CS for SB 1860

By the Committee on Banking and Insurance; and Senator Negron

597-02844-12

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1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to motor vehicle personal injury 3 protection insurance; amending s. 316.066, F.S.; 4 revising the conditions for completing the long-form 5 traffic crash report; revising the information 6 contained in the long-form and the short-form reports; 7 limiting the inclusion of telephone numbers in crash 8 reports; authorizing an investigating officer to 9 testify at trial or provide an affidavit regarding a 10 crash; amending s. 400.9905, F.S.; providing that 11 certain entities exempt from licensure as a health care clinic must nonetheless be licensed in order to 12 13 receive reimbursement for the provision of personal 14 injury protection benefits; amending s. 400.991, F.S.; 15 requiring that an application for licensure, or 16 exemption from licensure, as a health care clinic 17 include a statement regarding insurance fraud; 18 amending s. 626.989, F.S.; providing that knowingly 19 submitting false, misleading, or fraudulent documents 20 relating to licensure as a health care clinic, or 21 submitting a claim for personal injury protection 22 relating to clinic licensure documents, is a fraudulent insurance act under certain conditions: 23 amending s. 626.9894, F.S.; conforming provisions to 24 25 changes made by act; creating s. 626.9895, F.S.; 26 providing definitions; authorizing the Division of 27 Insurance Fraud of the Department of Financial 28 Services to establish a direct-support organization 29 for the purpose of prosecuting, investigating, and

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30	preventing motor vehicle insurance fraud; providing
31	requirements for, and duties of, the organization;
32	requiring that the organization operate pursuant to a
33	contract with the division; providing for the
34	requirements of the contract; providing for a board of
35	directors; authorizing the organization to use the
36	division's property and facilities subject to certain
37	requirements; requiring that the department adopt
38	rules relating to procedures for the organization's
39	governance and relating to conditions for the use of
40	the division's property or facilities; authorizing
41	contributions from insurers; authorizing any moneys
42	received by the organization to be held in a separate
43	depository account in the name of the organization;
44	requiring that the division deposit certain proceeds
45	into the Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund; amending s.
46	627.736, F.S.; excluding massage and acupuncture from
47	medical benefits that may be reimbursed under the
48	motor vehicle no-fault law; requiring that an insurer
49	give priority to the payment of death benefits under
50	certain conditions; requiring that an insurer repay
51	any benefits covered by the Medicaid program;
52	requiring that an insurer provide a claimant an
53	opportunity to revise claims that contain errors;
54	including hospitals within a requirement for insurers
55	to reserve a portion of personal injury protection
56	benefits; requiring that an insurer create and
57	maintain a log of personal injury protection benefits
58	paid and that the insurer provide to the insured or an

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20121860c1 597-02844-12 59 assignee of the insured, upon request, a copy of the 60 log; revising the Medicare fee schedules that an 61 insurer may use as a basis for limiting reimbursement 62 of personal injury protection benefits; providing that 63 the Medicare fee schedule in effect on a specific date 64 applies for purposes of limiting such reimbursement; 65 authorizing insurers to apply certain Medicare coding 66 policies and payment methodologies; requiring that an 67 insurer that limits payments based on the statutory 68 fee schedule include a notice in insurance policies at the time of issuance or renewal; deleting obsolete 69 70 provisions; providing that certain entities exempt from licensure as a clinic must nonetheless be 71 72 licensed to receive reimbursement for the provision of 73 personal injury protection benefits; providing 74 exceptions; requiring that an insurer notify parties 75 in disputes over personal injury protection claims 76 when policy limits are reached; consolidating 77 provisions relating to unfair or deceptive practices 78 under certain conditions; eliminating a requirement 79 that all parties mutually and expressly agree for the use of electronic transmission of data; amending s. 80 81 817.234, F.S.; providing that it is insurance fraud to present a claim for personal injury protection 82 83 benefits payable to a person or entity that knowingly 84 submitted false, misleading, or fraudulent documents 85 relating to licensure as a health care clinic; 86 providing that a licensed health care practitioner 87 quilty of certain insurance fraud loses his or her

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88	license and may not receive personal injury protection
89	benefits for a specified period; defining the term
90	"insurer"; amending s. 316.065, F.S.; conforming a
91	cross-reference; requiring that the Office of
92	Insurance Regulation perform a data call relating to
93	personal injury protection; prescribing required
94	elements of the data call; providing for severability;
95	providing effective dates.
96	
97	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
98	
99	Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 316.066, Florida
100	Statutes, is amended to read:
101	316.066 Written reports of crashes
102	(1)(a) A Florida Traffic Crash Report, Long Form <u>, must</u> is
103	required to be completed and submitted to the department within
104	10 days after completing an investigation <u>is completed</u> by <u>the</u>
105	every law enforcement officer who in the regular course of duty
106	investigates a motor vehicle crash that:
107	1. Resulted in death <u>,</u> or personal injury <u>, or any complaint</u>
108	of pain or discomfort by any of the parties or passengers
109	involved in the crash;-
110	2. Involved one or more passengers in any vehicle involved
111	in the crash, other than the driver of the vehicle; or
112	<u>3.</u> 2. Involved a violation of s. 316.061(1) or s. 316.193.
113	(b) In <u>any</u> every crash for which a Florida Traffic Crash
114	Report, Long Form <u>,</u> is not required by this section , the law
115	enforcement officer may complete a short-form crash report or
116	provide a driver exchange-of-information form to be completed by

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 117 each party involved in the crash. The agency that employs the 118 law enforcement officer who prepares the short-form crash report 119 shall maintain the report. 120 (c) The long-form and the short-form reports report must 121 include: 1. The date, time, and location of the crash. 122 123 2. A description of the vehicles involved. 124 3. The names and addresses of the parties involved, 125 including all drivers and passengers, with each party clearly 126 identified as a driver or passenger and the vehicle that he or 127 she occupied. 128 4. The names and addresses of witnesses. 129 5. The name, badge number, and law enforcement agency of 130 the officer investigating the crash. 131 6. The names of the insurance companies for the respective 132 parties involved in the crash. 133 134 Except for a crash in which a party is charged with a criminal traffic offense, a long-form or short-form crash report may not 135 136 include the telephone number of a party involved in the crash. 137 (d) (c) Each party to the crash must provide the law 138 enforcement officer with proof of insurance, which must be 139 documented in the crash report. If a law enforcement officer submits a report on the crash, proof of insurance must be 140 141 provided to the officer by each party involved in the crash. Any 142 party who fails to provide the required information commits a 143 noncriminal traffic infraction, punishable as a nonmoving 144 violation as provided in chapter 318, unless the officer 145 determines that due to injuries or other special circumstances

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 146 such insurance information cannot be provided immediately. If, 147 within 24 hours after the crash, the person provides the law enforcement agency with, within 24 hours after the crash, proof 148 149 of insurance that was valid at the time of the crash, the law 150 enforcement agency may void the citation. 151 (e) (d) The driver of a vehicle that was in any manner 152 involved in a crash resulting in damage to any vehicle or other 153 property in an amount of \$500 or more which was not investigated 154 by a law enforcement agency, shall, within 10 days after the 155 crash, submit a written report of the crash to the department. 156 The entity receiving the report may require witnesses of the 157 crash to render reports and may require the any driver of a 158 vehicle involved in a crash of which a written report must be 159 made to file supplemental written reports if the original report 160 is deemed insufficient by the receiving entity. 161 (f) The law enforcement officer who investigates a crash 162 may testify at trial, provide a deposition for use at trial, or provide a signed affidavit to confirm or supplement information 163 included in the long-form or short-form crash report. 164 165 (e) Short-form crash reports prepared by law enforcement shall be maintained by the law enforcement officer's agency. 166 167 Section 2. Subsection (4) of section 400.9905, Florida 168 Statutes, is amended to read:

169

400.9905 Definitions.-

(4) "Clinic" means an entity <u>where</u> at which health care services are provided to individuals and which tenders charges for reimbursement for such services, including a mobile clinic and a portable equipment provider. <u>As used in</u> For purposes of this part, the term does not include and the licensure

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175 requirements of this part do not apply to:

176 (a) Entities licensed or registered by the state under 177 chapter 395; or entities licensed or registered by the state and 178 providing only health care services within the scope of services 179 authorized under their respective licenses granted under ss. 180 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this 181 chapter except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, 182 chapter 466, chapter 478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 183 184 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; or providers certified under 42 185 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that 186 provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care 187 services or other health care services by licensed practitioners 188 solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395.

189 (b) Entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities 190 licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 395; or 191 entities that own, directly or indirectly, entities licensed or 192 registered by the state and providing only health care services within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their 193 194 respective licenses granted under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, 195 196 chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, 197 part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, subpart 198 199 U; or providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or 200 subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or pediatric 201 hospital-based health care services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter 395. 202

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(c) Entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 204 entity licensed or registered by the state pursuant to chapter 205 395; or entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, by an 206 entity licensed or registered by the state and providing only 207 health care services within the scope of services authorized 208 pursuant to their respective licenses granted under ss. 383.30-209 383.335, chapter 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter 210 except part X, chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 211 466, chapter 478, part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage renal disease providers authorized under 42 212 213 C.F.R. part 405, subpart U; or providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that 214 provides neonatal or pediatric hospital-based health care 215 216 services by licensed practitioners solely within a hospital 217 under chapter 395.

218 (d) Entities that are under common ownership, directly or 219 indirectly, with an entity licensed or registered by the state 220 pursuant to chapter 395; or entities that are under common 221 ownership, directly or indirectly, with an entity licensed or 222 registered by the state and providing only health care services 223 within the scope of services authorized pursuant to their 224 respective licenses granted under ss. 383.30-383.335, chapter 225 390, chapter 394, chapter 397, this chapter except part X, 226 chapter 429, chapter 463, chapter 465, chapter 466, chapter 478, 227 part I of chapter 483, chapter 484, or chapter 651; end-stage 228 renal disease providers authorized under 42 C.F.R. part 405, 229 subpart U; or providers certified under 42 C.F.R. part 485, 230 subpart B or subpart H; or any entity that provides neonatal or 231 pediatric hospital-based health care services by licensed 232 practitioners solely within a hospital licensed under chapter

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234 (e) An entity that is exempt from federal taxation under 26 U.S.C. s. 501(c)(3) or (4), an employee stock ownership plan 235 236 under 26 U.S.C. s. 409 that has a board of trustees at least not 237 less than two-thirds of which are Florida-licensed health care practitioners and provides only physical therapy services under 238 239 physician orders, any community college or university clinic, 240 and any entity owned or operated by the federal or state government, including agencies, subdivisions, or municipalities 241 thereof. 242

(f) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or corporation that provides health care services by physicians covered by s. 627.419, that is directly supervised by one or more of such physicians, and that is wholly owned by one or more of those physicians or by a physician and the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of that physician.

249 (g) A sole proprietorship, group practice, partnership, or 250 corporation that provides health care services by licensed health care practitioners under chapter 457, chapter 458, 251 252 chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, chapter 462, chapter 463, 253 chapter 466, chapter 467, chapter 480, chapter 484, chapter 486, 254 chapter 490, chapter 491, or part I, part III, part X, part XIII, or part XIV of chapter 468, or s. 464.012, and that is 255 256 which are wholly owned by one or more licensed health care 257 practitioners, or the licensed health care practitioners set 258 forth in this paragraph and the spouse, parent, child, or 259 sibling of a licensed health care practitioner if, so long as 260 one of the owners who is a licensed health care practitioner is 261 supervising the business activities and is legally responsible

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 262 for the entity's compliance with all federal and state laws. 263 However, a health care practitioner may not supervise services 264 beyond the scope of the practitioner's license, except that, for 265 the purposes of this part, a clinic owned by a licensee in s. 266 456.053(3)(b) which that provides only services authorized 267 pursuant to s. 456.053(3)(b) may be supervised by a licensee 268 specified in s. 456.053(3)(b).

(h) Clinical facilities affiliated with an accredited
medical school at which training is provided for medical
students, residents, or fellows.

(i) Entities that provide only oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or entities that provide oncology or radiation therapy services by physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 which are owned by a corporation whose shares are publicly traded on a recognized stock exchange.

(j) Clinical facilities affiliated with a college of
chiropractic accredited by the Council on Chiropractic Education
at which training is provided for chiropractic students.

(k) Entities that provide licensed practitioners to staff emergency departments or to deliver anesthesia services in facilities licensed under chapter 395 and that derive at least 90 percent of their gross annual revenues from the provision of such services. Entities claiming an exemption from licensure under this paragraph must provide documentation demonstrating compliance.

(1) Orthotic or prosthetic clinical facilities that are a
publicly traded corporation or that are wholly owned, directly
or indirectly, by a publicly traded corporation. As used in this

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291 parag	graph, a publicly traded corporation is a corporation that
292 issue	es securities traded on an exchange registered with the
293 Unite	ed States Securities and Exchange Commission as a national
294 secur	rities exchange.
295	
296 <u>Notwi</u>	thstanding this subsection, an entity shall be deemed a
297 <u>clini</u>	ic and must be licensed under this part in order to receive
298 <u>reim</u> k	oursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law, ss.
299 627.7	730-627.7405, unless exempted under s. 627.736(5)(h).
300	Section 3. Subsection (6) is added to section 400.991,
301 Flori	Ida Statutes, to read:
302	400.991 License requirements; background screenings;
303 prohi	lbitions
304	(6) All agency forms for licensure application or exemption
305 <u>from</u>	licensure under this part must contain the following
306 <u>state</u>	ement:
307	
308	INSURANCE FRAUD NOTICEA person who knowingly submits
309	a false, misleading, or fraudulent application or
310	other document when applying for licensure as a health
311	care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a
312	health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with
313	part X of chapter 400, Florida Statutes, with the
314	intent to use the license, exemption from licensure,
315	or demonstration of compliance to provide services or
316	seek reimbursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-
317	Fault Law, commits a fraudulent insurance act, as
318	defined in s. 626.989, Florida Statutes. A person who
319	presents a claim for personal injury protection

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320	benefits knowing that the payee knowingly submitted
321	such health care clinic application or document,
322	commits insurance fraud, as defined in s. 817.234,
323	Florida Statutes.
324	Section 4. Subsection (1) of section 626.989, Florida
325	Statutes, is amended to read:
326	626.989 Investigation by department or Division of
327	Insurance Fraud; compliance; immunity; confidential information;
328	reports to division; division investigator's power of arrest
329	(1) For the purposes of this section: $\overline{\cdot au}$
330	(a) A person commits a "fraudulent insurance act" if the
331	person:
332	1. Knowingly and with intent to defraud presents, causes to
333	be presented, or prepares with knowledge or belief that it will
334	be presented, to or by an insurer, self-insurer, self-insurance
335	fund, servicing corporation, purported insurer, broker, or any
336	agent thereof, any written statement as part of, or in support
337	of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating of, any
338	insurance policy, or a claim for payment or other benefit
339	pursuant to any insurance policy, which the person knows to
340	contain materially false information concerning any fact
341	material thereto or if the person conceals, for the purpose of
342	misleading another, information concerning any fact material
343	thereto.
344	2. Knowingly submits:

345 <u>a. A false, misleading, or fraudulent application or other</u>
 346 <u>document when applying for licensure as a health care clinic,</u>
 347 <u>seeking an exemption from licensure as a health care clinic, or</u>
 348 <u>demonstrating compliance with part X of chapter 400 with an</u>

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349	intent to use the license, exemption from licensure, or
350	demonstration of compliance to provide services or seek
351	reimbursement under the Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law.
352	b. A claim for payment or other benefit pursuant to a
353	personal injury protection insurance policy under the Florida
354	Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law if the person knows that the payee
355	knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or fraudulent
356	application or other document when applying for licensure as a
357	health care clinic, seeking an exemption from licensure as a
358	health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance with part X of
359	chapter 400. For the purposes of this section,
360	(b) The term "insurer" also includes <u>a</u> any health

361 maintenance organization, and the term "insurance policy" also 362 includes a health maintenance organization subscriber contract.

363 Section 5. Subsection (5) of section 626.9894, Florida 364 Statutes, is amended to read:

365

626.9894 Gifts and grants.-

366 (5) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 216.301 and pursuant to s. 216.351, any balance of moneys deposited into the 367 368 Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund pursuant to this section or s. 369 626.9895 remaining at the end of any fiscal year is shall be 370 available for carrying out the duties and responsibilities of the division. The department may request annual appropriations 371 372 from the grants and donations received pursuant to this section 373 or s. 626.9895 and cash balances in the Insurance Regulatory 374 Trust Fund for the purpose of carrying out its duties and 375 responsibilities related to the division's anti-fraud efforts, 376 including the funding of dedicated prosecutors and related 377 personnel.

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 378 Section 6. Section 626.9895, Florida Statutes, is created 379 to read: 380 626.9895 Motor vehicle insurance fraud direct-support 381 organization.-382 (1) DEFINITIONS.-As used in this section, the term: 383 (a) "Division" means the Division of Insurance Fraud of the 384 Department of Financial Services. 385 (b) "Motor vehicle insurance fraud" means any act defined 386 as a "fraudulent insurance act" under s. 626.989, which relates 387 to the coverage of motor vehicle insurance as described in part 388 XI of chapter 627. (c) "Organization" means the direct-support organization 389 390 established under this section. 391 (2) ORGANIZATION ESTABLISHED. - The division may establish a 392 direct-support organization, to be known as the "Automobile 393 Insurance Fraud Strike Force," whose sole purpose is to support 394 the prosecution, investigation, and prevention of motor vehicle 395 insurance fraud. The organization shall: 396 (a) Be a not-for-profit corporation incorporated under 397 chapter 617 and approved by the Department of State. 398 (b) Be organized and operated to conduct programs and 399 activities; raise funds; request and receive grants, gifts, and bequests of money; acquire, receive, hold, invest, and 400 401 administer, in its own name, securities, funds, objects of value, or other property, real or personal; and make grants and 402 403 expenditures to or for the direct or indirect benefit of the 404 division, state attorneys' offices, the statewide prosecutor, 405 the Agency for Health Care Administration, and the Department of 406 Health to the extent that such grants and expenditures are used

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407	exclusively to advance the prosecution, investigation, or
408	prevention of motor vehicle insurance fraud. Grants and
409	expenditures may include the cost of salaries or benefits of
410	motor vehicle insurance fraud investigators, prosecutors, or
411	support personnel if such grants and expenditures do not
412	interfere with prosecutorial independence or otherwise create
413	conflicts of interest which threaten the success of
414	prosecutions.
415	(c) Be determined by the division to operate in a manner
416	that promotes the goals of laws relating to motor vehicle
417	insurance fraud, that is in the best interest of the state, and
418	that is in accordance with the adopted goals and mission of the
419	division.
420	(d) Use all of its grants and expenditures solely for the
421	purpose of preventing and decreasing motor vehicle insurance
422	fraud, and not for the purpose of lobbying as defined in s.
423	<u>11.045.</u>
424	(e) Be subject to an annual financial audit in accordance
425	with s. 215.981.
426	(3) CONTRACTThe organization shall operate under written
427	contract with the division. The contract must provide for:
428	(a) Approval of the articles of incorporation and bylaws of
429	the organization by the division.
430	(b) Submission of an annual budget for approval of the
431	division. The budget must require the organization to minimize
432	costs to the division and its members at all times by using
433	existing personnel and property and allowing for telephonic
434	meetings if appropriate.
435	(c) Certification by the division that the organization is

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436	complying with the terms of the contract and in a manner
437	consistent with the goals and purposes of the department and in
438	the best interest of the state. Such certification must be made
439	annually and reported in the official minutes of a meeting of
440	the organization.
441	(d) Allocation of funds to address motor vehicle insurance
442	fraud.
443	(e) Reversion of moneys and property held in trust by the
444	organization for motor vehicle insurance fraud prosecution,
445	investigation, and prevention to the division if the
446	organization is no longer approved to operate for the department
447	or if the organization ceases to exist, or to the state if the
448	division ceases to exist.
449	(f) Specific criteria to be used by the organization's
450	board of directors to evaluate the effectiveness of funding used
451	to combat motor vehicle insurance fraud.
452	(g) The fiscal year of the organization, which begins July
453	1 of each year and ends June 30 of the following year.
454	(h) Disclosure of the material provisions of the contract,
455	and distinguishing between the department and the organization
456	to donors of gifts, contributions, or bequests, including
457	providing such disclosure on all promotional and fundraising
458	publications.
459	(4) BOARD OF DIRECTORS.—
460	(a) The board of directors of the organization shall
461	consist of the following eleven members:
462	1. The Chief Financial Officer, or designee, who shall
463	serve as chair.
464	2. Two state attorneys, one of whom shall be appointed by

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465	the Chief Financial Officer and one of whom shall be appointed
466	by the Attorney General.
467	3. Two representatives of motor vehicle insurers appointed
468	by the Chief Financial Officer.
469	4. Two representatives of local law enforcement agencies,
470	one of whom shall be appointed by the Chief Financial Officer
471	and one of whom shall be appointed by the Attorney General.
472	5. Two representatives of the types of health care
473	providers who regularly make claims for benefits under ss.
474	627.730-627.7405, one of whom shall be appointed by the
475	President of the Senate and one of whom shall be appointed by
476	the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The appointees may
477	not represent the same type of health care provider.
478	6. A private attorney that has experience in representing
479	claimants in actions for benefits under ss. 627.730-627.7405,
480	who shall be appointed by the President of the Senate.
481	7. A private attorney who has experience in representing
482	insurers in actions for benefits under ss. 627.730-627.7405, who
483	shall be appointed by the Speaker of the House of
484	Representatives.
485	(b) The officer who appointed a member of the board may
486	remove that member for cause. The term of office of an appointed
487	member expires at the same time as the term of the officer who
488	appointed him or her or at such earlier time as the person
489	ceases to be qualified.
490	(5) USE OF PROPERTYThe department may authorize, without
491	charge, appropriate use of fixed property and facilities of the
492	division by the organization, subject to this subsection.
493	(a) The department may prescribe any condition with which

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494	the organization must comply in order to use the division's
495	property or facilities.
496	(b) The department may not authorize the use of the
497	division's property or facilities if the organization does not
498	provide equal membership and employment opportunities to all
499	persons regardless of race, religion, sex, age, or national
500	origin.
501	(c) The department shall adopt rules prescribing the
502	procedures by which the organization is governed and any
503	conditions with which the organization must comply to use the
504	division's property or facilities.
505	(6) CONTRIBUTIONS FROM INSURERSContributions from an
506	insurer to the organization shall be allowed as an appropriate
507	business expense of the insurer for all regulatory purposes.
508	(7) DEPOSITORY ACCOUNTAny moneys received by the
509	organization may be held in a separate depository account in the
510	name of the organization and subject to the contract with the
511	division.
512	(8) DIVISION'S RECEIPT OF PROCEEDSProceeds received by
513	the division from the organization shall be deposited into the
514	Insurance Regulatory Trust Fund.
515	Section 7. Subsections (1), (4), (5), (6), (8), (9), (10),
516	and (11) of section 627.736, Florida Statutes, are amended to
517	read:
518	627.736 Required personal injury protection benefits;
519	exclusions; priority; claims
520	(1) REQUIRED BENEFITS.— <u>An</u> Every insurance policy complying
521	with the security requirements of s. 627.733 <u>must</u> shall provide
522	personal injury protection to the named insured, relatives

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20121860c1 597-02844-12 523 residing in the same household, persons operating the insured 524 motor vehicle, passengers in the such motor vehicle, and other 525 persons struck by the such motor vehicle and suffering bodily 526 injury while not an occupant of a self-propelled vehicle, 527 subject to the provisions of subsection (2) and paragraph (4)(e), to a limit of \$10,000 for loss sustained by any such 528 529 person as a result of bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death 530 arising out of the ownership, maintenance, or use of a motor 531 vehicle as follows: 532 (a) Medical benefits.-Eighty percent of all reasonable expenses for medically necessary medical, surgical, X-ray, 533 534 dental, and rehabilitative services, including prosthetic 535 devices, and medically necessary ambulance, hospital, and 536 nursing services. Medical benefits do not include massage as defined in s. 480.033 or acupuncture as defined in s. 457.102. 537 However, The medical benefits shall provide reimbursement only 538 539 for such services and care that are lawfully provided, 540 supervised, ordered, or prescribed by a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, a dentist licensed under chapter 541 542 466, or a chiropractic physician licensed under chapter 460 or that are provided by any of the following persons or entities: 543 544 1. A hospital or ambulatory surgical center licensed under 545 chapter 395. 2. A person or entity licensed under part III of chapter 546 401 which ss. 401.2101-401.45 that provides emergency 547 548 transportation and treatment. 549 3. An entity wholly owned by one or more physicians

549 5. All entry whorry owned by one of more physicians 550 licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, chiropractic 551 physicians licensed under chapter 460, or dentists licensed

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20121860c1 597-02844-12 552 under chapter 466 or by such practitioner or practitioners and 553 the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of such that practitioner 554 or those practitioners. 555 4. An entity wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by a 556 hospital or hospitals. 557 5. A health care clinic licensed under part X of chapter 558 400 which ss. 400.990-400.995 that is: a. <u>A health care clinic accredited by the Joint Commission</u> 559 560 on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations, the American 561 Osteopathic Association, the Commission on Accreditation of 562 Rehabilitation Facilities, or the Accreditation Association for 563 Ambulatory Health Care, Inc.; or 564 b. A health care clinic that: 565 (I) Has a medical director licensed under chapter 458, 566 chapter 459, or chapter 460; 567 (II) Has been continuously licensed for more than 3 years 568 or is a publicly traded corporation that issues securities 569 traded on an exchange registered with the United States 570 Securities and Exchange Commission as a national securities 571 exchange; and 572 (III) Provides at least four of the following medical 573 specialties: 574 (A) General medicine. 575 (B) Radiography. 576 (C) Orthopedic medicine. 577 (D) Physical medicine. (E) Physical therapy. 578 579 (F) Physical rehabilitation. 580 (G) Prescribing or dispensing outpatient prescription

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581	medication.
582	(H) Laboratory services.
583	
584	The Financial Services Commission shall adopt by rule the form
585	that must be used by an insurer and a health care provider
586	specified in subparagraph 3., subparagraph 4., or subparagraph
587	5. to document that the health care provider meets the criteria
588	of this paragraph, which rule must include a requirement for a
589	sworn statement or affidavit.
590	(b) Disability benefits.—Sixty percent of any loss of gross
591	income and loss of earning capacity per individual from
592	inability to work proximately caused by the injury sustained by
593	the injured person, plus all expenses reasonably incurred in
594	obtaining from others ordinary and necessary services in lieu of
595	those that, but for the injury, the injured person would have
596	performed without income for the benefit of his or her
597	household. All disability benefits payable under this provision
598	must shall be paid <u>at least</u> not less than every 2 weeks.
599	(c) Death benefitsDeath benefits equal to the lesser of
600	\$5,000 or the remainder of unused personal injury protection
601	benefits per individual. The insurer shall give priority to the
602	payment of death benefits over the payment of other benefits of
603	the deceased and, upon learning of the death of the individual,

604 <u>stop paying the other benefits until the death benefits are</u> 605 <u>paid.</u> The insurer may pay <u>death</u> such benefits to the executor or 606 administrator of the deceased, to any of the deceased's 607 relatives by blood, or legal adoption, or connection by 608 marriage, or to any person appearing to the insurer to be 609 equitably entitled thereto.

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611 Only insurers writing motor vehicle liability insurance in this state may provide the required benefits of this section, and no 612 613 such insurer may not shall require the purchase of any other 614 motor vehicle coverage other than the purchase of property damage liability coverage as required by s. 627.7275 as a 615 616 condition for providing such required benefits. Insurers may not 617 require that property damage liability insurance in an amount greater than \$10,000 be purchased in conjunction with personal 618 619 injury protection. Such insurers shall make benefits and 620 required property damage liability insurance coverage available 621 through normal marketing channels. An Any insurer writing motor 622 vehicle liability insurance in this state who fails to comply 623 with such availability requirement as a general business 624 practice violates shall be deemed to have violated part IX of 625 chapter 626, and such violation constitutes shall constitute an 626 unfair method of competition or an unfair or deceptive act or 627 practice involving the business of insurance. An; and any such 628 insurer committing such violation is shall be subject to the 629 penalties provided under that afforded in such part, as well as those provided which may be afforded elsewhere in the insurance 630 631 code.

(4) <u>PAYMENT OF</u> BENEFITS; WHEN DUE. Benefits due from an
insurer under ss. 627.730-627.7405 <u>are shall be primary</u>, except
that benefits received under any workers' compensation law <u>must</u>
shall be credited against the benefits provided by subsection
(1) and <u>are shall be</u> due and payable as loss accrues, upon
receipt of reasonable proof of such loss and the amount of
expenses and loss incurred which are covered by the policy

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 639 issued under ss. 627.730-627.7405. If When the Agency for Health 640 Care Administration provides, pays, or becomes liable for medical assistance under the Medicaid program related to injury, 641 642 sickness, disease, or death arising out of the ownership, 643 maintenance, or use of a motor vehicle, the benefits under ss. 644 627.730-627.7405 are shall be subject to the provisions of the 645 Medicaid program. However, within 30 days after receiving notice 646 that the Medicaid program paid such benefits, the insurer shall 647 repay the full amount of the benefits to the Medicaid program. 648 (a) An insurer may require written notice to be given as 649 soon as practicable after an accident involving a motor vehicle 650 with respect to which the policy affords the security required 651 by ss. 627.730-627.7405. 652 (b) Personal injury protection insurance benefits paid 653 pursuant to this section are shall be overdue if not paid within 654 30 days after the insurer is furnished written notice of the 655 fact of a covered loss and of the amount of same. However: 656 1. If such written notice of the entire claim is not 657 furnished to the insurer as to the entire claim, any partial 658 amount supported by written notice is overdue if not paid within 659 30 days after such written notice is furnished to the insurer. 660 Any part or all of the remainder of the claim that is 661 subsequently supported by written notice is overdue if not paid 662 within 30 days after such written notice is furnished to the 663 insurer. 664 2. If When an insurer pays only a portion of a claim or rejects a claim, the insurer shall provide at the time of the 665

666 partial payment or rejection an itemized specification of each 667 item that the insurer had reduced, omitted, or declined to pay

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 668 and any information that the insurer desires the claimant to 669 consider related to the medical necessity of the denied 670 treatment or to explain the reasonableness of the reduced charge 671 if, provided that this does shall not limit the introduction of 672 evidence at trial.; and The insurer must also shall include the 673 name and address of the person to whom the claimant should 674 respond and a claim number to be referenced in future 675 correspondence. 676 3. If an insurer pays only a portion of a claim or rejects 677 a claim due to an alleged error in the claim, the insurer shall 678 provide at the time of the partial payment or rejection an 679 itemized specification or explanation of benefits of the 680 specified error. Upon receiving the specification or 681 explanation, the person making the claim has, at the person's 682 option and without waiving any other legal remedy for payment, 683 15 days to submit a revised claim, and the revised claim shall 684 be considered a timely submission of written notice of a claim. 685 4. However, Notwithstanding the fact that written notice has been furnished to the insurer, any payment is shall not be 686 687 deemed overdue if when the insurer has reasonable proof to 688 establish that the insurer is not responsible for the payment. 689 5. For the purpose of calculating the extent to which any

benefits are overdue, payment shall be treated as being made on the date a draft or other valid instrument <u>that</u> which is equivalent to payment was placed in the United States mail in a properly addressed, postpaid envelope or, if not so posted, on the date of delivery.

695 <u>6.</u> This paragraph does not preclude or limit the ability of 696 the insurer to assert that the claim was unrelated, was not

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697	medically necessary, or was unreasonable or that the amount of
698	the charge was in excess of that permitted under, or in
699	violation of, subsection (5). Such assertion by the insurer may
700	be made at any time, including after payment of the claim or
701	after the 30-day time period for payment set forth in this
702	paragraph.
703	(c) Upon receiving notice of an accident that is
704	potentially covered by personal injury protection benefits, the
705	insurer must reserve \$5,000 of personal injury protection
706	benefits for payment to <u>:</u>
707	1. Physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or
708	dentists licensed under chapter 466 who provide emergency
709	services and care, as defined in s. 395.002 (9) , or who provide
710	hospital inpatient care.
711	2. Hospitals licensed under chapter 395.
712	
713	The amount required to be held in reserve may be used only to
714	pay claims from such physicians <u>,</u> or dentists <u>, or hospitals</u> until
715	30 days after the date the insurer receives notice of the
716	accident. After the 30-day period, any amount of the reserve for
717	which the insurer has not received notice of <u>such claims</u> a claim
718	from a physician or dentist who provided emergency services and
719	care or who provided hospital inpatient care may then be used by
720	the insurer to pay other claims. The time periods specified in
721	paragraph (b) for required payment of personal injury protection
722	benefits <u>are</u> shall be tolled for the period of time that an
723	insurer is required by this paragraph to hold payment of a claim
724	that is not from <u>such</u> a physician <u>,</u> or dentist <u>, or hospital</u> who
725	provided emergency services and care or who provided hospital

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597-02844-1220121860c1726inpatient care to the extent that the personal injury protection727benefits not held in reserve are insufficient to pay the claim.728This paragraph does not require an insurer to establish a claim729reserve for insurance accounting purposes.730(d) All overdue payments shall bear simple interest at the

731 rate established under s. 55.03 or the rate established in the 732 insurance contract, whichever is greater, for the year in which 733 the payment became overdue, calculated from the date the insurer 734 was furnished with written notice of the amount of covered loss. 735 Interest <u>is shall be</u> due at the time payment of the overdue 736 claim is made.

(e) The insurer of the owner of a motor vehicle shall paypersonal injury protection benefits for:

739 1. Accidental bodily injury sustained in this state by the 740 owner while occupying a motor vehicle, or while not an occupant 741 of a self-propelled vehicle if the injury is caused by physical 742 contact with a motor vehicle.

743 2. Accidental bodily injury sustained outside this state, 744 but within the United States of America or its territories or 745 possessions or Canada, by the owner while occupying the owner's 746 motor vehicle.

3. Accidental bodily injury sustained by a relative of the owner residing in the same household, under the circumstances described in subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., <u>if provided</u> the relative at the time of the accident is domiciled in the owner's household and is not <u>himself or herself</u> the owner of a motor vehicle with respect to which security is required under ss. 627.730-627.7405.

754

4. Accidental bodily injury sustained in this state by any

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 755 other person while occupying the owner's motor vehicle or, if a 756 resident of this state, while not an occupant of a self-757 propelled vehicle, if the injury is caused by physical contact 758 with such motor vehicle, if provided the injured person is not 759 himself or herself: 760 a. The owner of a motor vehicle with respect to which 761 security is required under ss. 627.730-627.7405; or 762 b. Entitled to personal injury benefits from the insurer of the owner or owners of such a motor vehicle. 763 764 (f) If two or more insurers are liable for paying to pay 765 personal injury protection benefits for the same injury to any 766 one person, the maximum payable is shall be as specified in 767 subsection (1), and the any insurer paying the benefits is shall be entitled to recover from each of the other insurers an 768 769 equitable pro rata share of the benefits paid and expenses 770 incurred in processing the claim. 771 (g) It is a violation of the insurance code for an insurer 772 to fail to timely provide benefits as required by this section 773 with such frequency as to constitute a general business 774 practice. 775 (h) Benefits are shall not be due or payable to or on the behalf of an insured person if that person has committed, by a 776 777 material act or omission, any insurance fraud relating to 778 personal injury protection coverage under his or her policy, if 779 the fraud is admitted to in a sworn statement by the insured or 780 if it is established in a court of competent jurisdiction. Any 781 insurance fraud voids shall void all coverage arising from the 782 claim related to such fraud under the personal injury protection 783 coverage of the insured person who committed the fraud,

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 784 irrespective of whether a portion of the insured person's claim 785 may be legitimate, and any benefits paid before prior to the 786 discovery of the insured person's insurance fraud is shall be recoverable by the insurer in its entirety from the person who 787 committed insurance fraud in their entirety. The prevailing 788 789 party is entitled to its costs and attorney attorney's fees in 790 any action in which it prevails in an insurer's action to 791 enforce its right of recovery under this paragraph. 792 (i) An insurer shall create and maintain for each insured a log of personal injury protection benefits paid by the insurer 793 794 on behalf of the insured. The insurer shall provide to the 795 insured, or an assignee of the insured, a copy of the log within 796 30 days after receiving a request for the log from the insured 797 or the assignee. 798 (5) CHARGES FOR TREATMENT OF INJURED PERSONS.-799 (a) 1. A Any physician, hospital, clinic, or other person or 800 institution lawfully rendering treatment to an injured person 801 for a bodily injury covered by personal injury protection 802 insurance may charge the insurer and injured party only a 803 reasonable amount pursuant to this section for the services and 804 supplies rendered, and the insurer providing such coverage may 805 pay for such charges directly to such person or institution 806 lawfully rendering such treatment $_{ au}$ if the insured receiving such 807 treatment or his or her guardian has countersigned the properly 808 completed invoice, bill, or claim form approved by the office 809 upon which such charges are to be paid for as having actually 810 been rendered, to the best knowledge of the insured or his or 811 her guardian. In no event, However, may such a charge may not 812 exceed be in excess of the amount the person or institution

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 813 customarily charges for like services or supplies. In 814 determining With respect to a determination of whether a charge for a particular service, treatment, or otherwise is reasonable, 815 816 consideration may be given to evidence of usual and customary 817 charges and payments accepted by the provider involved in the dispute, and reimbursement levels in the community and various 818 819 federal and state medical fee schedules applicable to motor 820 vehicle automobile and other insurance coverages, and other 821 information relevant to the reasonableness of the reimbursement 822 for the service, treatment, or supply.

823 1.2. The insurer may limit reimbursement to 80 percent of 824 the following schedule of maximum charges:

a. For emergency transport and treatment by providers licensed under chapter 401, 200 percent of Medicare.

b. For emergency services and care provided by a hospital
licensed under chapter 395, 75 percent of the hospital's usual
and customary charges.

c. For emergency services and care as defined by s.
395.002(9) provided in a facility licensed under chapter 395
rendered by a physician or dentist, and related hospital
inpatient services rendered by a physician or dentist, the usual
and customary charges in the community.

d. For hospital inpatient services, other than emergency
services and care, 200 percent of the Medicare Part A
prospective payment applicable to the specific hospital
providing the inpatient services.

e. For hospital outpatient services, other than emergency
services and care, 200 percent of the Medicare Part A Ambulatory
Payment Classification for the specific hospital providing the

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 842 outpatient services. 843 f. For all other medical services, supplies, and care, 200 844 percent of the allowable amount under: 845 (I) The participating physicians fee schedule of Medicare 846 Part B, except as provided in sub-subparagraphs (II) and 847 (III). 848 (II) Medicare Part B, in the case of services, supplies, and care provided by ambulatory surgical centers and clinical 849 850 laboratories. 851 (III) The Durable Medical Equipment Prosthetics/Orthotics 852 and Supplies fee schedule of Medicare Part B, in the case of 853 durable medical equipment. 854 However, if such services, supplies, or care is not reimbursable 855 856 under Medicare Part B, as provided in this sub-subparagraph, the 857 insurer may limit reimbursement to 80 percent of the maximum 858 reimbursable allowance under workers' compensation, as 859 determined under s. 440.13 and rules adopted thereunder which 860 are in effect at the time such services, supplies, or care is 861 provided. Services, supplies, or care that is not reimbursable 862 under Medicare or workers' compensation is not required to be 863 reimbursed by the insurer. 864 2.3. For purposes of subparagraph 1. 2., the applicable fee 865

schedule or payment limitation under Medicare is the fee schedule or payment limitation in effect <u>on January 1 of the</u> year in which at the time the services, supplies, or care <u>is was</u> rendered and for the area in which such services<u>, supplies</u>, or <u>care is were</u> rendered<u>, and the applicable fee schedule or</u> payment limitation applies throughout the remainder of that

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 871 year, notwithstanding any subsequent change made to the fee 872 schedule or payment limitation, except that it may not be less 873 than the allowable amount under the applicable participating 874 physicians schedule of Medicare Part B for 2007 for medical 875 services, supplies, and care subject to Medicare Part B. 876 3.4. Subparagraph 1. 2. does not allow the insurer to apply 877 any limitation on the number of treatments or other utilization 878 limits that apply under Medicare or workers' compensation. An 879 insurer that applies the allowable payment limitations of 880 subparagraph 1. 2. must reimburse a provider who lawfully 881 provided care or treatment under the scope of his or her 882 license, regardless of whether such provider is would be entitled to reimbursement under Medicare due to restrictions or 883 884 limitations on the types or discipline of health care providers 885 who may be reimbursed for particular procedures or procedure 886 codes. However, subparagraph 1. does not prohibit an insurer 887 from using the Medicare coding policies and payment 888 methodologies of the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, including applicable modifiers, to determine the 889 890 appropriate amount of reimbursement for medical services, 891 supplies, or care if the coding policy or payment methodology 892 does not constitute a utilization limit.

4.5. If an insurer limits payment as authorized by
subparagraph <u>1.</u> 2., the person providing such services,
supplies, or care may not bill or attempt to collect from the
insured any amount in excess of such limits, except for amounts
that are not covered by the insured's personal injury protection
coverage due to the coinsurance amount or maximum policy limits.
5. Effective July 1, 2012, an insurer may limit payment as

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900	authorized by this paragraph only if the insurance policy
901	includes a notice at the time of issuance or renewal that the
902	insurer may limit payment pursuant to the schedule of charges
903	specified in this paragraph. A policy form approved by the
904	office satisfies this requirement. If a provider submits a
905	charge for an amount less than the amount allowed under
906	subparagraph 1., the insurer may pay the amount of the charge
907	submitted.
908	(b)1. An insurer or insured is not required to pay a claim
909	or charges:
910	a. Made by a broker or by a person making a claim on behalf
911	of a broker;
912	b. For any service or treatment that was not lawful at the
913	time rendered;
914	c. To any person who knowingly submits a false or
915	misleading statement relating to the claim or charges;
916	d. With respect to a bill or statement that does not
917	substantially meet the applicable requirements of paragraph (d);
918	e. For any treatment or service that is upcoded, or that is
919	unbundled when such treatment or services should be bundled, in
920	accordance with paragraph (d). To facilitate prompt payment of
921	lawful services, an insurer may change codes that it determines
922	$rac{ extsf{to}}{ extsf{to}}$ have been improperly or incorrectly upcoded or unbundled $_{ au}$ and
923	may make payment based on the changed codes, without affecting
924	the right of the provider to dispute the change by the insurer,
925	<u>if,</u> provided that before doing so, the insurer <u>contacts</u> must
926	contact the health care provider and <u>discusses</u> discuss the
927	reasons for the insurer's change and the health care provider's
928	reason for the coding, or <u>makes</u> make a reasonable good faith

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 929 effort to do so, as documented in the insurer's file; and 930 f. For medical services or treatment billed by a physician 931 and not provided in a hospital unless such services are rendered 932 by the physician or are incident to his or her professional 933 services and are included on the physician's bill, including 934 documentation verifying that the physician is responsible for 935 the medical services that were rendered and billed. 2. The Department of Health, in consultation with the 936 937 appropriate professional licensing boards, shall adopt, by rule, 938 a list of diagnostic tests deemed not to be medically necessary 939 for use in the treatment of persons sustaining bodily injury 940 covered by personal injury protection benefits under this 941 section. The initial list shall be adopted by January 1, 2004, 942 and shall be revised from time to time as determined by the 943 Department of Health, in consultation with the respective 944 professional licensing boards. Inclusion of a test on the list

945 of invalid diagnostic tests shall be based on lack of 946 demonstrated medical value and a level of general acceptance by 947 the relevant provider community and may shall not be dependent 948 for results entirely upon subjective patient response. 949 Notwithstanding its inclusion on a fee schedule in this 950 subsection, an insurer or insured is not required to pay any 951 charges or reimburse claims for an any invalid diagnostic test 952 as determined by the Department of Health.

953 (c)1. With respect to any treatment or service, other than 954 medical services billed by a hospital or other provider for 955 emergency services <u>and care</u> as defined in s. 395.002 or 956 inpatient services rendered at a hospital-owned facility, the 957 statement of charges must be furnished to the insurer by the

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 958 provider and may not include, and the insurer is not required to 959 pay, charges for treatment or services rendered more than 35 960 days before the postmark date or electronic transmission date of 961 the statement, except for past due amounts previously billed on 962 a timely basis under this paragraph, and except that, if the 963 provider submits to the insurer a notice of initiation of 964 treatment within 21 days after its first examination or 965 treatment of the claimant, the statement may include charges for 966 treatment or services rendered up to, but not more than, 75 days 967 before the postmark date of the statement. The injured party is 968 not liable for, and the provider may shall not bill the injured 969 party for, charges that are unpaid because of the provider's 970 failure to comply with this paragraph. Any agreement requiring 971 the injured person or insured to pay for such charges is 972 unenforceable.

973 1.2. If, however, the insured fails to furnish the provider 974 with the correct name and address of the insured's personal 975 injury protection insurer, the provider has 35 days from the 976 date the provider obtains the correct information to furnish the 977 insurer with a statement of the charges. The insurer is not 978 required to pay for such charges unless the provider includes 979 with the statement documentary evidence that was provided by the 980 insured during the 35-day period demonstrating that the provider 981 reasonably relied on erroneous information from the insured and 982 either:

983

a. A denial letter from the incorrect insurer; or

b. Proof of mailing, which may include an affidavit under
penalty of perjury, reflecting timely mailing to the incorrect
address or insurer.

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1004

597-02844-12 20121860c1 987 2.3. For emergency services and care as defined in s. 988 395.002 rendered in a hospital emergency department or for 989 transport and treatment rendered by an ambulance provider 990 licensed pursuant to part III of chapter 401, the provider is 991 not required to furnish the statement of charges within the time 992 periods established by this paragraph, + and the insurer is shall 993 not be considered to have been furnished with notice of the 994 amount of covered loss for purposes of paragraph (4) (b) until it 995 receives a statement complying with paragraph (d), or copy 996 thereof, which specifically identifies the place of service to 997 be a hospital emergency department or an ambulance in accordance 998 with billing standards recognized by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Health Care Finance 999 Administration. 1000

1001 <u>3.4.</u> Each notice of <u>the</u> insured's rights under s. 627.7401
1002 must include the following statement <u>in at least 12-point type</u>
1003 in type no smaller than 12 points:

1005 BILLING REQUIREMENTS.-Florida law provides Statutes 1006 provide that with respect to any treatment or 1007 services, other than certain hospital and emergency 1008 services, the statement of charges furnished to the 1009 insurer by the provider may not include, and the 1010 insurer and the injured party are not required to pay, 1011 charges for treatment or services rendered more than 1012 35 days before the postmark date of the statement, 1013 except for past due amounts previously billed on a 1014 timely basis, and except that, if the provider submits 1015 to the insurer a notice of initiation of treatment

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1016
           within 21 days after its first examination or
1017
           treatment of the claimant, the statement may include
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           charges for treatment or services rendered up to, but
1019
           not more than, 75 days before the postmark date of the
1020
           statement.
1021
1022
           (d) All statements and bills for medical services rendered
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      by a any physician, hospital, clinic, or other person or
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      institution shall be submitted to the insurer on a properly
1025
      completed Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) 1500
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      form, UB 92 forms, or any other standard form approved by the
1027
      office or adopted by the commission for purposes of this
1028
      paragraph. All billings for such services rendered by providers
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      must shall, to the extent applicable, follow the Physicians'
1030
      Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) or Healthcare Correct
1031
      Procedural Coding System (HCPCS), or ICD-9 in effect for the
1032
      year in which services are rendered and comply with the Centers
1033
      for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) 1500 form instructions,
      and the American Medical Association Current Procedural
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1035
      Terminology (CPT) Editorial Panel, and the Healthcare Correct
1036
      Procedural Coding System (HCPCS). All providers, other than
1037
      hospitals, must shall include on the applicable claim form the
1038
      professional license number of the provider in the line or space
1039
      provided for "Signature of Physician or Supplier, Including
1040
      Degrees or Credentials." In determining compliance with
1041
      applicable CPT and HCPCS coding, guidance shall be provided by
1042
      the Physicians' Current Procedural Terminology (CPT) or the
1043
      Healthcare Correct Procedural Coding System (HCPCS) in effect
1044
      for the year in which services were rendered, the Office of the
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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1045 Inspector General (OIG), Physicians Compliance Guidelines, and 1046 other authoritative treatises designated by rule by the Agency 1047 for Health Care Administration. A No statement of medical 1048 services may not include charges for medical services of a 1049 person or entity that performed such services without possessing 1050 the valid licenses required to perform such services. For 1051 purposes of paragraph (4) (b), an insurer is shall not be 1052 considered to have been furnished with notice of the amount of 1053 covered loss or medical bills due unless the statements or bills 1054 comply with this paragraph, and unless the statements or bills 1055 are properly completed in their entirety as to all material 1056 provisions, with all relevant information being provided 1057 therein.

(e)1. At the initial treatment or service provided, each physician, other licensed professional, clinic, or other medical institution providing medical services upon which a claim for personal injury protection benefits is based shall require an insured person, or his or her guardian, to execute a disclosure and acknowledgment form, which reflects at a minimum that:

a. The insured, or his or her guardian, must countersignthe form attesting to the fact that the services set forththerein were actually rendered;

b. The insured, or his or her guardian, has both the right and affirmative duty to confirm that the services were actually rendered;

1070 c. The insured, or his or her guardian, was not solicited 1071 by any person to seek any services from the medical provider;

1072 d. The physician, other licensed professional, clinic, or 1073 other medical institution rendering services for which payment

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1074 is being claimed explained the services to the insured or his or 1075 her guardian; and 1076 e. If the insured notifies the insurer in writing of a 1077 billing error, the insured may be entitled to a certain 1078 percentage of a reduction in the amounts paid by the insured's 1079 motor vehicle insurer. 1080 2. The physician, other licensed professional, clinic, or 1081 other medical institution rendering services for which payment 1082 is being claimed has the affirmative duty to explain the 1083 services rendered to the insured, or his or her guardian, so 1084 that the insured, or his or her guardian, countersigns the form 1085 with informed consent. 3. Countersignature by the insured, or his or her guardian, 1086 1087 is not required for the reading of diagnostic tests or other 1088 services that are of such a nature that they are not required to 1089 be performed in the presence of the insured. 1090 4. The licensed medical professional rendering treatment 1091 for which payment is being claimed must sign, by his or her own 1092 hand, the form complying with this paragraph.

1093 5. The original completed disclosure and acknowledgment 1094 form shall be furnished to the insurer pursuant to paragraph 1095 (4)(b) and may not be electronically furnished.

1096 6. <u>The This</u> disclosure and acknowledgment form is not
1097 required for services billed by a provider for emergency
1098 services as defined in s. 395.002, for emergency services and
1099 care as defined in s. 395.002 rendered in a hospital emergency
1100 department, or for transport and treatment rendered by an
1101 ambulance provider licensed pursuant to part III of chapter 401.
1102 7. The Financial Services Commission shall adopt, by rule,

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1103 a standard disclosure and acknowledgment form to that shall be 1104 used to fulfill the requirements of this paragraph, effective 90 days after such form is adopted and becomes final. The 1105 1106 commission shall adopt a proposed rule by October 1, 2003. Until 1107 the rule is final, the provider may use a form of its own which 1108 otherwise complies with the requirements of this paragraph. 1109 8. As used in this paragraph, the term "countersign" or 1110 "countersignature" "countersigned" means a second or verifying signature, as on a previously signed document, and is not 1111 1112 satisfied by the statement "signature on file" or any similar 1113 statement. 1114 9. The requirements of this paragraph apply only with 1115 respect to the initial treatment or service of the insured by a 1116 provider. For subsequent treatments or service, the provider 1117 must maintain a patient log signed by the patient, in 1118 chronological order by date of service, which that is consistent 1119 with the services being rendered to the patient as claimed. The 1120 requirement to maintain requirements of this subparagraph for maintaining a patient log signed by the patient may be met by a 1121 1122 hospital that maintains medical records as required by s. 1123 395.3025 and applicable rules and makes such records available 1124 to the insurer upon request. 1125 (f) Upon written notification by any person, an insurer shall investigate any claim of improper billing by a physician 1126 1127 or other medical provider. The insurer shall determine if the

1128 insured was properly billed for only those services and 1129 treatments that the insured actually received. If the insurer 1130 determines that the insured has been improperly billed, the 1131 insurer shall notify the insured, the person making the written

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1132	notification, and the provider of its findings and shall reduce					
1133	the amount of payment to the provider by the amount determined					
1134	to be improperly billed. If a reduction is made due to <u>a</u> such					
1135	written notification by any person, the insurer shall pay to the					
1136	person 20 percent of the amount of the reduction, up to \$500. If					
1137	the provider is arrested due to the improper billing, then the					
1138	insurer shall pay to the person 40 percent of the amount of the					
1139	reduction, up to \$500.					
1140	(g) An insurer may not systematically downcode with the					
1141	intent to deny reimbursement otherwise due. Such action					
1142	constitutes a material misrepresentation under s.					
1143	626.9541(1)(i)2.					
1144	(h) As provided in s. 400.9905, an entity excluded from the					
1145	definition of a clinic shall be deemed a clinic and must be					
1146	licensed under part X of chapter 400 in order to receive					
1147	reimbursement under ss. 627.730-627.7405. However, this					
1148	licensing requirement does not apply to:					
1149	1. An entity wholly owned by a physician licensed under					
1150	chapter 458 or chapter 459, or by the physician and the spouse,					
1151	parent, child, or sibling of the physician;					
1152	2. An entity wholly owned by a dentist licensed under					
1153	chapter 466, or by the dentist and the spouse, parent, child, or					
1154	sibling of the dentist;					
1155	3. An entity wholly owned by a chiropractic physician					
1156	licensed under chapter 460, or by the chiropractic physician and					
1157	the spouse, parent, child, or sibling of the chiropractic					
1158	physician;					
1159	4. A hospital or ambulatory surgical center licensed under					
1160	chapter 395; or					

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1161 5. An entity wholly owned, directly or indirectly, by a 1162 hospital or hospitals licensed under chapter 395. (6) DISCOVERY OF FACTS ABOUT AN INJURED PERSON; DISPUTES.-1163 1164 (a) Every employer shall, If a request is made by an 1165 insurer providing personal injury protection benefits under ss. 1166 627.730-627.7405 against whom a claim has been made, an employer 1167 must furnish forthwith, in a form approved by the office, a sworn statement of the earnings, since the time of the bodily 1168 injury and for a reasonable period before the injury, of the 1169 1170 person upon whose injury the claim is based. 1171 (b) Every physician, hospital, clinic, or other medical institution providing, before or after bodily injury upon which 1172 1173 a claim for personal injury protection insurance benefits is 1174 based, any products, services, or accommodations in relation to 1175 that or any other injury, or in relation to a condition claimed 1176 to be connected with that or any other injury, shall, if 1177 requested to do so by the insurer against whom the claim has been made, furnish forthwith a written report of the history, 1178 condition, treatment, dates, and costs of such treatment of the 1179 1180 injured person and why the items identified by the insurer were 1181 reasonable in amount and medically necessary, together with a sworn statement that the treatment or services rendered were 1182 1183 reasonable and necessary with respect to the bodily injury sustained and identifying which portion of the expenses for such 1184 1185 treatment or services was incurred as a result of such bodily 1186 injury, and produce forthwith, and allow permit the inspection 1187 and copying of, his or her or its records regarding such 1188 history, condition, treatment, dates, and costs of treatment if; 1189 provided that this does shall not limit the introduction of

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1190 evidence at trial. Such sworn statement must shall read as 1191 follows: "Under penalty of perjury, I declare that I have read 1192 the foregoing, and the facts alleged are true, to the best of my 1193 knowledge and belief." A No cause of action for violation of the 1194 physician-patient privilege or invasion of the right of privacy 1195 may not be brought shall be permitted against any physician, 1196 hospital, clinic, or other medical institution complying with 1197 the provisions of this section. The person requesting such 1198 records and such sworn statement shall pay all reasonable costs 1199 connected therewith. If an insurer makes a written request for 1200 documentation or information under this paragraph within 30 days 1201 after having received notice of the amount of a covered loss 1202 under paragraph (4)(a), the amount or the partial amount that 1203 which is the subject of the insurer's inquiry is shall become 1204 overdue if the insurer does not pay in accordance with paragraph 1205 (4) (b) or within 10 days after the insurer's receipt of the 1206 requested documentation or information, whichever occurs later. 1207 As used in For purposes of this paragraph, the term "receipt" includes, but is not limited to, inspection and copying pursuant 1208 1209 to this paragraph. An Any insurer that requests documentation or 1210 information pertaining to reasonableness of charges or medical 1211 necessity under this paragraph without a reasonable basis for 1212 such requests as a general business practice is engaging in an unfair trade practice under the insurance code. 1213

(c) In the event of <u>a</u> any dispute regarding an insurer's right to discovery of facts under this section, the insurer may petition a court of competent jurisdiction to enter an order permitting such discovery. The order may be made only on motion for good cause shown and upon notice to all persons having an

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1219 interest, and must it shall specify the time, place, manner, 1220 conditions, and scope of the discovery. Such court may, In order 1221 to protect against annoyance, embarrassment, or oppression, as 1222 justice requires, the court may enter an order refusing 1223 discovery or specifying conditions of discovery and may order 1224 payments of costs and expenses of the proceeding, including 1225 reasonable fees for the appearance of attorneys at the 1226 proceedings, as justice requires. 1227 (d) The injured person shall be furnished, upon request, a 1228 copy of all information obtained by the insurer under the 1229 provisions of this section, and shall pay a reasonable charge, 1230 if required by the insurer. 1231 (e) Notice to an insurer of the existence of a claim may 1232 shall not be unreasonably withheld by an insured. 1233 (f) In a dispute between the insured and the insurer, or 1234 between an assignee of the insured's rights and the insurer, the 1235 insurer must notify the insured or the assignee that the policy 1236 limits under this section have been reached within 15 days after 1237 the limits have been reached. 1238 (8) APPLICABILITY OF PROVISION REGULATING ATTORNEY 1239 ATTORNEY'S FEES.-With respect to any dispute under the 1240 provisions of ss. 627.730-627.7405 between the insured and the 1241 insurer, or between an assignee of an insured's rights and the 1242 insurer, the provisions of ss. s. 627.428 and 768.79 shall 1243 apply, except as provided in subsections (10) and (15). 1244 (9) PREFERRED PROVIDERS. - An insurer may negotiate and 1245 contract enter into contracts with preferred licensed health care providers for the benefits described in this section, 1246 1247 referred to in this section as "preferred providers," which

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1248 shall include health care providers licensed under chapter 1249 chapters 458, chapter 459, chapter 460, chapter 461, or chapter and 463. The insurer may provide an option to an insured to use 1250 1251 a preferred provider at the time of purchasing purchase of the 1252 policy for personal injury protection benefits, if the 1253 requirements of this subsection are met. If the insured elects 1254 to use a provider who is not a preferred provider, whether the 1255 insured purchased a preferred provider policy or a nonpreferred 1256 provider policy, the medical benefits provided by the insurer 1257 shall be as required by this section. If the insured elects to 1258 use a provider who is a preferred provider, the insurer may pay 1259 medical benefits in excess of the benefits required by this 1260 section and may waive or lower the amount of any deductible that 1261 applies to such medical benefits. If the insurer offers a 1262 preferred provider policy to a policyholder or applicant, it 1263 must also offer a nonpreferred provider policy. The insurer 1264 shall provide each insured policyholder with a current roster of 1265 preferred providers in the county in which the insured resides at the time of purchase of such policy, and shall make such list 1266 1267 available for public inspection during regular business hours at 1268 the insurer's principal office of the insurer within the state. 1269 (10) DEMAND LETTER.-

(a) As a condition precedent to filing any action for benefits under this section, the insurer must be provided with written notice of an intent to initiate litigation <u>must be</u> <u>provided to the insurer</u>. Such notice may not be sent until the claim is overdue, including any additional time the insurer has to pay the claim pursuant to paragraph (4)(b).

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(b) The notice must required shall state that it is a

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 "demand letter under s. $627.736 \cdot (10)$ " and shall state with 1277 1278 specificity: 1279 1. The name of the insured upon which such benefits are 1280 being sought, including a copy of the assignment giving rights 1281 to the claimant if the claimant is not the insured. 1282 2. The claim number or policy number upon which such claim 1283 was originally submitted to the insurer. 3. To the extent applicable, the name of any medical 1284 1285 provider who rendered to an insured the treatment, services, 1286 accommodations, or supplies that form the basis of such claim; 1287 and an itemized statement specifying each exact amount, the date 1288 of treatment, service, or accommodation, and the type of benefit 1289 claimed to be due. A completed form satisfying the requirements 1290 of paragraph (5)(d) or the lost-wage statement previously 1291 submitted may be used as the itemized statement. To the extent 1292 that the demand involves an insurer's withdrawal of payment 1293 under paragraph (7) (a) for future treatment not yet rendered, 1294 the claimant shall attach a copy of the insurer's notice 1295 withdrawing such payment and an itemized statement of the type, 1296 frequency, and duration of future treatment claimed to be 1297 reasonable and medically necessary. 1298 (c) Each notice required by this subsection must be 1299 delivered to the insurer by United States certified or 1300 registered mail, return receipt requested. Such postal costs 1301 shall be reimbursed by the insurer if so requested by the 1302 claimant in the notice, when the insurer pays the claim. Such

1304 insurer for the purposes of receiving notices under this 1305 subsection. Each licensed insurer, whether domestic, foreign, or

notice must be sent to the person and address specified by the

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1306 alien, shall file with the office designation of the name and 1307 address of the person to whom notices must pursuant to this subsection shall be sent which the office shall make available 1308 1309 on its Internet website. The name and address on file with the 1310 office pursuant to s. 624.422 are shall be deemed the authorized 1311 representative to accept notice pursuant to this subsection if 1312 in the event no other designation has been made. 1313 (d) If, within 30 days after receipt of notice by the insurer, the overdue claim specified in the notice is paid by 1314 1315 the insurer together with applicable interest and a penalty of 10 percent of the overdue amount paid by the insurer, subject to 1316 1317 a maximum penalty of \$250, no action may be brought against the insurer. If the demand involves an insurer's withdrawal of 1318 payment under paragraph (7) (a) for future treatment not yet 1319 1320 rendered, no action may be brought against the insurer if, 1321 within 30 days after its receipt of the notice, the insurer 1322 mails to the person filing the notice a written statement of the 1323 insurer's agreement to pay for such treatment in accordance with 1324 the notice and to pay a penalty of 10 percent, subject to a 1325 maximum penalty of \$250, when it pays for such future treatment 1326 in accordance with the requirements of this section. To the 1327 extent the insurer determines not to pay any amount demanded, 1328 the penalty is shall not be payable in any subsequent action. 1329 For purposes of this subsection, payment or the insurer's 1330 agreement shall be treated as being made on the date a draft or 1331 other valid instrument that is equivalent to payment, or the 1332 insurer's written statement of agreement, is placed in the 1333 United States mail in a properly addressed, postpaid envelope, 1334 or if not so posted, on the date of delivery. The insurer is not

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1335	obligated to pay any attorney attorney's fees if the insurer
1336	pays the claim or mails its agreement to pay for future
1337	treatment within the time prescribed by this subsection.
1338	(e) The applicable statute of limitation for an action
1339	under this section shall be tolled for a period of 30 business
1340	days by the mailing of the notice required by this subsection.
1341	(f) Any insurer making a general business practice of not
1342	paying valid claims until receipt of the notice required by this
1343	subsection is engaging in an unfair trade practice under the
1344	insurance code.
1345	(11) FAILURE TO PAY VALID CLAIMS; UNFAIR OR DECEPTIVE
1346	PRACTICE
1347	(a) If An insurer fails to pay valid claims for personal
1348	injury protection with such frequency so as to indicate a
1349	general business practice, the insurer is engaging in a
1350	prohibited unfair or deceptive practice that is subject to the
1351	penalties provided in s. 626.9521 and the office has the powers
1352	and duties specified in ss. 626.9561-626.9601 <u>if the insurer,</u>
1353	with such frequency so as to indicate a general business
1354	practice: with respect thereto
1355	1. Fails to pay valid claims for personal injury
1356	protection; or
1357	2. Fails to pay valid claims until receipt of the notice
1358	required by subsection (10).
1359	(b) Notwithstanding s. 501.212, the Department of Legal
1360	Affairs may investigate and initiate actions for a violation of
1361	this subsection, including, but not limited to, the powers and
1362	duties specified in part II of chapter 501.
1363	Section 8. Effective December 1, 2012, subsection (16) of

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 section 627.736, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 1364 1365 627.736 Required personal injury protection benefits; 1366 exclusions; priority; claims.-1367 (16) SECURE ELECTRONIC DATA TRANSFER.-If all parties 1368 mutually and expressly agree, A notice, documentation, 1369 transmission, or communication of any kind required or 1370 authorized under ss. 627.730-627.7405 may be transmitted 1371 electronically if it is transmitted by secure electronic data 1372 transfer that is consistent with state and federal privacy and 1373 security laws. 1374 Section 9. Subsections (1), (10), and (13) of section 1375 817.234, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 1376 817.234 False and fraudulent insurance claims.-1377 (1) (a) A person commits insurance fraud punishable as 1378 provided in subsection (11) if that person, with the intent to 1379 injure, defraud, or deceive any insurer: 1. Presents or causes to be presented any written or oral 1380 1381 statement as part of, or in support of, a claim for payment or 1382 other benefit pursuant to an insurance policy or a health 1383 maintenance organization subscriber or provider contract, 1384 knowing that such statement contains any false, incomplete, or 1385 misleading information concerning any fact or thing material to such claim; 1386 1387 2. Prepares or makes any written or oral statement that is 1388 intended to be presented to any insurer in connection with, or 1389 in support of, any claim for payment or other benefit pursuant 1390 to an insurance policy or a health maintenance organization

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subscriber or provider contract, knowing that such statement

contains any false, incomplete, or misleading information

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597-02844-12 20121860c1 1393 concerning any fact or thing material to such claim; or 1394 3.a. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or 1395 prepares or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be 1396 presented to any insurer, purported insurer, servicing 1397 corporation, insurance broker, or insurance agent, or any 1398 employee or agent thereof, any false, incomplete, or misleading 1399 information or written or oral statement as part of, or in support of, an application for the issuance of, or the rating 1400 1401 of, any insurance policy, or a health maintenance organization 1402 subscriber or provider contract; or 1403 b. Who Knowingly conceals information concerning any fact

1404 material to such application; or-

1405 4. Knowingly presents, causes to be presented, or prepares 1406 or makes with knowledge or belief that it will be presented to any insurer a claim for payment or other benefit under a 1407 1408 personal injury protection insurance policy if the person knows 1409 that the payee knowingly submitted a false, misleading, or 1410 fraudulent application or other document when applying for 1411 licensure as a health care clinic, seeking an exemption from 1412 licensure as a health care clinic, or demonstrating compliance 1413 with part X of chapter 400.

(b) All claims and application forms must shall contain a 1414 1415 statement that is approved by the Office of Insurance Regulation 1416 of the Financial Services Commission which clearly states in 1417 substance the following: "Any person who knowingly and with 1418 intent to injure, defraud, or deceive any insurer files a 1419 statement of claim or an application containing any false, 1420 incomplete, or misleading information is guilty of a felony of 1421 the third degree." This paragraph does shall not apply to

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1	597-02844-12 20121860c1
1422	reinsurance contracts, reinsurance agreements, or reinsurance
1423	claims transactions.
1424	(10) A licensed health care practitioner who is found
1425	guilty of insurance fraud under this section for an act relating
1426	to a personal injury protection insurance policy loses his or
1427	her license to practice for 5 years and may not receive
1428	reimbursement for personal injury protection benefits for 10
1429	years. As used in this section, the term "insurer" means any
1430	insurer, health maintenance organization, self-insurer, self-
1431	insurance fund, or other similar entity or person regulated
1432	under chapter 440 or chapter 641 or by the Office of Insurance
1433	Regulation under the Florida Insurance Code.
1434	(13) As used in this section, the term:
1435	(a) "Insurer" means any insurer, health maintenance
1436	organization, self-insurer, self-insurance fund, or similar
1437	entity or person regulated under chapter 440 or chapter 641 or
1438	by the Office of Insurance Regulation under the Florida
1439	Insurance Code.
1440	(b) (a) "Property" means property as defined in s. 812.012.
1441	<u>(c)</u> "Value" means value as defined in s. 812.012.
1442	Section 10. Subsection (4) of section 316.065, Florida
1443	Statutes, is amended to read:
1444	316.065 Crashes; reports; penalties
1445	(4) Any person who knowingly repairs a motor vehicle
1446	without having made a report as required by subsection (3) is
1447	guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as
1448	provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. The owner and driver of a
1449	vehicle involved in a crash who makes a report thereof in
1450	accordance with subsection (1) or s. 316.066(1) is not liable

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1451	under this section.				
1452	Section 11. The Office of Insurance Regulation shall				
1453	perform a comprehensive personal injury protection data call and				
1454	publish the results by January 1, 2015. It is the intent of the				
1455	Legislature that the office design the data call with the				
1456	expectation that the Legislature will use the data to help				
1457	evaluate market conditions relating to the Florida Motor Vehicle				
1458	No-Fault Law and the impact on the market of reforms to the law				
1459	made by this act. The elements of the data call must address,				
1460	but need not be limited to, the following components of the				
1461	Florida Motor Vehicle No-Fault Law:				
1462	(1) Quantity of personal injury protection claims.				
1463	(2) Type or nature of claimants.				
1464	(3) Amount and type of personal injury protection benefits				
1465	paid and expenses incurred.				
1466	(4) Type and quantity of, and charges for, medical				
1467	benefits.				
1468	(5) Attorney fees related to bringing and defending actions				
1469	for benefits.				
1470	(6) Direct earned premiums for personal injury protection				
1471	coverage, pure loss ratios, pure premiums, and other information				
1472	related to premiums and losses.				
1473	(7) Licensed drivers and accidents.				
1474	(8) Fraud and enforcement.				
1475	Section 12. <u>If any provision of this act or its application</u>				
1476	to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity				
1477	does not affect other provisions or applications of the act				
1478	which can be given effect without the invalid provision or				
1479	application, and to this end the provisions of this act are				

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1480	seve	severable.							
1481		Section 13. Except as otherwise expressly provided in	this						
1482	act,	this act shall take effect July 1, 2012.							