

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the state group insurance program;  
3 amending s. 110.123, F.S.; revising applicability of  
4 certain definitions; defining the term "plan year";  
5 authorizing the program to include additional  
6 benefits; authorizing an employee to use a certain  
7 portion of the state's contribution to purchase  
8 additional program benefits and supplemental benefits  
9 under specified circumstances; providing for the  
10 program to offer health plans in specified benefit  
11 levels; providing for the Department of Management  
12 Services to develop a plan for implementation of the  
13 benefit levels; providing reporting requirements;  
14 providing for expiration of the implementation plan;  
15 creating s. 110.12303, F.S.; authorizing additional  
16 benefits to be included in the program; providing that  
17 the department shall contract with at least one entity  
18 that provides comprehensive pricing and inclusive  
19 services for surgery and other medical procedures;  
20 providing contract requirements; providing reporting  
21 requirements; providing for the department to  
22 establish a 3-year price transparency pilot project in  
23 certain areas of the state; providing project  
24 requirements; providing reporting requirements;  
25 creating s. 110.12304, F.S.; directing the department  
26 to contract with an independent benefits consultant;

27 providing qualifications and duties of the independent  
28 benefits consultant; providing reporting requirements;  
29 amending s. 110.12315, F.S., relating to the state  
30 employees' prescription drug program; deleting a  
31 requirement that the department base its decision as  
32 to whether to implement a certain 90-day supply limit  
33 on a determination that it would be in the best  
34 financial interest of the state; revising the pharmacy  
35 dispensing fee; authorizing a retail pharmacy to fill  
36 a 90-day supply of certain drugs; repealing s. 54(1)  
37 of chapter 2013-41, Laws of Florida; abrogating the  
38 scheduled reversion of provisions relating to the  
39 state employees' prescription drug program; directing  
40 the department to provide premium alternatives to the  
41 Governor and Legislature by a specified date;  
42 providing criteria for calculating premium  
43 alternatives; providing that the General  
44 Appropriations Act shall establish premiums for  
45 enrollees that reflect the differences in benefit  
46 design and value among the health maintenance  
47 organization plan options and the preferred provider  
48 organization plan options; providing an appropriation  
49 and authorizing positions; providing effective dates.

50  
51 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
52

53 Section 1. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (b), (f), (h),  
 54 and (j) of subsection (3) of section 110.123, Florida Statutes,  
 55 are amended, and paragraph (k) is added to subsection (3) of  
 56 that section, to read:

57 110.123 State group insurance program.—

58 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in sections 110.123-110.1239 ~~this~~  
 59 ~~section~~, the term:

60 (a) "Department" means the Department of Management  
 61 Services.

62 (b) "Enrollee" means all state officers and employees,  
 63 retired state officers and employees, surviving spouses of  
 64 deceased state officers and employees, and terminated employees  
 65 or individuals with continuation coverage who are enrolled in an  
 66 insurance plan offered by the state group insurance program.  
 67 "Enrollee" includes all state university officers and employees,  
 68 retired state university officers and employees, surviving  
 69 spouses of deceased state university officers and employees, and  
 70 terminated state university employees or individuals with  
 71 continuation coverage who are enrolled in an insurance plan  
 72 offered by the state group insurance program.

73 (c) "Full-time state employees" means employees of all  
 74 branches or agencies of state government holding salaried  
 75 positions who are paid by state warrant or from agency funds and  
 76 who work or are expected to work an average of at least 30 or  
 77 more hours per week; employees paid from regular salary  
 78 appropriations for 8 months' employment, including university

79 personnel on academic contracts; and employees paid from other-  
80 personal-services (OPS) funds as described in subparagraphs 1.  
81 and 2. The term includes all full-time employees of the state  
82 universities. The term does not include seasonal workers who are  
83 paid from OPS funds.

84 1. For persons hired before April 1, 2013, the term  
85 includes any person paid from OPS funds who:

86 a. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
87 week during the initial measurement period from April 1, 2013,  
88 through September 30, 2013; or

89 b. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
90 week during a subsequent measurement period.

91 2. For persons hired after April 1, 2013, the term  
92 includes any person paid from OPS funds who:

93 a. Is reasonably expected to work an average of at least  
94 30 hours or more per week; or

95 b. Has worked an average of at least 30 hours or more per  
96 week during the person's measurement period.

97 (d) "Health maintenance organization" or "HMO" means an  
98 entity certified under part I of chapter 641.

99 (e) "Health plan member" means any person participating in  
100 a state group health insurance plan, a TRICARE supplemental  
101 insurance plan, or a health maintenance organization plan under  
102 the state group insurance program, including enrollees and  
103 covered dependents thereof.

104 (f) "Part-time state employee" means an employee of any

105 | branch or agency of state government paid by state warrant from  
 106 | salary appropriations or from agency funds, and who is employed  
 107 | for less than an average of 30 hours per week or, if on academic  
 108 | contract or seasonal or other type of employment which is less  
 109 | than year-round, is employed for less than 8 months during any  
 110 | 12-month period, but does not include a person paid from other-  
 111 | personal-services (OPS) funds. The term includes all part-time  
 112 | employees of the state universities.

113 |       (g) "Plan year" means a calendar year.

114 |       (h)~~(g)~~ "Retired state officer or employee" or "retiree"  
 115 | means any state or state university officer or employee who  
 116 | retires under a state retirement system or a state optional  
 117 | annuity or retirement program or is placed on disability  
 118 | retirement, and who was insured under the state group insurance  
 119 | program at the time of retirement, and who begins receiving  
 120 | retirement benefits immediately after retirement from state or  
 121 | state university office or employment. The term also includes  
 122 | any state officer or state employee who retires under the  
 123 | Florida Retirement System Investment Plan established under part  
 124 | II of chapter 121 if he or she:

125 |           1. Meets the age and service requirements to qualify for  
 126 | normal retirement as set forth in s. 121.021(29); or

127 |           2. Has attained the age specified by s. 72(t)(2)(A)(i) of  
 128 | the Internal Revenue Code and has 6 years of creditable service.

129 |       (i)~~(h)~~ "State agency" or "agency" means any branch,  
 130 | department, or agency of state government. "State agency" or

131 "agency" includes any state university for purposes of this  
 132 section only.

133 (j)~~(i)~~ "Seasonal workers" has the same meaning as provided  
 134 under 29 C.F.R. s. 500.20(s)(1).

135 (k)~~(j)~~ "State group health insurance plan or plans" or  
 136 "state plan or plans" mean the state self-insured health  
 137 insurance plan or plans offered to state officers and employees,  
 138 retired state officers and employees, and surviving spouses of  
 139 deceased state officers and employees pursuant to this section.

140 (l)~~(k)~~ "State-contracted HMO" means any health maintenance  
 141 organization under contract with the department to participate  
 142 in the state group insurance program.

143 (m)~~(l)~~ "State group insurance program" or "programs" means  
 144 the package of insurance plans offered to state officers and  
 145 employees, retired state officers and employees, and surviving  
 146 spouses of deceased state officers and employees pursuant to  
 147 this section, including the state group health insurance plan or  
 148 plans, health maintenance organization plans, TRICARE  
 149 supplemental insurance plans, and other plans required or  
 150 authorized by law.

151 (n)~~(m)~~ "State officer" means any constitutional state  
 152 officer, any elected state officer paid by state warrant, or any  
 153 appointed state officer who is commissioned by the Governor and  
 154 who is paid by state warrant.

155 (o)~~(n)~~ "Surviving spouse" means the widow or widower of a  
 156 deceased state officer, full-time state employee, part-time

157 state employee, or retiree if such widow or widower was covered  
 158 as a dependent under the state group health insurance plan,~~a~~  
 159 TRICARE supplemental insurance plan, or a health maintenance  
 160 organization plan established pursuant to this section at the  
 161 time of the death of the deceased officer, employee, or retiree.  
 162 "Surviving spouse" also means any widow or widower who is  
 163 receiving or eligible to receive a monthly state warrant from a  
 164 state retirement system as the beneficiary of a state officer,  
 165 full-time state employee, or retiree who died prior to July 1,  
 166 1979. For the purposes of this section, any such widow or  
 167 widower shall cease to be a surviving spouse upon his or her  
 168 remarriage.

169 (p) ~~(e)~~ "TRICARE supplemental insurance plan" means the  
 170 Department of Defense Health Insurance Program for eligible  
 171 members of the uniformed services authorized by 10 U.S.C. s.  
 172 1097.

173 (3) STATE GROUP INSURANCE PROGRAM.—

174 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to offer a  
 175 comprehensive package of health insurance and retirement  
 176 benefits and a personnel system for state employees which are  
 177 provided in a cost-efficient and prudent manner, and to allow  
 178 state employees the option to choose benefit plans which best  
 179 suit their individual needs. ~~Therefore,~~ The state group  
 180 insurance program ~~is established which~~ may include the state  
 181 group health insurance plan or plans, health maintenance  
 182 organization plans, group life insurance plans, TRICARE

183 supplemental insurance plans, group accidental death and  
 184 dismemberment plans, ~~and~~ group disability insurance plans,  
 185 ~~Furthermore, the department is additionally authorized to~~  
 186 ~~establish and provide as part of the state group insurance~~  
 187 ~~program any other group insurance plans or coverage choices, and~~  
 188 other benefits authorized by law ~~that are consistent with the~~  
 189 ~~provisions of this section.~~

190 (f) Except as provided for in subparagraph (h)2., the  
 191 state contribution toward the cost of any plan in the state  
 192 group insurance program shall be uniform with respect to all  
 193 state employees in a state collective bargaining unit  
 194 participating in the same coverage tier in the same plan. This  
 195 section does not prohibit the development of separate benefit  
 196 plans for officers and employees exempt from the career service  
 197 or the development of separate benefit plans for each collective  
 198 bargaining unit. For the 2017 plan year and thereafter, if the  
 199 state's contribution is more than the premium cost of the health  
 200 plan selected by the employee, subject to any federal  
 201 limitations, the employee may elect to have the balance:

- 202 1. Credited to the employee's flexible spending account.
- 203 2. Credited to the employee's health savings account.
- 204 3. Used to purchase additional benefits offered through  
 205 the state group insurance program.
- 206 4. Used to increase the employee's salary.

207 (h)1. A person eligible to participate in the state group  
 208 insurance program may be authorized by rules adopted by the



209 department, in lieu of participating in the state group health  
210 insurance plan, to exercise an option to elect membership in a  
211 health maintenance organization plan which is under contract  
212 with the state in accordance with criteria established by this  
213 section and by said rules. The offer of optional membership in a  
214 health maintenance organization plan permitted by this paragraph  
215 may be limited or conditioned by rule as may be necessary to  
216 meet the requirements of state and federal laws.

217 2. The department shall contract with health maintenance  
218 organizations seeking to participate in the state group  
219 insurance program through a request for proposal or other  
220 procurement process, as developed by the Department of  
221 Management Services and determined to be appropriate.

222 a. The department shall establish a schedule of minimum  
223 benefits for health maintenance organization coverage, and that  
224 schedule shall include: physician services; inpatient and  
225 outpatient hospital services; emergency medical services,  
226 including out-of-area emergency coverage; diagnostic laboratory  
227 and diagnostic and therapeutic radiologic services; mental  
228 health, alcohol, and chemical dependency treatment services  
229 meeting the minimum requirements of state and federal law;  
230 skilled nursing facilities and services; prescription drugs;  
231 age-based and gender-based wellness benefits; and other benefits  
232 as may be required by the department. Additional services may be  
233 provided subject to the contract between the department and the  
234 HMO. As used in this paragraph, the term "age-based and gender-

235 based wellness benefits" includes aerobic exercise, education in  
236 alcohol and substance abuse prevention, blood cholesterol  
237 screening, health risk appraisals, blood pressure screening and  
238 education, nutrition education, program planning, safety belt  
239 education, smoking cessation, stress management, weight  
240 management, and women's health education.

241 b. The department may establish uniform deductibles,  
242 copayments, coverage tiers, or coinsurance schedules for all  
243 participating HMO plans.

244 c. The department may require detailed information from  
245 each health maintenance organization participating in the  
246 procurement process, including information pertaining to  
247 organizational status, experience in providing prepaid health  
248 benefits, accessibility of services, financial stability of the  
249 plan, quality of management services, accreditation status,  
250 quality of medical services, network access and adequacy,  
251 performance measurement, ability to meet the department's  
252 reporting requirements, and the actuarial basis of the proposed  
253 rates and other data determined by the director to be necessary  
254 for the evaluation and selection of health maintenance  
255 organization plans and negotiation of appropriate rates for  
256 these plans. Upon receipt of proposals by health maintenance  
257 organization plans and the evaluation of those proposals, the  
258 department may enter into negotiations with all of the plans or  
259 a subset of the plans, as the department determines appropriate.  
260 Nothing shall preclude the department from negotiating regional

261 or statewide contracts with health maintenance organization  
262 plans when this is cost-effective and when the department  
263 determines that the plan offers high value to enrollees.

264 d. The department may limit the number of HMOs that it  
265 contracts with in each service area based on the nature of the  
266 bids the department receives, the number of state employees in  
267 the service area, or any unique geographical characteristics of  
268 the service area. The department shall establish by rule service  
269 areas throughout the state.

270 e. All persons participating in the state group insurance  
271 program may be required to contribute towards a total state  
272 group health premium that may vary depending upon the plan,  
273 coverage level, and coverage tier selected by the enrollee and  
274 the level of state contribution authorized by the Legislature.

275 3. The department is authorized to negotiate and to  
276 contract with specialty psychiatric hospitals for mental health  
277 benefits, on a regional basis, for alcohol, drug abuse, and  
278 mental and nervous disorders. The department may establish,  
279 subject to the approval of the Legislature pursuant to  
280 subsection (5), any such regional plan upon completion of an  
281 actuarial study to determine any impact on plan benefits and  
282 premiums.

283 4. In addition to contracting pursuant to subparagraph 2.,  
284 the department may enter into contract with any HMO to  
285 participate in the state group insurance program which:

286 a. Serves greater than 5,000 recipients on a prepaid basis

287 | under the Medicaid program;

288 |       b. Does not currently meet the 25-percent non-  
 289 | Medicare/non-Medicaid enrollment composition requirement  
 290 | established by the Department of Health excluding participants  
 291 | enrolled in the state group insurance program;

292 |       c. Meets the minimum benefit package and copayments and  
 293 | deductibles contained in sub-subparagraphs 2.a. and b.;

294 |       d. Is willing to participate in the state group insurance  
 295 | program at a cost of premiums that is not greater than 95  
 296 | percent of the cost of HMO premiums accepted by the department  
 297 | in each service area; and

298 |       e. Meets the minimum surplus requirements of s. 641.225.

299 |  
 300 | The department is authorized to contract with HMOs that meet the  
 301 | requirements of sub-subparagraphs a.-d. prior to the open  
 302 | enrollment period for state employees. The department is not  
 303 | required to renew the contract with the HMOs as set forth in  
 304 | this paragraph more than twice. Thereafter, the HMOs shall be  
 305 | eligible to participate in the state group insurance program  
 306 | only through the request for proposal or invitation to negotiate  
 307 | process described in subparagraph 2.

308 |       5. All enrollees in a state group health insurance plan, a  
 309 | TRICARE supplemental insurance plan, or any health maintenance  
 310 | organization plan have the option of changing to any other  
 311 | health plan that is offered by the state within any open  
 312 | enrollment period designated by the department. Open enrollment

313 shall be held at least once each calendar year.

314         6. When a contract between a treating provider and the  
315 state-contracted health maintenance organization is terminated  
316 for any reason other than for cause, each party shall allow any  
317 enrollee for whom treatment was active to continue coverage and  
318 care when medically necessary, through completion of treatment  
319 of a condition for which the enrollee was receiving care at the  
320 time of the termination, until the enrollee selects another  
321 treating provider, or until the next open enrollment period  
322 offered, whichever is longer, but no longer than 6 months after  
323 termination of the contract. Each party to the terminated  
324 contract shall allow an enrollee who has initiated a course of  
325 prenatal care, regardless of the trimester in which care was  
326 initiated, to continue care and coverage until completion of  
327 postpartum care. This does not prevent a provider from refusing  
328 to continue to provide care to an enrollee who is abusive,  
329 noncompliant, or in arrears in payments for services provided.  
330 For care continued under this subparagraph, the program and the  
331 provider shall continue to be bound by the terms of the  
332 terminated contract. Changes made within 30 days before  
333 termination of a contract are effective only if agreed to by  
334 both parties.

335         7. Any HMO participating in the state group insurance  
336 program shall submit health care utilization and cost data to  
337 the department, in such form and in such manner as the  
338 department shall require, as a condition of participating in the

339 program. The department shall enter into negotiations with its  
340 contracting HMOs to determine the nature and scope of the data  
341 submission and the final requirements, format, penalties  
342 associated with noncompliance, and timetables for submission.  
343 These determinations shall be adopted by rule.

344 8. The department may establish and direct, with respect  
345 to collective bargaining issues, a comprehensive package of  
346 insurance benefits that may include supplemental health and life  
347 coverage, dental care, long-term care, vision care, and other  
348 benefits it determines necessary to enable state employees to  
349 select from among benefit options that best suit their  
350 individual and family needs. Beginning with the 2015 plan year,  
351 the package of benefits may also include products and services  
352 described in s. 110.12303.

353 a. Based upon a desired benefit package, the department  
354 shall issue a request for proposal or invitation to negotiate  
355 for ~~health insurance~~ providers interested in participating in  
356 the state group insurance program, and the department shall  
357 issue a request for proposal or invitation to negotiate for  
358 ~~insurance~~ providers interested in participating in the non-  
359 health-related components of the state group insurance program.  
360 Upon receipt of all proposals, the department may enter into  
361 contract negotiations with ~~insurance~~ providers submitting bids  
362 or negotiate a specially designed benefit package. Insurance  
363 providers offering or providing supplemental coverage as of May  
364 30, 1991, which qualify for pretax benefit treatment pursuant to

365 s. 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, with 5,500 or more  
366 state employees currently enrolled may be included by the  
367 department in the supplemental insurance benefit plan  
368 established by the department without participating in a request  
369 for proposal, submitting bids, negotiating contracts, or  
370 negotiating a specially designed benefit package. These  
371 contracts shall provide state employees with the most cost-  
372 effective and comprehensive coverage available; however, except  
373 as provided in subparagraph (f)3., no state or agency funds  
374 shall be contributed toward the cost of any part of the premium  
375 of such supplemental benefit plans. With respect to dental  
376 coverage, the division shall include in any solicitation or  
377 contract for any state group dental program made after July 1,  
378 2001, a comprehensive indemnity dental plan option which offers  
379 enrollees a completely unrestricted choice of dentists. If a  
380 dental plan is endorsed, or in some manner recognized as the  
381 preferred product, such plan shall include a comprehensive  
382 indemnity dental plan option which provides enrollees with a  
383 completely unrestricted choice of dentists.

384 b. Pursuant to the applicable provisions of s. 110.161,  
385 and s. 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, the department  
386 shall enroll in the pretax benefit program those state employees  
387 who voluntarily elect coverage in any of the supplemental  
388 ~~insurance~~ benefit plans as provided by sub-subparagraph a.

389 c. Nothing herein contained shall be construed to prohibit  
390 insurance providers from continuing to provide or offer

391 supplemental benefit coverage to state employees as provided  
392 under existing agency plans.

393 (j) For the 2017 plan year and thereafter, health plans  
394 shall be offered in the following benefit levels:

395 1. Platinum level, which shall have an actuarial value of  
396 at least 90 percent.

397 2. Gold level, which shall have an actuarial value of at  
398 least 80 percent.

399 3. Silver level, which shall have an actuarial value of at  
400 least 70 percent.

401 4. Bronze level, which shall have an actuarial value of at  
402 least 60 percent ~~Notwithstanding paragraph (f) requiring uniform~~  
403 ~~contributions, and for the 2011-2012 fiscal year only, the state~~  
404 ~~contribution toward the cost of any plan in the state group~~  
405 ~~insurance plan is the difference between the overall premium and~~  
406 ~~the employee contribution. This subsection expires June 30,~~  
407 ~~2012.~~

408 (k) In consultation with the independent benefits  
409 consultant described in s. 110.12304, the department shall  
410 develop a plan for the implementation of the benefit levels  
411 described in paragraph (j). The plan shall be submitted to the  
412 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
413 House of Representatives no later than January 1, 2016, and  
414 include recommendations for:

415 1. Employer and employee contribution policies.

416 2. Steps necessary for maintaining or improving total



417 employee compensation levels when the transition is initiated.

418 3. An education strategy to inform employees of the  
419 additional choices available in the state group insurance  
420 program.

421

422 This paragraph expires July 1, 2016.

423 Section 2. Section 110.12303, Florida Statutes, is created  
424 to read:

425 110.12303 State group insurance program; additional  
426 benefits; price transparency pilot program; reporting.—Beginning  
427 with the 2015 plan year:

428 (1) In addition to the comprehensive package of health  
429 insurance and other benefits required or authorized to be  
430 included in the state group insurance program, the package of  
431 benefits may also include products and services offered by:

432 (a) Prepaid limited health service organizations as  
433 authorized by part I of chapter 636.

434 (b) Discount medical plan organizations as authorized by  
435 part II of chapter 636.

436 (c) Prepaid health clinics licensed under part II of  
437 chapter 641.

438 (d) Licensed health care providers, including hospitals  
439 and other health facilities, health care clinics, and health  
440 professionals, who sell service contracts and arrangements for a  
441 specified amount and type of health services.

442 (e) Provider organizations, including service networks,

443 group practices, professional associations, and other  
444 incorporated organizations of providers, who sell service  
445 contracts and arrangements for a specified amount and type of  
446 health services.

447 (f) Corporate entities that provide specific health  
448 services in accordance with applicable state law and sell  
449 service contracts and arrangements for a specified amount and  
450 type of health services.

451 (g) Entities that provide health services or treatments  
452 through a bidding process.

453 (h) Entities that provide health services or treatments  
454 through bundling or aggregating the health services or  
455 treatments.

456 (i) Entities that provide other innovative and cost-  
457 effective health service delivery methods.

458 (2) (a) The department shall contract with at least one  
459 entity that provides comprehensive pricing and inclusive  
460 services for surgery and other medical procedures which may be  
461 accessed at the option of the enrollee. The contract shall  
462 require the entity to:

463 1. Have procedures and evidence-based standards to ensure  
464 the inclusion of only high-quality health care providers.

465 2. Provide assistance to the enrollee in accessing and  
466 coordinating care.

467 3. Provide cost savings to the state group insurance  
468 program to be shared with both the state and the enrollee.

469 4. Provide an educational campaign for employees to learn  
470 about the services offered by the entity.

471 (b) On or before January 15 of each year, the department  
472 shall report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and  
473 the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the participation  
474 level and cost-savings to both the enrollee and the state  
475 resulting from the contract or contracts described in subsection  
476 (2).

477 (3) The department shall establish a 3-year price  
478 transparency pilot project in at least one area, but not more  
479 than three areas, of the state where a substantial percentage of  
480 the state group insurance program enrollees live. The purpose of  
481 the project is to reward value-based pricing by publishing the  
482 prices of certain diagnostic and elective surgical procedures  
483 and sharing with the enrollee and the state any savings  
484 generated by the enrollee's choice of providers.

485 (a) Participation in the project shall be voluntary for  
486 enrollees.

487 (b) The department shall designate between 20 and 50  
488 diagnostic procedures and elective surgical procedures that are  
489 commonly utilized by enrollees.

490 (c) Health plans shall provide the department with the  
491 contracted price by provider for each designated procedure. The  
492 department shall post the prices on its website and shall  
493 designate one price per procedure as the benchmark price, using  
494 a mean, average, or other method of comparing the prices.

495 (d) If an enrollee participating in the project selects a  
496 provider that performs the designated procedure at a price below  
497 the benchmark price for that procedure, the enrollee shall  
498 receive from the state 50 percent of the difference between the  
499 price of the procedure by the selected provider and the  
500 benchmark price.

501 (e) On or before January 1 of 2016, 2017, and 2018, the  
502 department shall report to the Governor, the President of the  
503 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives on the  
504 participation level, amount paid to enrollees, and cost-savings  
505 to both the enrollees and the state resulting from the price  
506 transparency pilot project.

507 Section 3. Section 110.12304, Florida Statutes, is created  
508 to read:

509 110.12304 Independent benefits consultant.—

510 (1) The department shall competitively procure an  
511 independent benefits consultant.

512 (2) The independent benefits consultant may not:

513 (a) Be owned or controlled by a health maintenance  
514 organization or insurer.

515 (b) Have an ownership interest in a health maintenance  
516 organization or insurer.

517 (c) Have a direct or indirect financial interest in a  
518 health maintenance organization or insurer.

519 (3) The independent benefits consultant must have  
520 substantial experience in consultation and design of employee

521 benefit programs for large employers and public employers,  
522 including experience with plans that qualify as cafeteria plans  
523 pursuant to s. 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

524 (4) The independent benefits consultant shall:

525 (a) Provide an ongoing assessment of trends in benefits  
526 and employer-sponsored insurance that affect the state group  
527 insurance program.

528 (b) Conduct a comprehensive analysis of the state group  
529 insurance program, including available benefits, coverage  
530 options, and claims experience.

531 (c) Identify and establish appropriate adjustment  
532 procedures necessary to respond to any risk segmentation that  
533 may occur when increased choices are offered to employees.

534 (d) Assist the department with the submission of any  
535 needed plan revisions for federal review.

536 (e) Assist the department in ensuring compliance with  
537 applicable federal and state regulations.

538 (f) Assist the department in monitoring the adequacy of  
539 funding and reserves for the state self-insured plan.

540 (g) Assist the department in preparing recommendations for  
541 any modifications to the state group insurance program which  
542 shall be submitted to the Governor, the President of the Senate,  
543 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than  
544 January 1 of each year.

545 Section 4. Section 110.12315, Florida Statutes, is amended  
546 to read:

547 110.12315 Prescription drug program.—The state employees'  
 548 prescription drug program is established. This program shall be  
 549 administered by the Department of Management Services, according  
 550 to the terms and conditions of the plan as established by the  
 551 relevant provisions of the annual General Appropriations Act and  
 552 implementing legislation, subject to the following conditions:

553 (1) The department ~~of Management Services~~ shall allow  
 554 prescriptions written by health care providers under the plan to  
 555 be filled by any licensed pharmacy pursuant to contractual  
 556 claims-processing provisions. Nothing in this section may be  
 557 construed as prohibiting a mail order prescription drug program  
 558 distinct from the service provided by retail pharmacies.

559 (2) In providing for reimbursement of pharmacies for  
 560 prescription medicines dispensed to members of the state group  
 561 health insurance plan and their dependents under the state  
 562 employees' prescription drug program:

563 (a) Retail pharmacies participating in the program must be  
 564 reimbursed at a uniform rate and subject to uniform conditions,  
 565 according to the terms and conditions of the plan.

566 (b) There shall be a 30-day supply limit for prescription  
 567 card purchases, a 90-day supply limit for maintenance  
 568 prescription drug purchases, and a 90-day supply limit for mail  
 569 order ~~or mail order~~ prescription drug purchases. ~~The Department~~  
 570 ~~of Management Services may implement a 90-day supply limit~~  
 571 ~~program for certain maintenance drugs as determined by the~~  
 572 ~~department at retail pharmacies participating in the program if~~

573 ~~the department determines it to be in the best financial~~  
574 ~~interest of the state.~~

575 (c) The ~~current~~ pharmacy dispensing fee shall be  
576 negotiated by the department ~~remains in effect.~~

577 (3) Pharmacy reimbursement rates shall be as follows:

578 (a) For mail order and specialty pharmacies contracting  
579 with the department, reimbursement rates shall be as established  
580 in the contract.

581 (b) For retail pharmacies, the reimbursement rate shall be  
582 at the same rate as mail order pharmacies under contract with  
583 the department.

584 (4) The department shall maintain the preferred brand name  
585 drug list to be used in the administration of the state  
586 employees' prescription drug program.

587 (5) The department shall maintain a list of maintenance  
588 drugs.

589 (a) Preferred provider organization health plan members  
590 may have prescriptions for maintenance drugs filled up to three  
591 times as a 30-day supply through a retail pharmacy; thereafter,  
592 prescriptions for the same maintenance drug must be filled as a  
593 90-day supply either through the department's contracted mail  
594 order pharmacy or through a retail pharmacy.

595 (b) Health maintenance organization health plan members  
596 may have prescriptions for maintenance drugs filled as a 90-day  
597 supply either through a mail order pharmacy or through a retail  
598 pharmacy.

599       (6) Copayments made by health plan members for a 90-day  
600 supply through a retail pharmacy shall be the same as copayments  
601 made for a 90-day supply through the department's contracted  
602 mail order pharmacy.

603       (7)~~(3)~~ The department ~~of Management Services~~ shall  
604 establish the reimbursement schedule for prescription  
605 pharmaceuticals dispensed under the program. Reimbursement rates  
606 for a prescription pharmaceutical must be based on the cost of  
607 the generic equivalent drug if a generic equivalent exists,  
608 unless the physician prescribing the pharmaceutical clearly  
609 states on the prescription that the brand name drug is medically  
610 necessary or that the drug product is included on the formulary  
611 of drug products that may not be interchanged as provided in  
612 chapter 465, in which case reimbursement must be based on the  
613 cost of the brand name drug as specified in the reimbursement  
614 schedule adopted by the department ~~of Management Services~~.

615       (8)~~(4)~~ The department ~~of Management Services~~ shall conduct  
616 a prescription utilization review program. In order to  
617 participate in the state employees' prescription drug program,  
618 retail pharmacies dispensing prescription medicines to members  
619 of the state group health insurance plan or their covered  
620 dependents, or to subscribers or covered dependents of a health  
621 maintenance organization plan under the state group insurance  
622 program, shall make their records available for this review.

623       (9)~~(5)~~ The department ~~of Management Services~~ shall  
624 implement such additional cost-saving measures and adjustments



625 as may be required to balance program funding within  
 626 appropriations provided, including a trial or starter dose  
 627 program and dispensing of long-term-maintenance medication in  
 628 lieu of acute therapy medication.

629 (10)~~(6)~~ Participating pharmacies must use a point-of-sale  
 630 device or an online computer system to verify a participant's  
 631 eligibility for coverage. The state is not liable for  
 632 reimbursement of a participating pharmacy for dispensing  
 633 prescription drugs to any person whose current eligibility for  
 634 coverage has not been verified by the state's contracted  
 635 administrator or by the department ~~of Management Services~~.

636 (11)~~(7)~~ Under the state employees' prescription drug  
 637 program copayments must be made as follows:

638 (a) Effective January 1, 2013, for the State Group Health  
 639 Insurance Standard Plan:

- 640 1. For generic drug with card.....\$7.
- 641 2. For preferred brand name drug with card.....\$30.
- 642 3. For nonpreferred brand name drug with card.....\$50.
- 643 4. For generic mail order drug.....\$14.
- 644 5. For preferred brand name mail order drug.....\$60.
- 645 6. For nonpreferred brand name mail order drug.....\$100.

646 (b) Effective January 1, 2006, for the State Group Health  
 647 Insurance High Deductible Plan:

- 648 1. Retail coinsurance for generic drug with card.....30%.
- 649 2. Retail coinsurance for preferred brand name drug with  
 650 card 30%.

- 651 3. Retail coinsurance for nonpreferred brand name drug
- 652 with card.....50%.
- 653 4. Mail order coinsurance for generic drug.....30%.
- 654 5. Mail order coinsurance for preferred brand name drug30%.
- 655 6. Mail order coinsurance for nonpreferred brand name drug50%.

656 (c) ~~The department of Management Services~~ shall create a  
 657 preferred brand name drug list to be used in the administration  
 658 of the state employees' prescription drug program.

659 Section 5. Effective June 30, 2014, subsection (1) of  
 660 section 54 of chapter 2013-41, Laws of Florida, is repealed.

661 Section 6. (1) For the 2016 plan year, the Department of  
 662 Management Services shall recommend premium alternatives with  
 663 amounts normalized to reflect benefit design and value for the  
 664 state group health insurance plans and the fully insured health  
 665 maintenance organization plans. The premium alternatives shall  
 666 be provided for both individual and family coverage. The  
 667 recommended premiums shall reflect the costs to the program for  
 668 the medical and prescription drug benefits with associated  
 669 administrative costs and fees. Each alternative shall be  
 670 presented:

671 (a) Separately for the self-insured preferred provider  
 672 organization and for each self-insured health maintenance  
 673 organization plan.

674 (b) Separately for each fully insured health maintenance  
 675 organization plan.

676 (c) As a pooling of all self-insured health maintenance

677 organization plans.

678

679 Prescription drug benefits shall be incorporated into the  
680 recommended premiums based on the enrolled health plan  
681 membership.

682 (2) The Department of Management Services shall provide  
683 the premium alternatives to the Governor, the President of the  
684 Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later  
685 than December 1, 2014.

686 (3) For the 2016 plan year, the General Appropriations Act  
687 shall establish premiums for enrollees that reflect the  
688 differences in benefit design and value among the health  
689 maintenance organization plan options and the preferred provider  
690 plan options offered in the state group insurance program.

691 Section 7. (1) For the 2014-2015 fiscal year, the sums of  
692 \$151,216 in recurring funds and \$507,546 in nonrecurring funds  
693 are appropriated from the State Employees Health Insurance Trust  
694 Fund to the Department of Management Services, and 2 full-time  
695 equivalent positions and associated salary rate of 120,000 are  
696 authorized, for the purpose of implementing this act.

697 (2) (a) The recurring funds appropriated in this section  
698 shall be allocated to the following specific appropriation  
699 categories within the Insurance Benefits Administration Program:  
700 \$150,528 in Salaries and Benefits and \$688 in Special Categories  
701 Transfer to Department of Management Services - Human Resources  
702 Purchased per Statewide Contract.

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703        (b) The nonrecurring funds appropriated in this section  
704 shall be allocated to the following specific appropriation  
705 categories: \$500,000 in Special Categories Contracted Services  
706 and \$7,546 in Expenses.

707        Section 8. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
708 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon  
709 becoming a law, this act shall take effect July 1, 2014.