.91195 and adopted by the agency for each therapeutic class on the preferred drug list. At the discretion of the committee, and when feasible, the preferred drug list should include at least two products in a therapeutic class. The agency may post the preferred drug list and updates to the preferred drug list on an Internet website without following the rulemaking procedures of chapter 120. Antiretroviral agents are excluded from the preferred drug list. The agency shall also limit the amount of a prescribed drug dispensed to no more than a 34-day supply unless the drug products' smallest marketed package is greater than a 34-day supply, or the drug is determined by the agency to be a maintenance drug in which case a 100-day maximum supply may be authorized. The agency is authorized to seek any federal waivers necessary to implement these cost-control programs and to continue participation in the federal Medicaid rebate program, or alternatively to negotiate

state-only manufacturer rebates. The agency may adopt rules to implement this subparagraph. The agency shall continue to provide unlimited contraceptive drugs and items. The agency must establish procedures to ensure that:

a. There will be a response to a request for prior consultation by telephone or other telecommunication device within 24 hours after receipt of a request for prior consultation; and

b. A 72-hour supply of the drug prescribed will be provided in an emergency or when the agency does not provide a response within 24 hours as required by sub-subparagraph a.

2. Reimbursement to pharmacies for Medicaid prescribed drugs shall be set at the lesser of: the average wholesale price (AWP) minus 16.4 ~~15.4~~ percent, the wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 4.75 ~~5.75~~ percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider.

3. The agency shall develop and implement a process for managing the drug therapies of Medicaid recipients who are using significant numbers of prescribed drugs each month. The management process may include, but is not limited to, comprehensive, physician-directed medical-record reviews, claims analyses, and case evaluations to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of a patient's treatment plan and drug therapies. The agency may contract with a private organization to provide drug-program-management services. The Medicaid drug benefit management program shall include initiatives to manage drug therapies for HIV/AIDS patients,

patients using 20 or more unique prescriptions in a 180-day period, and the top 1,000 patients in annual spending. The agency shall enroll any Medicaid recipient in the drug benefit management program if he or she meets the specifications of this provision and is not enrolled in a Medicaid health maintenance organization.

4. The agency may limit the size of its pharmacy network based on need, competitive bidding, price negotiations, credentialing, or similar criteria. The agency shall give special consideration to rural areas in determining the size and location of pharmacies included in the Medicaid pharmacy network. A pharmacy credentialing process may include criteria such as a pharmacy's full-service status, location, size, patient educational programs, patient consultation, disease management services, and other characteristics. The agency may impose a moratorium on Medicaid pharmacy enrollment when it is determined that it has a sufficient number of Medicaid-participating providers. The agency must allow dispensing practitioners to participate as a part of the Medicaid pharmacy network regardless of the practitioner's proximity to any other entity that is dispensing prescription drugs under the Medicaid program. A dispensing practitioner must meet all credentialing requirements applicable to his or her practice, as determined by the agency.

5. The agency shall develop and implement a program that requires Medicaid practitioners who prescribe drugs to use a counterfeit-proof prescription pad for Medicaid prescriptions. The agency shall require the use of standardized counterfeit-

proof prescription pads by Medicaid-participating prescribers or prescribers who write prescriptions for Medicaid recipients. The agency may implement the program in targeted geographic areas or statewide.

6. The agency may enter into arrangements that require manufacturers of generic drugs prescribed to Medicaid recipients to provide rebates of at least 15.1 percent of the average manufacturer price for the manufacturer's generic products. These arrangements shall require that if a generic-drug manufacturer pays federal rebates for Medicaid-reimbursed drugs at a level below 15.1 percent, the manufacturer must provide a supplemental rebate to the state in an amount necessary to achieve a 15.1-percent rebate level.

7. The agency may establish a preferred drug list as described in this subsection, and, pursuant to the establishment of such preferred drug list, it is authorized to negotiate supplemental rebates from manufacturers that are in addition to those required by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and at no less than 14 percent of the average manufacturer price as defined in 42 U.S.C. s. 1936 on the last day of a quarter unless the federal or supplemental rebate, or both, equals or exceeds 29 percent. There is no upper limit on the supplemental rebates the agency may negotiate. The agency may determine that specific products, brand-name or generic, are competitive at lower rebate percentages. Agreement to pay the minimum supplemental rebate percentage will guarantee a manufacturer that the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee will consider a product for inclusion on the preferred drug list. However, a

pharmaceutical manufacturer is not guaranteed placement on the preferred drug list by simply paying the minimum supplemental rebate. Agency decisions will be made on the clinical efficacy of a drug and recommendations of the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, as well as the price of competing products minus federal and state rebates. The agency is authorized to contract with an outside agency or contractor to conduct negotiations for supplemental rebates. For the purposes of this section, the term "supplemental rebates" means cash rebates. Effective July 1, 2004, value-added programs as a substitution for supplemental rebates are prohibited. The agency is authorized to seek any federal waivers to implement this initiative.

8. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall expand home delivery of pharmacy products. To assist Medicaid patients in securing their prescriptions and reduce program costs, the agency shall expand its current mail-order-pharmacy diabetes-supply program to include all generic and brand-name drugs used by Medicaid patients with diabetes. Medicaid recipients in the current program may obtain nondiabetes drugs on a voluntary basis. This initiative is limited to the geographic area covered by the current contract. The agency may seek and implement any federal waivers necessary to implement this subparagraph.

9. The agency shall limit to one dose per month any drug prescribed to treat erectile dysfunction.

10.a. The agency may implement a Medicaid behavioral drug management system. The agency may contract with a vendor that has experience in operating behavioral drug management systems

to implement this program. The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers to implement this program.

b. The agency, in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services, may implement the Medicaid behavioral drug management system that is designed to improve the quality of care and behavioral health prescribing practices based on best practice guidelines, improve patient adherence to medication plans, reduce clinical risk, and lower prescribed drug costs and the rate of inappropriate spending on Medicaid behavioral drugs. The program may include the following elements:

(I) Provide for the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for behavioral health-related drugs such as antipsychotics, antidepressants, and medications for treating bipolar disorders and other behavioral conditions; translate them into practice; review behavioral health prescribers and compare their prescribing patterns to a number of indicators that are based on national standards; and determine deviations from best practice guidelines.

(II) Implement processes for providing feedback to and educating prescribers using best practice educational materials and peer-to-peer consultation.

(III) Assess Medicaid beneficiaries who are outliers in their use of behavioral health drugs with regard to the numbers and types of drugs taken, drug dosages, combination drug therapies, and other indicators of improper use of behavioral health drugs.

(IV) Alert prescribers to patients who fail to refill prescriptions in a timely fashion, are prescribed multiple same-class behavioral health drugs, and may have other potential medication problems.

(V) Track spending trends for behavioral health drugs and deviation from best practice guidelines.

(VI) Use educational and technological approaches to promote best practices, educate consumers, and train prescribers in the use of practice guidelines.

(VII) Disseminate electronic and published materials.

(VIII) Hold statewide and regional conferences.

(IX) Implement a disease management program with a model quality-based medication component for severely mentally ill individuals and emotionally disturbed children who are high users of care.

11.a. The agency shall implement a Medicaid prescription drug management system. The agency may contract with a vendor that has experience in operating prescription drug management systems in order to implement this system. Any management system that is implemented in accordance with this subparagraph must rely on cooperation between physicians and pharmacists to determine appropriate practice patterns and clinical guidelines to improve the prescribing, dispensing, and use of drugs in the Medicaid program. The agency may seek federal waivers to implement this program.

b. The drug management system must be designed to improve the quality of care and prescribing practices based on best practice guidelines, improve patient adherence to medication

plans, reduce clinical risk, and lower prescribed drug costs and the rate of inappropriate spending on Medicaid prescription drugs. The program must:

(I) Provide for the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for the prescribing and use of drugs in the Medicaid program, including translating best practice guidelines into practice; reviewing prescriber patterns and comparing them to indicators that are based on national standards and practice patterns of clinical peers in their community, statewide, and nationally; and determine deviations from best practice guidelines.

(II) Implement processes for providing feedback to and educating prescribers using best practice educational materials and peer-to-peer consultation.

(III) Assess Medicaid recipients who are outliers in their use of a single or multiple prescription drugs with regard to the numbers and types of drugs taken, drug dosages, combination drug therapies, and other indicators of improper use of prescription drugs.

(IV) Alert prescribers to patients who fail to refill prescriptions in a timely fashion, are prescribed multiple drugs that may be redundant or contraindicated, or may have other potential medication problems.

(V) Track spending trends for prescription drugs and deviation from best practice guidelines.

(VI) Use educational and technological approaches to promote best practices, educate consumers, and train prescribers in the use of practice guidelines.

(VII) Disseminate electronic and published materials.

(VIII) Hold statewide and regional conferences.

(IX) Implement disease management programs in cooperation with physicians and pharmacists, along with a model quality-based medication component for individuals having chronic medical conditions.

12. The agency is authorized to contract for drug rebate administration, including, but not limited to, calculating rebate amounts, invoicing manufacturers, negotiating disputes with manufacturers, and maintaining a database of rebate collections.

13. The agency may specify the preferred daily dosing form or strength for the purpose of promoting best practices with regard to the prescribing of certain drugs as specified in the General Appropriations Act and ensuring cost-effective prescribing practices.

14. The agency may require prior authorization for Medicaid-covered prescribed drugs. The agency may, but is not required to, prior-authorize the use of a product:

a. For an indication not approved in labeling;

b. To comply with certain clinical guidelines; or

c. If the product has the potential for overuse, misuse, or abuse.

The agency may require the prescribing professional to provide information about the rationale and supporting medical evidence for the use of a drug. The agency may post prior authorization criteria and protocol and updates to the list of drugs that are

subject to prior authorization on an Internet website without amending its rule or engaging in additional rulemaking.

15. The agency, in conjunction with the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, may require age-related prior authorizations for certain prescribed drugs. The agency may preauthorize the use of a drug for a recipient who may not meet the age requirement or may exceed the length of therapy for use of this product as recommended by the manufacturer and approved by the Food and Drug Administration. Prior authorization may require the prescribing professional to provide information about the rationale and supporting medical evidence for the use of a drug.

16. The agency shall implement a step-therapy prior authorization approval process for medications excluded from the preferred drug list. Medications listed on the preferred drug list must be used within the previous 12 months prior to the alternative medications that are not listed. The step-therapy prior authorization may require the prescriber to use the medications of a similar drug class or for a similar medical indication unless contraindicated in the Food and Drug Administration labeling. The trial period between the specified steps may vary according to the medical indication. The step-therapy approval process shall be developed in accordance with the committee as stated in s. 409.91195(7) and (8). A drug product may be approved without meeting the step-therapy prior authorization criteria if the prescribing physician provides the agency with additional written medical or clinical documentation that the product is medically necessary because:

a. There is not a drug on the preferred drug list to treat the disease or medical condition which is an acceptable clinical alternative;

b. The alternatives have been ineffective in the treatment of the beneficiary's disease; or

c. Based on historic evidence and known characteristics of the patient and the drug, the drug is likely to be ineffective, or the number of doses have been ineffective.

The agency shall work with the physician to determine the best alternative for the patient. The agency may adopt rules waiving the requirements for written clinical documentation for specific drugs in limited clinical situations.

17. The agency shall implement a return and reuse program for drugs dispensed by pharmacies to institutional recipients, which includes payment of a $5 restocking fee for the implementation and operation of the program. The return and reuse program shall be implemented electronically and in a manner that promotes efficiency. The program must permit a pharmacy to exclude drugs from the program if it is not practical or cost-effective for the drug to be included and must provide for the return to inventory of drugs that cannot be credited or returned in a cost-effective manner. The agency shall determine if the program has reduced the amount of Medicaid prescription drugs which are destroyed on an annual basis and if there are additional ways to ensure more prescription drugs are not destroyed which could safely be

reused. The agency's conclusion and recommendations shall be reported to the Legislature by December 1, 2005.

(53) Before seeking an amendment to the state plan for purposes of implementing programs authorized by the Deficit Reduction Act of 2005, the agency shall notify the Legislature.

Section 11. Section 409.91206, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

409.91206 Alternatives for health and long-term care reforms.--The Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may convene workgroups to propose alternatives for cost-effective health and long-term care reforms, including, but not limited to, reforms for Medicaid.

Section 12. Section 409.91211, Florida Statutes, as amended by chapter 2007-331, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

409.91211 Medicaid managed care pilot program.--

(1)(a) The agency is authorized to seek and implement experimental, pilot, or demonstration project waivers, pursuant to s. 1115 of the Social Security Act, to create a statewide initiative to provide for a more efficient and effective service delivery system that enhances quality of care and client outcomes in the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to this section. ~~Phase one of the demonstration shall be implemented in two geographic areas.~~ One demonstration site shall include only Broward County. A second demonstration site shall initially include Duval County and shall be expanded to include Baker, Clay, and Nassau Counties within 1 year after the Duval County

program becomes operational. A third demonstration site shall include Hardee, Highlands, Hillsborough, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Pasco, Pinellas, and Polk Counties. The agency shall begin enrolling recipients in the third demonstration site by September 1, 2010. The agency shall implement expansion of the program to include the remaining counties of the state and remaining eligibility groups in accordance with the process specified in the federally approved special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4, as approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on October 19, 2005, with a goal of full statewide implementation by June 30, 2011.

(b) This waiver authority is contingent upon federal approval to preserve the upper-payment-limit funding mechanism for hospitals, including a guarantee of a reasonable growth factor, a methodology to allow the use of a portion of these funds to serve as a risk pool for demonstration sites, provisions to preserve the state's ability to use intergovernmental transfers, and provisions to protect the disproportionate share program authorized pursuant to this chapter. Upon completion of the evaluation conducted under s. 3, ch. 2005-133, Laws of Florida, the agency may request statewide expansion of the demonstration projects. Statewide phase-in to additional counties shall be contingent upon review and approval by the Legislature. Under the upper-payment-limit program, or the low-income pool as implemented by the Agency for Health Care Administration pursuant to federal waiver, the state matching funds required for the program shall be provided by local governmental entities through intergovernmental transfers in

accordance with published federal statutes and regulations. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall distribute upper-payment-limit, disproportionate share hospital, and low-income pool funds according to published federal statutes, regulations, and waivers and the low-income pool methodology approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the low-income pool plan required by the terms and conditions of the Medicaid reform waiver and submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services propose the distribution of the above-mentioned program funds based on the following objectives:

1. Assure a broad and fair distribution of available funds based on the access provided by Medicaid participating hospitals, regardless of their ownership status, through their delivery of inpatient or outpatient care for Medicaid beneficiaries and uninsured and underinsured individuals;

2. Assure accessible emergency inpatient and outpatient care for Medicaid beneficiaries and uninsured and underinsured individuals;

3. Enhance primary, preventive, and other ambulatory care coverages for uninsured individuals;

4. Promote teaching and specialty hospital programs;

5. Promote the stability and viability of statutorily defined rural hospitals and hospitals that serve as sole community hospitals;

6. Recognize the extent of hospital uncompensated care costs;

7. Maintain and enhance essential community hospital care;

8. Maintain incentives for local governmental entities to contribute to the cost of uncompensated care;

9. Promote measures to avoid preventable hospitalizations;

10. Account for hospital efficiency; and

11. Contribute to a community's overall health system.

(2) The Legislature intends for the capitated managed care pilot program to:

(a) Provide recipients in Medicaid fee-for-service or the MediPass program a comprehensive and coordinated capitated managed care system for all health care services specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906.

(b) Stabilize Medicaid expenditures under the pilot program compared to Medicaid expenditures in the pilot area for the 3 years before implementation of the pilot program, while ensuring:

1. Consumer education and choice.

2. Access to medically necessary services.

3. Coordination of preventative, acute, and long-term care.

4. Reductions in unnecessary service utilization.

(c) Provide an opportunity to evaluate the feasibility of statewide implementation of capitated managed care networks as a replacement for the current Medicaid fee-for-service and MediPass systems.

(3) The agency shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities with respect to the pilot program:

(a) To implement a system to deliver all mandatory services specified in s. 409.905 and optional services specified

in s. 409.906, as approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Legislature in the waiver pursuant to this section. Services to recipients under plan benefits shall include emergency services provided under s. 409.9128.

(b) To implement a pilot program, including Medicaid eligibility categories specified in ss. 409.903 and 409.904, as authorized in an approved federal waiver.

(c) To implement the managed care pilot program that maximizes all available state and federal funds, including those obtained through intergovernmental transfers, the low-income pool, supplemental Medicaid payments, and the disproportionate share program. Within the parameters allowed by federal statute and rule, the agency may seek options for making direct payments to hospitals and physicians employed by or under contract with the state's medical schools for the costs associated with graduate medical education under Medicaid reform.

(d) To implement actuarially sound, risk-adjusted capitation rates for Medicaid recipients in the pilot program which cover comprehensive care, enhanced services, and catastrophic care.

(e) To implement policies and guidelines for phasing in financial risk for approved provider service networks over a 3-year period. These policies and guidelines must include an option for a provider service network to be paid fee-for-service rates. For any provider service network established in a managed care pilot area, the option to be paid fee-for-service rates shall include a savings-settlement mechanism that is consistent with s. 409.912(44). Provider service networks opting to be paid

fee-for-service rates shall have the option to be reimbursed for prescribed drugs and transportation services on a risk-adjusted captitated basis. This model shall be converted to a risk-adjusted capitated rate no later than the beginning of the fourth year of operation, and may be converted earlier at the option of the provider service network. Federally qualified health centers may be offered an opportunity to accept or decline a contract to participate in any provider network for prepaid primary care services. The agency shall encourage the development of innovative methods by provider service networks to perform administrative functions in a cost-effective manner, including coordination and consolidation of such functions between provider service networks and across demonstration sites.

(f) To implement stop-loss requirements and the transfer of excess cost to catastrophic coverage that accommodates the risks associated with the development of the pilot program.

(g) To recommend a process to be used by the Social Services Estimating Conference to determine and validate the rate of growth of the per-member costs of providing Medicaid services under the managed care pilot program.

(h) To implement program standards and credentialing requirements for capitated managed care networks to participate in the pilot program, including those related to fiscal solvency, quality of care, and adequacy of access to health care providers. The agency shall monitor quarterly and evaluate annually each plan based on the program standards and credentialing requirements for adequacy of access to health care

providers to ensure consistent compliance. It is the intent of the Legislature that, to the extent possible, any pilot program authorized by the state under this section include any federally qualified health center, federally qualified rural health clinic, county health department, the Children's Medical Services Network within the Department of Health, or other federally, state, or locally funded entity that serves the geographic areas within the boundaries of the pilot program that requests to participate. This paragraph does not relieve an entity that qualifies as a capitated managed care network under this section from any other licensure or regulatory requirements contained in state or federal law which would otherwise apply to the entity. The standards and credentialing requirements shall be based upon, but are not limited to:

1. Compliance with the accreditation requirements as provided in s. 641.512.

2. Compliance with early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment screening requirements under federal law.

3. The percentage of voluntary disenrollments.

4. Immunization rates.

5. Standards of the National Committee for Quality Assurance and other approved accrediting bodies.

6. Recommendations of other authoritative bodies.

7. Specific requirements of the Medicaid program, or standards designed to specifically meet the unique needs of Medicaid recipients.

8. Compliance with the health quality improvement system as established by the agency, which incorporates standards and guidelines developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as part of the quality assurance reform initiative.

9. The network's infrastructure capacity to manage financial transactions, recordkeeping, data collection, and other administrative functions.

10. The network's ability to submit any financial, programmatic, or patient-encounter data or other information required by the agency to determine the actual services provided and the cost of administering the plan.

(i) To implement a mechanism for providing information to Medicaid recipients for the purpose of selecting a capitated managed care plan. For each plan available to a recipient, the agency, at a minimum, shall ensure that the recipient is provided with:

1. A list and description of the benefits provided.

2. Information about cost sharing.

3. Plan performance data, if available.

4. An explanation of benefit limitations.

5. Contact information, including identification of providers participating in the network, geographic locations, and transportation limitations.

6. Specific information about covered prescription drugs for each plan.

7.~~6.~~ Any other information the agency determines would facilitate a recipient's understanding of the plan or insurance that would best meet his or her needs.

(j) To implement a system to ensure that there is a record of recipient acknowledgment that choice counseling has been provided.

(k) To implement a choice counseling system to ensure that the choice counseling process and related material are designed to provide counseling through face-to-face interaction, by telephone, and in writing and through other forms of relevant media. Materials shall be written at the fourth-grade reading level and available in a language other than English when 5 percent of the county speaks a language other than English. Choice counseling shall also use language lines and other services for impaired recipients, such as TTD/TTY.

(l) To implement a system that prohibits capitated managed care plans, their representatives, and providers employed by or contracted with the capitated managed care plans from recruiting persons eligible for or enrolled in Medicaid, from providing inducements to Medicaid recipients to select a particular capitated managed care plan, and from prejudicing Medicaid recipients against other capitated managed care plans. The system shall require the entity performing choice counseling to determine if the recipient has made a choice of a plan or has opted out because of duress, threats, payment to the recipient, or incentives promised to the recipient by a third party. If the choice counseling entity determines that the decision to choose a plan was unlawfully influenced or a plan violated any of the provisions of s. 409.912(21), the choice counseling entity shall immediately report the violation to the agency's program integrity section for investigation. Verification of choice

counseling by the recipient shall include a stipulation that the recipient acknowledges the provisions of this subsection.

(m) To implement a choice counseling system that promotes health literacy and provides information aimed to reduce minority health disparities through outreach activities for Medicaid recipients.

(n) To contract with entities to perform choice counseling. The agency may establish standards and performance contracts, including standards requiring the contractor to hire choice counselors who are representative of the state's diverse population and to train choice counselors in working with culturally diverse populations.

(o) To implement eligibility assignment processes to facilitate client choice while ensuring pilot programs of adequate enrollment levels. These processes shall ensure that pilot sites have sufficient levels of enrollment to conduct a valid test of the managed care pilot program within a 2-year timeframe.

(p) To implement standards for plan compliance, including, but not limited to, standards for quality assurance and performance improvement, standards for peer or professional reviews, grievance policies, and policies for maintaining program integrity. The agency shall set reasonable standards for prompt payment of provider claims. The agency shall develop a data-reporting system, seek input from managed care plans in order to establish requirements for patient-encounter reporting, and ensure that the data reported is accurate and complete.

1. In performing the duties required under this section, the agency shall work with managed care plans to establish a uniform system to measure and monitor outcomes for a recipient of Medicaid services.

2. The system shall use financial, clinical, and other criteria based on pharmacy, medical services, and other data that is related to the provision of Medicaid services, including, but not limited to:

a. The Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) or measures that are similar to HEDIS.

b. Member satisfaction.

c. Provider satisfaction.

d. Report cards on plan performance and best practices.

e. Compliance with the requirements for prompt payment of claims under ss. 627.613, 641.3155, and 641.513.

f. Utilization and quality data for the purpose of ensuring access to medically necessary services, including underutilization or inappropriate denial of services.

3. The agency shall require the managed care plans that have contracted with the agency to establish a quality assurance system that incorporates the provisions of s. 409.912(27) and any standards, rules, and guidelines developed by the agency.

4. The agency shall establish an encounter database in order to compile data on health services rendered by health care practitioners who provide services to patients enrolled in managed care plans in the demonstration sites. The encounter database shall:

a. Collect the following for each type of patient encounter with a health care practitioner or facility, including:

(I) The demographic characteristics of the patient.

(II) The principal, secondary, and tertiary diagnosis.

(III) The procedure performed.

(IV) The date and location where the procedure was performed.

(V) The payment for the procedure, if any.

(VI) If applicable, the health care practitioner's universal identification number.

(VII) If the health care practitioner rendering the service is a dependent practitioner, the modifiers appropriate to indicate that the service was delivered by the dependent practitioner.

b. Collect appropriate information relating to prescription drugs for each type of patient encounter.

c. Collect appropriate information related to health care costs and utilization from managed care plans participating in the demonstration sites.

5. To the extent practicable, when collecting the data the agency shall use a standardized claim form or electronic transfer system that is used by health care practitioners, facilities, and payors.

6. Health care practitioners and facilities in the demonstration sites shall electronically submit, and managed care plans participating in the demonstration sites shall electronically receive, information concerning claims payments

and any other information reasonably related to the encounter database using a standard format as required by the agency.

7. The agency shall establish reasonable deadlines for phasing in the electronic transmittal of full encounter data.

8. The system must ensure that the data reported is accurate and complete.

(q) To implement a grievance resolution process for Medicaid recipients enrolled in a capitated managed care network under the pilot program modeled after the subscriber assistance panel, as created in s. 408.7056. This process shall include a mechanism for an expedited review of no greater than 24 hours after notification of a grievance if the life of a Medicaid recipient is in imminent and emergent jeopardy.

(r) To implement a grievance resolution process for health care providers employed by or contracted with a capitated managed care network under the pilot program in order to settle disputes among the provider and the managed care network or the provider and the agency.

(s) To implement criteria in an approved federal waiver to designate health care providers as eligible to participate in the pilot program. These criteria must include at a minimum those criteria specified in s. 409.907.

(t) To use health care provider agreements for participation in the pilot program.

(u) To require that all health care providers under contract with the pilot program be duly licensed in the state, if such licensure is available, and meet other criteria as may

be established by the agency. These criteria shall include at a minimum those criteria specified in s. 409.907.

(v) To ensure that managed care organizations work collaboratively with other state or local governmental programs or institutions for the coordination of health care to eligible individuals receiving services from such programs or institutions.

(w) To implement procedures to minimize the risk of Medicaid fraud and abuse in all plans operating in the Medicaid managed care pilot program authorized in this section.

1. The agency shall ensure that applicable provisions of this chapter and chapters 414, 626, 641, and 932 which relate to Medicaid fraud and abuse are applied and enforced at the demonstration project sites.

2. Providers must have the certification, license, and credentials that are required by law and waiver requirements.

3. The agency shall ensure that the plan is in compliance with s. 409.912(21) and (22).

4. The agency shall require that each plan establish functions and activities governing program integrity in order to reduce the incidence of fraud and abuse. Plans must report instances of fraud and abuse pursuant to chapter 641.

5. The plan shall have written administrative and management arrangements or procedures, including a mandatory compliance plan, which are designed to guard against fraud and abuse. The plan shall designate a compliance officer who has sufficient experience in health care.

6.a. The agency shall require all managed care plan contractors in the pilot program to report all instances of suspected fraud and abuse. A failure to report instances of suspected fraud and abuse is a violation of law and subject to the penalties provided by law.

b. An instance of fraud and abuse in the managed care plan, including, but not limited to, defrauding the state health care benefit program by misrepresentation of fact in reports, claims, certifications, enrollment claims, demographic statistics, or patient-encounter data; misrepresentation of the qualifications of persons rendering health care and ancillary services; bribery and false statements relating to the delivery of health care; unfair and deceptive marketing practices; and false claims actions in the provision of managed care, is a violation of law and subject to the penalties provided by law.

c. The agency shall require that all contractors make all files and relevant billing and claims data accessible to state regulators and investigators and that all such data is linked into a unified system to ensure consistent reviews and investigations.

(x) To develop and provide actuarial and benefit design analyses that indicate the effect on capitation rates and benefits offered in the pilot program over a prospective 5-year period based on the following assumptions:

1. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the estimated growth rate in general revenue.

2. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the average growth rate over the last 3 years in per-recipient Medicaid expenditures.

3. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the growth rate of aggregate Medicaid expenditures between the 2003-2004 fiscal year and the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

(y) To develop a mechanism to require capitated managed care plans to reimburse qualified emergency service providers, including, but not limited to, ambulance services, in accordance with ss. 409.908 and 409.9128. The pilot program must include a provision for continuing fee-for-service payments for emergency services, including, but not limited to, individuals who access ambulance services or emergency departments and who are subsequently determined to be eligible for Medicaid services.

(z) To ensure that school districts participating in the certified school match program pursuant to ss. 409.908(21) and 1011.70 shall be reimbursed by Medicaid, subject to the limitations of s. 1011.70(1), for a Medicaid-eligible child participating in the services as authorized in s. 1011.70, as provided for in s. 409.9071, regardless of whether the child is enrolled in a capitated managed care network. Capitated managed care networks must make a good faith effort to execute agreements with school districts regarding the coordinated provision of services authorized under s. 1011.70. County health departments and federally qualified health centers delivering school-based services pursuant to ss. 381.0056 and 381.0057 must be reimbursed by Medicaid for the federal share for a Medicaid-eligible child who receives Medicaid-covered services in a

school setting, regardless of whether the child is enrolled in a capitated managed care network. Capitated managed care networks must make a good faith effort to execute agreements with county health departments and federally qualified health centers regarding the coordinated provision of services to a Medicaid-eligible child. To ensure continuity of care for Medicaid patients, the agency, the Department of Health, and the Department of Education shall develop procedures for ensuring that a student's capitated managed care network provider receives information relating to services provided in accordance with ss. 381.0056, 381.0057, 409.9071, and 1011.70.

(aa) To implement a mechanism whereby Medicaid recipients who are already enrolled in a managed care plan or the MediPass program in the pilot areas shall be offered the opportunity to change to capitated managed care plans on a staggered basis, as defined by the agency. All Medicaid recipients shall have 30 days in which to make a choice of capitated managed care plans. Those Medicaid recipients who do not make a choice shall be assigned to a capitated managed care plan in accordance with paragraph (4)(a) and shall be exempt from s. 409.9122. To facilitate continuity of care for a Medicaid recipient who is also a recipient of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), prior to assigning the SSI recipient to a capitated managed care plan, the agency shall determine whether the SSI recipient has an ongoing relationship with a provider or capitated managed care plan, and, if so, the agency shall assign the SSI recipient to that provider or capitated managed care plan where feasible. Those SSI recipients who do not have such a provider

relationship shall be assigned to a capitated managed care plan provider in accordance with paragraph (4)(a) and shall be exempt from s. 409.9122.

(bb) To develop and recommend a service delivery alternative for children having chronic medical conditions which establishes a medical home project to provide primary care services to this population. The project shall provide community-based primary care services that are integrated with other subspecialties to meet the medical, developmental, and emotional needs for children and their families. This project shall include an evaluation component to determine impacts on hospitalizations, length of stays, emergency room visits, costs, and access to care, including specialty care and patient and family satisfaction.

(cc) To develop and recommend service delivery mechanisms within capitated managed care plans to provide Medicaid services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906 to persons with developmental disabilities sufficient to meet the medical, developmental, and emotional needs of these persons.

(dd) To implement service delivery mechanisms within capitated managed care plans to provide Medicaid services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906 to Medicaid-eligible children whose cases are open for child welfare services in the HomeSafeNet system. These services must be coordinated with community-based care providers as specified in s. 409.1671, where available, and be sufficient to meet the medical, developmental, behavioral, and emotional needs of these children. These service delivery mechanisms must be implemented

no later than July 1, 2008, in AHCA area 10 in order for the children in AHCA area 10 to remain exempt from the statewide plan under s. 409.912(4)(b)8.

(4)(a) A Medicaid recipient in the pilot area who is not currently enrolled in a capitated managed care plan upon implementation is not eligible for services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906~~,~~ for the amount of time that the recipient does not enroll in a capitated managed care network. If a Medicaid recipient has not enrolled in a capitated managed care plan within 30 days after eligibility, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a provider service network. The agency shall assign such recipients to provider service networks for the first 5 years of implementation of each demonstration site or until the number of recipients enrolled in provider service networks in that demonstration site reaches 10 percent of the total number of participating Medicaid recipients in that demonstration site, whichever is first. After that time, if a Medicaid recipient has not enrolled in a capitated managed care plan within 30 days after eligibility, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a capitated managed care plan based on the assessed needs of the recipient as determined by the agency, and the recipient shall be exempt from s. 409.9122. When making such assignments, the agency shall take into account the following criteria:

1. A capitated managed care network has sufficient network capacity to meet the needs of members.

2. The capitated managed care network has previously enrolled the recipient as a member, or one of the capitated

managed care network's primary care providers has previously provided health care to the recipient.

3. The agency has knowledge that the member has previously expressed a preference for a particular capitated managed care network as indicated by Medicaid fee-for-service claims data, but has failed to make a choice.

4. The capitated managed care network's primary care providers are geographically accessible to the recipient's residence.

(b) When more than one capitated managed care network provider meets the criteria specified in paragraph (3)(h), the agency shall make recipient assignments consecutively by family unit.

(c) If a recipient is currently enrolled with a Medicaid managed care organization that also operates an approved reform plan within a demonstration area and the recipient fails to choose a plan during the reform enrollment process or during redetermination of eligibility, the recipient shall be automatically assigned by the agency to a provider service network. The agency shall assign such recipients to provider service networks for the first 5 years of implementation of each demonstration site or until the number of recipients enrolled in provider service networks in that demonstration site reaches 10 percent of the total number of participating Medicaid recipients in that demonstration site, whichever is first. After that time ~~into the most appropriate reform plan operated by the recipient's current Medicaid managed care plan. If the recipient's current managed care plan does not operate a reform~~

~~plan in the demonstration area which adequately meets the needs of the Medicaid recipient~~, the agency shall use the automatic assignment process as prescribed in the special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4. All enrollment and choice counseling materials provided by the agency must contain an explanation of the provisions of this paragraph for current managed care recipients.

(d) The agency may not engage in practices that are designed to favor one capitated managed care plan over another or that are designed to influence Medicaid recipients to enroll in a particular capitated managed care network in order to strengthen its particular fiscal viability.

(e) After a recipient has made a selection or has been enrolled in a capitated managed care network, the recipient shall have 90 days in which to voluntarily disenroll and select another capitated managed care network. After 90 days, no further changes may be made except for cause. Cause shall include, but not be limited to, poor quality of care, lack of access to necessary specialty services, an unreasonable delay or denial of service, inordinate or inappropriate changes of primary care providers, service access impairments due to significant changes in the geographic location of services, or fraudulent enrollment. The agency may require a recipient to use the capitated managed care network's grievance process as specified in paragraph (3)(q) prior to the agency's determination of cause, except in cases in which immediate risk of permanent damage to the recipient's health is alleged. The grievance process, when used, must be completed in time to

permit the recipient to disenroll no later than the first day of the second month after the month the disenrollment request was made. If the capitated managed care network, as a result of the grievance process, approves an enrollee's request to disenroll, the agency is not required to make a determination in the case. The agency must make a determination and take final action on a recipient's request so that disenrollment occurs no later than the first day of the second month after the month the request was made. If the agency fails to act within the specified timeframe, the recipient's request to disenroll is deemed to be approved as of the date agency action was required. Recipients who disagree with the agency's finding that cause does not exist for disenrollment shall be advised of their right to pursue a Medicaid fair hearing to dispute the agency's finding.

(f) The agency shall apply for federal waivers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to lock eligible Medicaid recipients into a capitated managed care network for 12 months after an open enrollment period. After 12 months of enrollment, a recipient may select another capitated managed care network. However, nothing shall prevent a Medicaid recipient from changing primary care providers within the capitated managed care network during the 12-month period.

(g) The agency shall apply for federal waivers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to allow recipients to purchase health care coverage through an employer-sponsored health insurance plan instead of through a Medicaid-certified plan. This provision shall be known as the opt-out option.

1. A recipient who chooses the Medicaid opt-out option shall have an opportunity for a specified period of time, as authorized under a waiver granted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to select and enroll in a Medicaid-certified plan. If the recipient remains in the employer-sponsored plan after the specified period, the recipient shall remain in the opt-out program for at least 1 year or until the recipient no longer has access to employer-sponsored coverage, until the employer's open enrollment period for a person who opts out in order to participate in employer-sponsored coverage, or until the person is no longer eligible for Medicaid, whichever time period is shorter.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, coverage, cost sharing, and any other component of employer-sponsored health insurance shall be governed by applicable state and federal laws.

(5) This section does not authorize the agency to implement any provision of s. 1115 of the Social Security Act experimental, pilot, or demonstration project waiver to reform the state Medicaid program in any part of the state other than the two geographic areas specified in this section unless approved by the Legislature.

(6) The agency shall develop and submit for approval applications for waivers of applicable federal laws and regulations as necessary to implement the managed care pilot project as defined in this section. The agency shall post all waiver applications under this section on its Internet website 30 days before submitting the applications to the United States

Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. All waiver applications shall be provided for review and comment to the appropriate committees of the Senate and House of Representatives for at least 10 working days prior to submission. All waivers submitted to and approved by the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under this section must be approved by the Legislature. Federally approved waivers must be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for referral to the appropriate legislative committees. The appropriate committees shall recommend whether to approve the implementation of any waivers to the Legislature as a whole. The agency shall submit a plan containing a recommended timeline for implementation of any waivers and budgetary projections of the effect of the pilot program under this section on the total Medicaid budget for the 2006-2007 through 2009-2010 state fiscal years. This implementation plan shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at the same time any waivers are submitted for consideration by the Legislature. The agency may implement the waiver and special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4, as approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. If the agency seeks approval by the Federal Government of any modifications to these special terms and conditions, the agency must provide written notification of its intent to modify these terms and conditions to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least 15 days before submitting the modifications to the Federal Government for

consideration. The notification must identify all modifications being pursued and the reason the modifications are needed. Upon receiving federal approval of any modifications to the special terms and conditions, the agency shall provide a report to the Legislature describing the federally approved modifications to the special terms and conditions within 7 days after approval by the Federal Government.

(7)(a) The Secretary of Health Care Administration shall convene a technical advisory panel to advise the agency in the areas of risk-adjusted-rate setting, benefit design, and choice counseling. The panel shall include representatives from the Florida Association of Health Plans, representatives from provider-sponsored networks, a Medicaid consumer representative, and a representative from the Office of Insurance Regulation.

(b) The technical advisory panel shall advise the agency concerning:

1. The risk-adjusted rate methodology to be used by the agency, including recommendations on mechanisms to recognize the risk of all Medicaid enrollees and for the transition to a risk-adjustment system, including recommendations for phasing in risk adjustment and the use of risk corridors.

2. Implementation of an encounter data system to be used for risk-adjusted rates.

3. Administrative and implementation issues regarding the use of risk-adjusted rates, including, but not limited to, cost, simplicity, client privacy, data accuracy, and data exchange.

4. Issues of benefit design, including the actuarial equivalence and sufficiency standards to be used.

5. The implementation plan for the proposed choice-counseling system, including the information and materials to be provided to recipients, the methodologies by which recipients will be counseled regarding choice, criteria to be used to assess plan quality, the methodology to be used to assign recipients into plans if they fail to choose a managed care plan, and the standards to be used for responsiveness to recipient inquiries.

(c) The technical advisory panel shall continue in existence and advise the agency on matters outlined in this subsection.

(8) The agency must ensure, in the first two state fiscal years in which a risk-adjusted methodology is a component of rate setting, that no managed care plan providing comprehensive benefits to TANF and SSI recipients has an aggregate risk score that varies by more than 10 percent from the aggregate weighted mean of all managed care plans providing comprehensive benefits to TANF and SSI recipients in a reform area. The agency's payment to a managed care plan shall be based on such revised aggregate risk score.

(9) After any calculations of aggregate risk scores or revised aggregate risk scores in subsection (8), the capitation rates for plans participating under this section shall be phased in as follows:

(a) In the first year, the capitation rates shall be weighted so that 75 percent of each capitation rate is based on the current methodology and 25 percent is based on a new risk-adjusted capitation rate methodology.

(b) In the second year, the capitation rates shall be weighted so that 50 percent of each capitation rate is based on the current methodology and 50 percent is based on a new risk-adjusted rate methodology.

(c) In the following fiscal year, the risk-adjusted capitation methodology may be fully implemented.

(10) Subsections (8) and (9) do not apply to managed care plans offering benefits exclusively to high-risk, specialty populations. The agency may set risk-adjusted rates immediately for such plans.

(11) Before the implementation of risk-adjusted rates, the rates shall be certified by an actuary and approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(12) For purposes of this section, the term "capitated managed care plan" includes health insurers authorized under chapter 624, exclusive provider organizations authorized under chapter 627, health maintenance organizations authorized under chapter 641, the Children's Medical Services Network under chapter 391, and provider service networks that elect to be paid fee-for-service for up to 3 years as authorized under this section.

(13) Upon review and approval of the applications for waivers of applicable federal laws and regulations to implement the managed care pilot program by the Legislature, the agency may initiate adoption of rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement and administer the managed care pilot program as provided in this section.

(14) It is the intent of the Legislature that if any conflict exists between the provisions contained in this section and other provisions of this chapter which relate to the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program, the provisions contained in this section shall control. The agency shall provide a written report to the Legislature by April 1, 2006, identifying any provisions of this chapter which conflict with the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program created in this section. After April 1, 2006, the agency shall provide a written report to the Legislature immediately upon identifying any provisions of this chapter which conflict with the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program created in this section.

Section 13. Subsection (2) of section 409.9124, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9124 Managed care reimbursement.--The agency shall develop and adopt by rule a methodology for reimbursing managed care plans.

(2) Each year prior to establishing new managed care rates, the agency shall review all prior year adjustments for changes in trend, and shall reduce or eliminate those adjustments which are not reasonable and which reflect policies or programs which are not in effect. In addition, the agency shall apply only those policy reductions applicable to the fiscal year for which the rates are being set, which can be accurately estimated and verified by an independent actuary, and which have been implemented prior to or will be implemented during the fiscal year. ~~The agency shall pay rates at per~~

~~member, per month averages that do not exceed the amounts allowed for in the General Appropriations Act applicable to the fiscal year for which the rates will be in effect.~~

Section 14. Subsection (36) of section 409.913, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.913 Oversight of the integrity of the Medicaid program.--The agency shall operate a program to oversee the activities of Florida Medicaid recipients, and providers and their representatives, to ensure that fraudulent and abusive behavior and neglect of recipients occur to the minimum extent possible, and to recover overpayments and impose sanctions as appropriate. Beginning January 1, 2003, and each year thereafter, the agency and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Department of Legal Affairs shall submit a joint report to the Legislature documenting the effectiveness of the state's efforts to control Medicaid fraud and abuse and to recover Medicaid overpayments during the previous fiscal year. The report must describe the number of cases opened and investigated each year; the sources of the cases opened; the disposition of the cases closed each year; the amount of overpayments alleged in preliminary and final audit letters; the number and amount of fines or penalties imposed; any reductions in overpayment amounts negotiated in settlement agreements or by other means; the amount of final agency determinations of overpayments; the amount deducted from federal claiming as a result of overpayments; the amount of overpayments recovered each year; the amount of cost of investigation recovered each year; the average length of time to collect from the time the case was

opened until the overpayment is paid in full; the amount determined as uncollectible and the portion of the uncollectible amount subsequently reclaimed from the Federal Government; the number of providers, by type, that are terminated from participation in the Medicaid program as a result of fraud and abuse; and all costs associated with discovering and prosecuting cases of Medicaid overpayments and making recoveries in such cases. The report must also document actions taken to prevent overpayments and the number of providers prevented from enrolling in or reenrolling in the Medicaid program as a result of documented Medicaid fraud and abuse and must recommend changes necessary to prevent or recover overpayments.

(36) The agency shall provide to each Medicaid recipient or his or her representative an explanation of benefits in the form of a letter that is mailed to the most recent address of the recipient on the record with the Department of Children and Family Services. The explanation of benefits must include the patient's name, the name of the health care provider and the address of the location where the service was provided, a description of all services billed to Medicaid in terminology that should be understood by a reasonable person, and information on how to report inappropriate or incorrect billing to the agency or other law enforcement entities for review or investigation. The explanation of benefits may not be mailed for Medicaid independent laboratory services as described in s. 409.905(7) or for Medicaid certified match services as described in ss. 409.9071 and 1011.70.

Section 15. Paragraph (a) of subsection (8) of section 39.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.001 Purposes and intent; personnel standards and screening.--

(8) PLAN FOR COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH.--

(a) The office shall develop a state plan for the promotion of adoption, support of adoptive families, and prevention of abuse, abandonment, and neglect of children and shall submit the state plan to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the President of the Senate, and the Governor no later than December 31, 2008. The Department of Children and Family Services, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Education, the Department of Health, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, and the Agency for Workforce Innovation shall participate and fully cooperate in the development of the state plan at both the state and local levels. Furthermore, appropriate local agencies and organizations shall be provided an opportunity to participate in the development of the state plan at the local level. Appropriate local groups and organizations shall include, but not be limited to, community mental health centers; guardian ad litem programs for children under the circuit court; the school boards of the local school districts; ~~the Florida local advocacy councils;~~ community-based care lead agencies; private or public organizations or programs with recognized expertise in working with child abuse prevention programs for children and families; private or public organizations or programs with recognized

expertise in working with children who are sexually abused, physically abused, emotionally abused, abandoned, or neglected and with expertise in working with the families of such children; private or public programs or organizations with expertise in maternal and infant health care; multidisciplinary child protection teams; child day care centers; law enforcement agencies; and the circuit courts, when guardian ad litem programs are not available in the local area. The state plan to be provided to the Legislature and the Governor shall include, as a minimum, the information required of the various groups in paragraph (b).

Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 39.0011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.0011 Direct-support organization.--

(2) The number of members on the board of directors of the direct-support organization shall be determined by the Chief Child Advocate. Membership on the board of directors of the direct-support organization shall include, but not be limited to, a guardian ad litem; ~~a member of a local advocacy council;~~ a representative from a community-based care lead agency; a representative from a private or public organization or program with recognized expertise in working with child abuse prevention programs for children and families; a representative of a private or public organization or program with recognized expertise in working with children who are sexually abused, physically abused, emotionally abused, abandoned, or neglected and with expertise in working with the families of such children; an individual working at a state adoption agency; and

the parent of a child adopted from within the child welfare system.

Section 17. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 39.202, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

39.202 Confidentiality of reports and records in cases of child abuse or neglect.--

(2) Except as provided in subsection (4), access to such records, excluding the name of the reporter which shall be released only as provided in subsection (5), shall be granted only to the following persons, officials, and agencies:

(k) ~~Any appropriate official of a Florida advocacy council investigating a report of known or suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect;~~ The Auditor General or the Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability for the purpose of conducting audits or examinations pursuant to law~~;~~ or the guardian ad litem for the child.

Section 18. Subsections (5), (6), and (7) of section 39.302, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4), (5), and (6), respectively, and present subsection (4) is amended to read:

39.302 Protective investigations of institutional child abuse, abandonment, or neglect.--

~~(4) The department shall notify the Florida local advocacy council in the appropriate district of the department as to every report of institutional child abuse, abandonment, or neglect in the district in which a client of the department is alleged or shown to have been abused, abandoned, or neglected,~~

~~which notification shall be made within 48 hours after the department commences its investigation.~~

Section 19. Paragraph (v) of subsection (1) of section 215.22, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (u), and present paragraph (u) of that subsection is amended to read:

215.22 Certain income and certain trust funds exempt.--

(1) The following income of a revenue nature or the following trust funds shall be exempt from the appropriation required by s. 215.20(1):

~~(u) The Florida Center for Nursing Trust Fund.~~

Section 20. Paragraph (c) of subsection (5) and subsection (12) of section 394.459, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

394.459 Rights of patients.--

(5) COMMUNICATION, ABUSE REPORTING, AND VISITS.--

(c) Each facility must permit immediate access to any patient, subject to the patient's right to deny or withdraw consent at any time, by the patient's family members, guardian, guardian advocate, representative, ~~Florida statewide or local advocacy council,~~ or attorney, unless such access would be detrimental to the patient. If a patient's right to communicate or to receive visitors is restricted by the facility, written notice of such restriction and the reasons for the restriction shall be served on the patient, the patient's attorney, and the patient's guardian, guardian advocate, or representative; and such restriction shall be recorded on the patient's clinical record with the reasons therefor. The restriction of a patient's right to communicate or to receive visitors shall be reviewed at least every 7 days. The right to communicate or receive visitors

shall not be restricted as a means of punishment. Nothing in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the provisions of paragraph (d).

(12) POSTING OF NOTICE OF RIGHTS OF PATIENTS.--Each facility shall post a notice listing and describing, in the language and terminology that the persons to whom the notice is addressed can understand, the rights provided in this section. This notice shall include a statement that provisions of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act apply and the name and telephone number of a person to contact for further information. This notice shall be posted in a place readily accessible to patients and in a format easily seen by patients. This notice shall include the telephone number ~~numbers~~ of the ~~Florida local advocacy council and~~ Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.

Section 21. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) of section 394.4597, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.4597 Persons to be notified; patient's representative.--

(2) INVOLUNTARY PATIENTS.--

(d) When the receiving or treatment facility selects a representative, first preference shall be given to a health care surrogate, if one has been previously selected by the patient. If the patient has not previously selected a health care surrogate, the selection, except for good cause documented in the patient's clinical record, shall be made from the following list in the order of listing:

1. The patient's spouse.

2. An adult child of the patient.

3. A parent of the patient.

4. The adult next of kin of the patient.

5. An adult friend of the patient.

~~6. The appropriate Florida local advocacy council as provided in s. 402.166.~~

Section 22. Subsection (1) of section 394.4598, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.4598 Guardian advocate.--

(1) The administrator may petition the court for the appointment of a guardian advocate based upon the opinion of a psychiatrist that the patient is incompetent to consent to treatment. If the court finds that a patient is incompetent to consent to treatment and has not been adjudicated incapacitated and a guardian with the authority to consent to mental health treatment appointed, it shall appoint a guardian advocate. The patient has the right to have an attorney represent him or her at the hearing. If the person is indigent, the court shall appoint the office of the public defender to represent him or her at the hearing. The patient has the right to testify, cross-examine witnesses, and present witnesses. The proceeding shall be recorded either electronically or stenographically, and testimony shall be provided under oath. One of the professionals authorized to give an opinion in support of a petition for involuntary placement, as described in s. 394.4655 or s. 394.467, must testify. A guardian advocate must meet the qualifications of a guardian contained in part IV of chapter 744, except that a professional referred to in this part, an

employee of the facility providing direct services to the patient under this part, a departmental employee, or a facility administrator~~, or member of the Florida local advocacy council~~ shall not be appointed. A person who is appointed as a guardian advocate must agree to the appointment.

Section 23. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 394.4599, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.4599 Notice.--

(2) INVOLUNTARY PATIENTS.--

(b) A receiving facility shall give prompt notice of the whereabouts of a patient who is being involuntarily held for examination, by telephone or in person within 24 hours after the patient's arrival at the facility, unless the patient requests that no notification be made. Contact attempts shall be documented in the patient's clinical record and shall begin as soon as reasonably possible after the patient's arrival. ~~Notice that a patient is being admitted as an involuntary patient shall be given to the Florida local advocacy council no later than the next working day after the patient is admitted.~~

Section 24. Subsection (5) of section 394.4615, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.4615 Clinical records; confidentiality.--

(5) Information from clinical records may be used by the Agency for Health Care Administration and~~,~~ the department~~, and the Florida advocacy councils~~ for the purpose of monitoring facility activity and complaints concerning facilities.

Section 25. Paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection (2) of section 400.0065, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as

paragraphs (g) and (h), respectively, and present paragraph (g) of that subsection is amended to read:

400.0065 State Long-Term Care Ombudsman; duties and responsibilities.--

(2) The State Long-Term Care Ombudsman shall have the duty and authority to:

~~(g) Enter into a cooperative agreement with the Statewide Advocacy Council for the purpose of coordinating and avoiding duplication of advocacy services provided to residents.~~

Section 26. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 400.118, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.118 Quality assurance; early warning system; monitoring; rapid response teams.--

(2)(a) The agency shall establish within each district office one or more quality-of-care monitors, based on the number of nursing facilities in the district, to monitor all nursing facilities in the district on a regular, unannounced, aperiodic basis, including nights, evenings, weekends, and holidays. Quality-of-care monitors shall visit each nursing facility at least quarterly. Priority for additional monitoring visits shall be given to nursing facilities with a history of resident care deficiencies. Quality-of-care monitors shall be registered nurses who are trained and experienced in nursing facility regulation, standards of practice in long-term care, and evaluation of patient care. Individuals in these positions shall not be deployed by the agency as a part of the district survey team in the conduct of routine, scheduled surveys, but shall function solely and independently as quality-of-care monitors.

Quality-of-care monitors shall assess the overall quality of life in the nursing facility and shall assess specific conditions in the facility directly related to resident care, including the operations of internal quality improvement and risk management programs and adverse incident reports. The quality-of-care monitor shall include in an assessment visit observation of the care and services rendered to residents and formal and informal interviews with residents, family members, facility staff, resident guests, volunteers, other regulatory staff, and representatives of a long-term care ombudsman council ~~or Florida advocacy council~~.

Section 27. Subsections (13) and (20) of section 400.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

400.141 Administration and management of nursing home facilities.--Every licensed facility shall comply with all applicable standards and rules of the agency and shall:

(13) Publicly display a poster provided by the agency containing the names, addresses, and telephone numbers for the state's abuse hotline, the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman, the Agency for Health Care Administration consumer hotline, the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, ~~the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council,~~ and the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, with a clear description of the assistance to be expected from each.

(20) Maintain general and professional liability insurance coverage that is in force at all times. ~~In lieu of general and professional liability insurance coverage, a state-designated teaching nursing home and its affiliated assisted living~~

~~facilities created under s. 430.80 may demonstrate proof of financial responsibility as provided in s. 430.80(3)(h).~~

Facilities that have been awarded a Gold Seal under the program established in s. 400.235 may develop a plan to provide certified nursing assistant training as prescribed by federal regulations and state rules and may apply to the agency for approval of their program.

Section 28. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 415.1034, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.1034 Mandatory reporting of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults; mandatory reports of death.--

(1) MANDATORY REPORTING.--

(a) Any person, including, but not limited to, any:

1. Physician, osteopathic physician, medical examiner, chiropractic physician, nurse, paramedic, emergency medical technician, or hospital personnel engaged in the admission, examination, care, or treatment of vulnerable adults;

2. Health professional or mental health professional other than one listed in subparagraph 1.;

3. Practitioner who relies solely on spiritual means for healing;

4. Nursing home staff; assisted living facility staff; adult day care center staff; adult family-care home staff; social worker; or other professional adult care, residential, or institutional staff;

5. State, county, or municipal criminal justice employee or law enforcement officer;

6. An employee of the Department of Business and Professional Regulation conducting inspections of public lodging establishments under s. 509.032;

7. ~~Florida advocacy council member or~~ Long-term care ombudsman council member; or

8. Bank, savings and loan, or credit union officer, trustee, or employee,

who knows, or has reasonable cause to suspect, that a vulnerable adult has been or is being abused, neglected, or exploited shall immediately report such knowledge or suspicion to the central abuse hotline.

Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 415.104, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.104 Protective investigations of cases of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults; transmittal of records to state attorney.--

(1) The department shall, upon receipt of a report alleging abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult, begin within 24 hours a protective investigation of the facts alleged therein. If a caregiver refuses to allow the department to begin a protective investigation or interferes with the conduct of such an investigation, the appropriate law enforcement agency shall be contacted for assistance. If, during the course of the investigation, the department has reason to believe that the abuse, neglect, or exploitation is perpetrated by a second party, the appropriate law enforcement agency and state attorney shall be orally notified. The department and the

law enforcement agency shall cooperate to allow the criminal investigation to proceed concurrently with, and not be hindered by, the protective investigation. The department shall make a preliminary written report to the law enforcement agencies within 5 working days after the oral report. The department shall, within 24 hours after receipt of the report, notify the ~~appropriate Florida local advocacy council, or~~ long-term care ombudsman council, when appropriate, that an alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation perpetrated by a second party has occurred. Notice to the ~~Florida local advocacy council or~~ long-term care ombudsman council may be accomplished orally or in writing and shall include the name and location of the vulnerable adult alleged to have been abused, neglected, or exploited and the nature of the report.

Section 30. Subsection (8) of section 415.1055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.1055 Notification to administrative entities.--

(8) At the conclusion of a protective investigation at a facility, the department shall notify ~~either~~ the ~~Florida local advocacy council or~~ long-term care ombudsman council of the results of the investigation. This notification must be in writing.

Section 31. Subsection (2) of section 415.106, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.106 Cooperation by the department and criminal justice and other agencies.--

(2) To ensure coordination, communication, and cooperation with the investigation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of

vulnerable adults, the department shall develop and maintain interprogram agreements or operational procedures among appropriate departmental programs and the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Council~~, the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council,~~ and other agencies that provide services to vulnerable adults. These agreements or procedures must cover such subjects as the appropriate roles and responsibilities of the department in identifying and responding to reports of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of vulnerable adults; the provision of services; and related coordinated activities.

Section 32. Paragraph (g) of subsection (3) of section 415.107, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

415.107 Confidentiality of reports and records.--

(3) Access to all records, excluding the name of the reporter which shall be released only as provided in subsection (6), shall be granted only to the following persons, officials, and agencies:

(g) Any appropriate official of the ~~Florida advocacy council or~~ long-term care ombudsman council investigating a report of known or suspected abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a vulnerable adult.

Section 33. Subsection (9) of section 429.19, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.19 Violations; imposition of administrative fines; grounds.--

(9) The agency shall develop and disseminate an annual list of all facilities sanctioned or fined $5,000 or more for violations of state standards, the number and class of

violations involved, the penalties imposed, and the current status of cases. The list shall be disseminated, at no charge, to the Department of Elderly Affairs, the Department of Health, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the area agencies on aging, ~~the Florida Statewide Advocacy Council,~~ and the state and local ombudsman councils. The Department of Children and Family Services shall disseminate the list to service providers under contract to the department who are responsible for referring persons to a facility for residency. The agency may charge a fee commensurate with the cost of printing and postage to other interested parties requesting a copy of this list.

Section 34. Subsection (2) of section 429.28, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.28 Resident bill of rights.--

(2) The administrator of a facility shall ensure that a written notice of the rights, obligations, and prohibitions set forth in this part is posted in a prominent place in each facility and read or explained to residents who cannot read. This notice shall include the name, address, and telephone numbers of the local ombudsman council and central abuse hotline and, when applicable, and the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc., ~~and the Florida local advocacy council,~~ where complaints may be lodged. The facility must ensure a resident's access to a telephone to call the local ombudsman council, central abuse hotline, and the Advocacy Center for Persons with Disabilities, Inc.~~, and the Florida local advocacy council.~~

Section 35. Section 429.34, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

429.34 Right of entry and inspection.--In addition to the requirements of s. 408.811, any duly designated officer or employee of the department, the Department of Children and Family Services, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit of the Office of the Attorney General, the state or local fire marshal, or a member of the state or local long-term care ombudsman council shall have the right to enter unannounced upon and into the premises of any facility licensed pursuant to this part in order to determine the state of compliance with the provisions of this part, part II of chapter 408, and applicable rules. Data collected by the state or local long-term care ombudsman councils ~~or the state or local advocacy councils~~ may be used by the agency in investigations involving violations of regulatory standards.

Section 36. Subsection (3) of section 430.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

430.04 Duties and responsibilities of the Department of Elderly Affairs.--The Department of Elderly Affairs shall:

(3) Prepare and submit to the Governor, each Cabinet member, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leaders of the House and Senate, and chairpersons of appropriate House and Senate committees a master plan for policies and programs in the state related to aging. The plan must identify and assess the needs of the elderly population in the areas of housing, employment, education and training, medical care, long-term care, preventive

care, protective services, social services, mental health, transportation, and long-term care insurance, and other areas considered appropriate by the department. The plan must assess the needs of particular subgroups of the population and evaluate the capacity of existing programs, both public and private and in state and local agencies, to respond effectively to identified needs. If the plan recommends the transfer of any program or service from the Department of Children and Family Services to another state department, the plan must also include recommendations that provide for an independent third-party mechanism~~, as currently exists in the Florida advocacy councils established in ss. 402.165 and 402.166,~~ for protecting the constitutional and human rights of recipients of departmental services. The plan must include policy goals and program strategies designed to respond efficiently to current and projected needs. The plan must also include policy goals and program strategies to promote intergenerational relationships and activities. Public hearings and other appropriate processes shall be utilized by the department to solicit input for the development and updating of the master plan from parties including, but not limited to, the following:

(a) Elderly citizens and their families and caregivers.

(b) Local-level public and private service providers, advocacy organizations, and other organizations relating to the elderly.

(c) Local governments.

(d) All state agencies that provide services to the elderly.

(e) University centers on aging.

(f) Area agency on aging and community care for the elderly lead agencies.

Section 37. Sections 381.0271, 381.0273, 394.4595, 402.164, 402.165, 402.166, 402.167, 409.9061, 430.80, 430.83, 464.0195, 464.0196, 464.0197, and 464.0198, Florida Statutes, are repealed.

Section 38. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.