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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
01/11/2024	.	
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The Committee on Fiscal Policy (Burton) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 2311 - 2447

and insert:

initial appointment with the primary care provider. If possible, such enrollee's initial ~~the~~ appointment should be made within 30 days after enrollment in the plan. If an initial appointment is not made within such 30-day period, the plan must continue assisting the enrollee to schedule an initial appointment and must report the delay and the reason for the delay to the



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11 agency. The plan shall seek to ensure that such an enrollee has
12 at least one appointment annually with his or her primary care
13 provider.

14 (c) Report to the agency the number of enrollees assigned
15 to each primary care provider within the plan's network.

16 (d) Report to the agency the number of enrollees who have
17 not had an appointment with their primary care provider within
18 their first year of enrollment.

19 (e) Report to the agency the number of emergency room
20 visits by enrollees who have not had at least one appointment
21 with their primary care provider.

22 (f) Coordinate with a hospital that contacts the plan under
23 the requirements of s. 395.1055(1)(j) for the purpose of
24 establishing the appropriate delivery of primary care services
25 for the plan's members who present at the hospital's emergency
26 department for nonemergent care or emergency care that could
27 potentially have been avoided through the regular provision of
28 primary care. The plan shall coordinate with such member and the
29 member's primary care provider for such purpose.

30 Section 32. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall
31 seek federal approval necessary to implement an acute hospital
32 care at home program in the state Medicaid program which is
33 substantially consistent with the parameters specified in 42
34 U.S.C. s. 1395cc-7(a)(2) and (3).

35 Section 33. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) and subsections
36 (3) and (8) of section 458.311, Florida Statutes, are amended to
37 read:

38 458.311 Licensure by examination; requirements; fees.—

39 (1) Any person desiring to be licensed as a physician, who



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40 does not hold a valid license in any state, shall apply to the
41 department on forms furnished by the department. The department
42 shall license each applicant who the board certifies:

43 (f) Meets one of the following medical education and
44 postgraduate training requirements:

45 1.a. Is a graduate of an allopathic medical school or
46 allopathic college recognized and approved by an accrediting
47 agency recognized by the United States Office of Education or is
48 a graduate of an allopathic medical school or allopathic college
49 within a territorial jurisdiction of the United States
50 recognized by the accrediting agency of the governmental body of
51 that jurisdiction;

52 b. If the language of instruction of the medical school is
53 other than English, has demonstrated competency in English
54 through presentation of a satisfactory grade on the Test of
55 Spoken English of the Educational Testing Service or a similar
56 test approved by rule of the board; and

57 c. Has completed an approved residency of at least 1 year.

58 2.a. Is a graduate of an allopathic foreign medical school
59 registered with the World Health Organization and certified
60 pursuant to s. 458.314 as having met the standards required to
61 accredit medical schools in the United States or reasonably
62 comparable standards;

63 b. If the language of instruction of the foreign medical
64 school is other than English, has demonstrated competency in
65 English through presentation of the Educational Commission for
66 Foreign Medical Graduates English proficiency certificate or by
67 a satisfactory grade on the Test of Spoken English of the
68 Educational Testing Service or a similar test approved by rule



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69 of the board; and

70 c. Has completed an approved residency of at least 1 year.

71 3.a. Is a graduate of an allopathic foreign medical school
72 which has not been certified pursuant to s. 458.314 and has not
73 been excluded from consideration under s. 458.314(8);

74 b. Has had his or her medical credentials evaluated by the
75 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, holds an
76 active, valid certificate issued by that commission, and has
77 passed the examination utilized by that commission; and

78 c. Has completed an approved residency of at least 1 year;
79 however, after October 1, 1992, the applicant shall have
80 completed an approved residency or fellowship of at least 2
81 years in one specialty area. However, to be acceptable, the
82 fellowship experience and training must be counted toward
83 regular or subspecialty certification by a board recognized and
84 certified by the American Board of Medical Specialties.

85 (3) Notwithstanding ~~the provisions of~~ subparagraph
86 (1)(f)3., a graduate of a foreign medical school that has not
87 been excluded from consideration under s. 458.314(8) need not
88 present the certificate issued by the Educational Commission for
89 Foreign Medical Graduates or pass the examination utilized by
90 that commission if the graduate:

91 (a) Has received a bachelor's degree from an accredited
92 United States college or university.

93 (b) Has studied at a medical school which is recognized by
94 the World Health Organization.

95 (c) Has completed all of the formal requirements of the
96 foreign medical school, except the internship or social service
97 requirements, and has passed part I of the National Board of



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98 Medical Examiners examination or the Educational Commission for
99 Foreign Medical Graduates examination equivalent.

100 (d) Has completed an academic year of supervised clinical
101 training in a hospital affiliated with a medical school approved
102 by the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical
103 Association and upon completion has passed part II of the
104 National Board of Medical Examiners examination or the
105 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates examination
106 equivalent.

107 (8) When the board determines that any applicant for
108 licensure has failed to meet, to the board's satisfaction, each
109 of the appropriate requirements set forth in this section, it
110 may enter an order requiring one or more of the following terms:

111 (a) Refusal to certify to the department an application for
112 licensure, certification, or registration;

113 (b) Certification to the department of an application for
114 licensure, certification, or registration with restrictions on
115 the scope of practice of the licensee; ~~or~~

116 (c) Certification to the department of an application for
117 licensure, certification, or registration with placement of the
118 physician on probation for a period of time and subject to such
119 conditions as the board may specify, including, but not limited
120 to, requiring the physician to submit to treatment, attend
121 continuing education courses, submit to reexamination, or work
122 under the supervision of another physician;

123 (d) Certification to the department of a person desiring to
124 be licensed as a physician under this section who has held an
125 active medical faculty certificate under s. 458.3145 for at
126 least 3 years and has held a full-time faculty appointment for



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127 at least 3 consecutive years to teach in a program of medicine
128 listed under s. 458.3145(1)(i); or

129 (e) Certification to the department of an application for
130 licensure submitted by a graduate of a foreign medical school
131 that has not been excluded from consideration under s.
132 458.314(8) if the graduate has not completed an approved
133 residency under sub-subparagraphs (1)(f)2.c. or 3.c. but meets
134 the following criteria:

135 1. Has an active, unencumbered license to practice medicine
136 in a foreign country;

137 2. Has actively practiced medicine during the entire 4-year
138 period preceding the date of the submission of a licensure
139 application;

140 3. Has completed a residency or substantially similar
141 postgraduate medical training in a country recognized by his or
142 her licensing jurisdiction which is substantially similar to a
143 residency program accredited by the Accreditation Council for
144 Graduate Medical Education, as determined by the board;

145 4. Has had his or her medical credentials evaluated by the
146 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, holds an
147 active, valid certificate issued by that commission, and has
148 passed the examination used by that commission; and

149 5. Has an offer for full-time employment as a physician
150 from a health care provider that operates in this state. For the
151 purposes of this paragraph, the term "health care provider"
152 means a health care professional, health care facility, or
153 entity licensed or certified to provide health services in this
154 state as recognized by the board.

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156 An applicant who is not certified for unrestricted licensure
157 under this paragraph may be certified by the board under
158 paragraph (b) or paragraph (c), as applicable. A physician
159 licensed after receiving certification under this paragraph must
160 maintain his or her employment with the original employer or
161 with another health care provider that operates in this state,
162 at a location within this state, for at least 2 consecutive
163 years after licensure, in accordance with rules adopted by the
164 board. Such physician must notify the board within 5 business
165 days after any change of employer.

166 Delete lines 3383 - 3457.

167
168 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

169 And the title is amended as follows:

170 Delete lines 245 - 256

171 and insert:

172 initial appointment with a primary care provider and
173 report certain information to the agency; requiring
174 plans to seek to ensure that such enrollees have at
175 least one primary care appointment annually; requiring
176 such plans to coordinate with hospitals that contact
177 them for a specified purpose; requiring the plans to
178 coordinate with their members and members' primary
179 care providers for such purpose; requiring the agency
180 to seek federal approval necessary to implement an
181 acute hospital care at home program meeting specified
182 criteria; amending s. 458.311, F.S.; revising an
183 education and training requirement for physician
184 licensure; exempting foreign-trained applicants for



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185 physician licensure from the residency requirement if
186 they meet specified criteria; providing that
187 applicants who do not meet the specified criteria may
188 be certified for restricted licensure under certain
189 circumstances; providing
190 Delete line 339
191 and insert:
192 ss. 381.4018 and 395.602,