By the Committee on Health Policy; and Senator Burton

588-02850-25 20251842c1

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to out-of-network providers; amending s. 456.0575, F.S.; requiring a health care practitioner or his or her employee to confirm whether a referral provider participates in the provider network of the patient's health insurer or health maintenance organization under certain circumstances; authorizing the practitioner or his or her employee to confirm the referral provider's participation in a specified manner; providing applicability; requiring a health care practitioner to notify a patient in writing that certain services are not covered services under the patient's health coverage; requiring that such notice be documented; providing for health care practitioner disciplinary action under certain conditions; authorizing the Department of Health to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Present subsection (2) of section 456.0575, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (3), and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

456.0575 Duty to notify patients.-

(2) (a) When providing nonemergency services, as defined in s. 627.64194, to a patient, and referring the patient to a provider for nonemergency services, a health care practitioner or his or her employee must, at the point of service, confirm whether the referral provider participates in the provider

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network of the patient's health insurer or health maintenance organization. The practitioner or his or her employee may confirm the referral provider's participation by contacting the referral provider or the patient's health insurer or health maintenance organization, as necessary.

- (b) The requirements of paragraph (a) do not apply if the patient declines the practitioner's offer to make the confirmation or declines to share with the referral provider the name and identification number associated with his or her health insurance policy or health maintenance organization contract.
- (c) When making any referral, the practitioner must notify a patient in writing that services provided by an out-of-network provider or that are not covered services under the patient's health coverage may result in additional cost-sharing responsibilities for the patient, and such notice must be documented in the patient's medical record.
- (d) Failure to comply with this subsection, without good cause, shall result in disciplinary action against the health care practitioner.
- (e) The department may adopt rules to implement this subsection.
  - Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.