

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Florida Health Choices Program;
3 amending s. 408.910, F.S.; renaming the "Florida
4 Health Choices Program" as the "Florida Employee
5 Health Choices Program"; revising legislative intent;
6 revising definitions; revising program purpose and
7 components to provide for the sale and purchase of
8 individual health insurance plans to employees
9 enrolled in individual coverage health reimbursement
10 arrangements; removing provisions relating to certain
11 health care service providers, organizations,
12 entities, and vendors, vendor procedures, products
13 available for purchase through the program, pricing,
14 risk pooling, and exemptions; revising the marketplace
15 process; requiring the Department of Management
16 Services to facilitate the formation of Florida
17 Employee Health Choices, Inc., and provide
18 administrative support; revising membership of the
19 board of directors; authorizing the corporation to
20 exercise certain powers; providing requirements for
21 the board and the corporation; revising the fiscal
22 year in which the corporation's annual report is due;
23 amending ss. 409.821, 409.9122, and 409.977, F.S.;
24 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;
25 providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 408.910, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

408.910 Florida Employee Health Choices Program.—

(1) LEGISLATIVE INTENT.—The Legislature finds that a significant number of employers and employees in the residents of this state do not have adequate access to affordable, quality health insurance that meets their needs care. The Legislature further finds that individual coverage health reimbursement arrangements offer a novel way for employers of any size to give health care contributions directly to employees and empower them to choose their own health plan in a broad marketplace based on individual financial needs and health factors. The Legislature further finds that increasing access to affordable, quality health care through individual coverage health reimbursement arrangements can be best accomplished by establishing a competitive marketplace ~~market~~ for employees that receive employer premium contributions through individual coverage health reimbursement arrangements ~~purchasing health insurance and health services~~. It is therefore the intent of the Legislature to create the Florida Employee Health Choices Program to:

(a) Expand opportunities for employers and employees

51 ~~Floridians to access~~ purchase affordable health insurance in
52 this state ~~and health services.~~

53 (b) Create a platform that streamlines the purchase of
54 individual coverage for employees enrolled in individual
55 coverage health reimbursement arrangements ~~Preserve the benefits~~
56 ~~of employment-sponsored insurance while easing the~~
57 ~~administrative burden for employers who offer these benefits.~~

58 (c) Enable individual choice in both the manner and amount
59 of health care purchased.

60 (d) Provide for the purchase of individual, portable
61 health care coverage.

62 (e) Disseminate information to employers and employees
63 about individual coverage health reimbursement arrangements
64 ~~consumers on the price and quality of health services.~~

65 (f) Sponsor a competitive market that stimulates product
66 innovation, quality improvement, and efficiency in the
67 production and delivery of individual health insurance plans to
68 employees enrolled in individual coverage health reimbursement
69 arrangements ~~health services.~~

70 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

71 (a) "Corporation" means the Florida Employee Health
72 Choices, Inc., established under this section.

73 (b) "Corporation's marketplace" means the ~~single,~~
74 centralized market established by the program that facilitates
75 the purchase of products made available in the marketplace.

76 (c) "Health insurance agent" means an agent licensed under
77 part IV of chapter 626.

78 (d) "Insurer" means an entity licensed under chapter 624
79 which offers an individual health insurance policy ~~or a group~~
80 ~~health insurance policy~~, a preferred provider organization as
81 defined in s. 627.6471, an exclusive provider organization as
82 defined in s. 627.6472, or a health maintenance organization
83 licensed under part I of chapter 641, ~~or a prepaid limited~~
84 ~~health service organization or discount plan organization~~
85 ~~licensed under chapter 636~~.

86 (e) "Program" means the Florida Employee Health Choices
87 Program established by this section.

88 (3) PROGRAM PURPOSE AND COMPONENTS.—The Florida Employee
89 Health Choices Program is created as a ~~single~~, centralized
90 market for the sale and purchase of individual health insurance
91 plans to employees enrolled in individual coverage health
92 reimbursement arrangements ~~various products that enable~~
93 ~~individuals to pay for health care. These products include, but~~
94 ~~are not limited to, health insurance plans, health maintenance~~
95 ~~organization plans, prepaid services, service contracts, and~~
96 ~~flexible spending accounts~~. The components of the program
97 include:

98 (a) Enrollment of employers.

99 (b) Administrative services for participating employers,
100 including:

- 101 1. Assistance in seeking federal approval of cafeteria
102 plans.
- 103 2. Collection of premiums and other payments.
- 104 3. Management of individual benefit accounts.
- 105 4. Distribution of premiums to insurers and payments to
106 other eligible vendors.
- 107 5. Assistance for participants in complying with reporting
108 requirements.
- 109 (c) Services to individual participants, including:
- 110 1. Information about available products and participating
111 vendors.
- 112 2. Assistance with assessing the benefits and limits of
113 each product, ~~including information necessary to distinguish~~
114 ~~between policies offering creditable coverage and other products~~
115 ~~available through the program.~~
- 116 3. Account information to assist individual participants
117 with managing available resources.
- 118 4. Services that promote healthy behaviors.
- 119 (d) Recruitment of vendors, including insurers and health
120 maintenance organizations, ~~prepaid clinic service providers,~~
121 ~~provider service networks, and other providers.~~
- 122 (e) Certification of vendors to ensure capability,
123 reliability, and validity of offerings.
- 124 (f) Collection of data, monitoring, assessment, and
125 reporting of vendor performance.

126 (g) Information services for individuals and employers.

127 (h) Program evaluation.

128 (4) ELIGIBILITY AND PARTICIPATION.—Participation in the
129 program is voluntary and shall be available to employers,
130 individuals, vendors, and health insurance agents as specified
131 in this subsection.

132 (a) Employers eligible to enroll in the program include
133 those employers that meet criteria established by the
134 corporation and elect to make their employees eligible through
135 the program.

136 (b) Individuals eligible to participate in the program
137 include:

138 1. Individual employees of enrolled employers.

139 2. Other individuals that meet criteria established by the
140 corporation.

141 (c) Employers who choose to participate in the program may
142 enroll by complying with the procedures established by the
143 corporation. The procedures must include, but are not limited
144 to:

145 1. Submission of required information.

146 2. Compliance with federal tax requirements for the
147 establishment of a cafeteria plan, pursuant to s. 125 of the
148 Internal Revenue Code, including designation of the employer's
149 plan as a premium payment plan, a salary reduction plan that has
150 flexible spending arrangements, or a salary reduction plan that

151 has a premium payment and flexible spending arrangements.

152 3. Determination of the employer's contribution, if any,
153 per employee, provided that such contribution is equal for each
154 eligible employee.

155 4. Establishment of payroll deduction procedures, subject
156 to the agreement of each individual employee who voluntarily
157 participates in the program.

158 5. Designation of the corporation as the third-party
159 administrator for the employer's health benefit plan.

160 6. Identification of eligible employees.

161 7. Arrangement for periodic payments.

162 8. Employer notification to employees of the intent to
163 transfer from an existing employee health plan to the program at
164 least 90 days before the transition.

165 (d) All eligible vendors who choose to participate and the
166 products and services that the vendors are permitted to sell are
167 as follows:

168 1. Insurers licensed under chapter 624 may sell health
169 insurance policies, ~~limited benefit policies, other risk-bearing~~
170 ~~coverage, and other products or services.~~

171 2. Health maintenance organizations licensed under part I
172 of chapter 641 may sell health maintenance contracts, ~~limited~~
173 ~~benefit policies, other risk-bearing products, and other~~
174 ~~products or services.~~

175 3. ~~Prepaid limited health service organizations may sell~~

176 ~~products and services as authorized under part I of chapter 636,~~
177 ~~and discount plan organizations may sell products and services~~
178 ~~as authorized under part II of chapter 636.~~

179 ~~4. Prepaid health clinic service providers licensed under~~
180 ~~part II of chapter 641 may sell prepaid service contracts and~~
181 ~~other arrangements for a specified amount and type of health~~
182 ~~services or treatments.~~

183 ~~5. Health care providers, including hospitals and other~~
184 ~~licensed health facilities, health care clinics, licensed health~~
185 ~~professionals, pharmacies, and other licensed health care~~
186 ~~providers, may sell service contracts and arrangements for a~~
187 ~~specified amount and type of health services or treatments.~~

188 ~~6. Provider organizations, including service networks,~~
189 ~~group practices, professional associations, and other~~
190 ~~incorporated organizations of providers, may sell service~~
191 ~~contracts and arrangements for a specified amount and type of~~
192 ~~health services or treatments.~~

193 ~~7. Corporate entities providing specific health services~~
194 ~~in accordance with applicable state law may sell service~~
195 ~~contracts and arrangements for a specified amount and type of~~
196 ~~health services or treatments.~~

197
198 ~~A vendor described in subparagraphs 3.-7. may not sell products~~
199 ~~that provide risk-bearing coverage unless that vendor is~~
200 ~~authorized under a certificate of authority issued by the Office~~

~~of Insurance Regulation and is authorized to provide coverage in~~
~~the relevant geographic area. Otherwise~~ Eligible vendors may be
excluded from participating in the program for deceptive or
predatory practices, financial insolvency, or failure to comply
with the terms of the participation agreement or other standards
set by the corporation.

(e) Eligible individuals may participate in the program
voluntarily. Individuals who join the program may participate by
complying with the procedures established by the corporation.
These procedures must include, but are not limited to:

1. Submission of required information.
2. Authorization for payroll deduction.
3. Compliance with federal tax requirements.
4. Arrangements for payment.
5. Selection of products and services.

(f) Vendors who choose to participate in the program may
enroll by complying with the procedures established by the
corporation. These procedures may include, but are not limited
to:

1. Submission of required information, including a
complete description of the coverage, services, provider
network, payment restrictions, and other requirements of each
product offered through the program.

2. Execution of an agreement to comply with requirements
established by the corporation.

226 3. Execution of an agreement that prohibits refusal to
227 sell any offered product or service to a participant who elects
228 to buy it.

229 ~~4. Establishment of product prices based on applicable~~
230 ~~criteria.~~

231 4.5. Arrangements for receiving payment for enrolled
232 participants.

233 ~~5.6.~~ Participation in ongoing reporting processes
234 established by the corporation.

235 ~~6.7.~~ Compliance with grievance procedures established by
236 the corporation.

237 (g) Health insurance agents licensed under part IV of
238 chapter 626 are eligible to voluntarily participate as buyers'
239 representatives. A buyer's representative acts on behalf of an
240 individual purchasing health insurance and health services
241 through the program by providing information about products and
242 services available through the program and assisting the
243 individual with both the decision and the procedure of selecting
244 specific products. Serving as a buyer's representative does not
245 constitute a conflict of interest with continuing
246 responsibilities as a health insurance agent if the relationship
247 between each agent and any participating vendor is disclosed
248 before advising an individual participant about the products and
249 services available through the program. In order to participate,
250 a health insurance agent shall comply with the procedures

established by the corporation, including:

1. Completion of training requirements.
2. Execution of a participation agreement specifying the terms and conditions of participation.
3. Disclosure of any appointments to solicit insurance or procure applications for vendors participating in the program.
4. Arrangements to receive payment from the corporation for services as a buyer's representative.

(5) PRODUCTS.—

~~(a) The products that may be made available for purchase through the program include, but are not limited to:~~

(a)1. Health insurance policies.

(b)2. Health maintenance contracts.

~~3. Limited benefit plans.~~

~~4. Prepaid clinic services.~~

~~5. Service contracts.~~

~~6. Arrangements for purchase of specific amounts and types of health services and treatments.~~

~~7. Flexible spending accounts.~~

~~(b) Health insurance policies, health maintenance contracts, limited benefit plans, prepaid service contracts, and other contracts for services must ensure the availability of covered services.~~

~~(c) Products may be offered for multiyear periods provided the price of the product is specified for the entire period or~~

276 ~~for each separately priced segment of the policy or contract.~~

277 ~~(d) The corporation shall provide a disclosure form for~~
278 ~~consumers to acknowledge their understanding of the nature of,~~
279 ~~and any limitations to, the benefits provided by the products~~
280 ~~and services being purchased by the consumer.~~

281 ~~(e) The corporation must determine that making the plan~~
282 ~~available through the program is in the interest of eligible~~
283 ~~individuals and eligible employers in the state.~~

284 (6) SURCHARGE PRICING. ~~Prices for the products and~~
285 ~~services sold through the program must be transparent to~~
286 ~~participants and established by the vendors.~~ The corporation
287 shall annually assess a surcharge for each premium or price set
288 by a participating vendor. The surcharge may not be more than
289 2.5 percent of the price and shall be used to generate funding
290 for administrative services provided by the corporation and
291 payments to buyers' representatives.

292 (7) ~~THE MARKETPLACE PROCESS.~~—The program shall provide a
293 ~~single,~~ centralized market for access to purchase of health
294 insurance and, health maintenance contracts by an employee
295 enrolled in an individual coverage health reimbursement
296 arrangement, ~~and other health products and services.~~ Purchases
297 may be made by participating individuals over the Internet or
298 through the services of a participating health insurance agent.
299 Information about each product and service available through the
300 program shall be made available through printed material and an

301 interactive Internet website. A participant needing personal
302 assistance to select products and services shall be referred to
303 a participating agent in his or her area.

304 (a) Participation in the program may begin at any time
305 during a year after the employer completes enrollment and meets
306 the requirements specified by the corporation pursuant to
307 paragraph (4) (c).

308 (b) Initial selection of products and services must be
309 made by an individual participant within the applicable open
310 enrollment period.

311 ~~(c) Initial enrollment periods for each product selected~~
312 ~~by an individual participant must last at least 12 months,~~
313 ~~unless the individual participant specifically agrees to a~~
314 ~~different enrollment period.~~

315 ~~(d) If an individual has selected one or more products and~~
316 ~~enrolled in those products for at least 12 months or any other~~
317 ~~period specifically agreed to by the individual participant,~~
318 ~~changes in selected products and services may only be made~~
319 ~~during the annual enrollment period established by the~~
320 ~~corporation.~~

321 ~~(e) The limits established in paragraphs (b) - (d) apply to~~
322 ~~any risk-bearing product that promises future payment or~~
323 ~~coverage for a variable amount of benefits or services. The~~
324 ~~limits do not apply to initiation of flexible spending plans if~~
325 ~~those plans are not associated with specific high deductible~~

~~insurance policies or the use of spending accounts for any products offering individual participants specific amounts and types of health services and treatments at a contracted price.~~

(8) CONSUMER INFORMATION.—The corporation shall:

(a) Establish a secure website to facilitate the purchase of products and services by participating individuals. The website must provide information about each product or service available through the program.

(b) Inform individuals about other public health care programs.

~~(9) RISK POOLING.—The program may use methods for pooling the risk of individual participants and preventing selection bias. These methods may include, but are not limited to, a postenrollment risk adjustment of the premium payments to the vendors. The corporation may establish a methodology for assessing the risk of enrolled individual participants based on data reported annually by the vendors about their enrollees. Distribution of payments to the vendors may be adjusted based on the assessed relative risk profile of the enrollees in each risk-bearing product for the most recent period for which data is available.~~

(9) ~~(10)~~ EXEMPTIONS.—

~~(a) Products, other than the products set forth in subparagraphs (4) (d) 1.-4., sold as part of the program are not subject to the licensing requirements of the Florida Insurance~~

351 ~~Code, as defined in s. 624.01 or the mandated offerings or~~
352 ~~coverages established in part VI of chapter 627 and chapter 641.~~

353 ~~(b)~~ The corporation may act as an administrator as defined
354 in s. 626.88 but is not required to be certified pursuant to
355 part VII of chapter 626. However, a third party administrator
356 used by the corporation must be certified under part VII of
357 chapter 626.

358 ~~(c) Any standard forms, website design, or marketing~~
359 ~~communication developed by the corporation and used by the~~
360 ~~corporation, or any vendor that meets the requirements of~~
361 ~~paragraph (4) (f) is not subject to the Florida Insurance Code,~~
362 ~~as established in s. 624.01.~~

363 (10) CORPORATION.—There is created the Florida Employee
364 Health Choices, Inc., which shall be registered, incorporated,
365 organized, and operated in compliance with part III of chapter
366 112 and chapters 119, 286, and 617. The purpose of the
367 corporation is to administer the program created in this section
368 and to conduct such other business as may further the
369 administration of the program. The Department of Management
370 Services shall facilitate the formation of the corporation and
371 provide administrative support for the corporation until January
372 1, 2028. The corporation must be self-sustaining and no longer
373 require administrative assistance from the Department of
374 Management Services by January 1, 2028.

375 (a) The corporation shall be governed by an eight-member

board of directors. Board members shall be appointed for terms of up to 3 years and shall be eligible for reappointment. A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment. Board members may not include an affiliate or subsidiary of an eligible vendor. Board members shall serve without compensation, but are entitled to receive, from funds of the corporation, reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided in s. 112.061. The membership of the board shall consist of:

1. Three members appointed by the Governor.
2. Two members appointed by the President of the Senate.
3. Two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives.
4. The Secretary of Management Services or a designee with expertise in state employee benefits and procurement as an ex officio, nonvoting member.

(b) The corporation may exercise all powers granted to it under chapter 617 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to, the power to receive and accept grants, loans, or advances of funds from any public or private agency and to receive and accept from any source contributions of money, property, labor, or any other thing of value to be held, used, and applied for the purposes of this section.

(c) There is no liability on the part of, and no cause of

401 action shall arise against, any member of the board or its
402 employees or agents for any action taken by them in the
403 performance of their powers and duties under this section.

404 (d) The board shall develop and adopt bylaws and other
405 corporate procedures necessary for the operation of the
406 corporation and carrying out the purposes of this section. At a
407 minimum, the bylaws shall:

408 1. Specify procedures for selection of officers and
409 qualifications for reappointment, provided that a board member
410 may not serve more than 9 consecutive years.

411 2. Require an annual membership meeting that provides an
412 opportunity for input and interaction with individual
413 participants in the program.

414 3. Specify policies and procedures regarding conflicts of
415 interest, including part III of chapter 112, which prohibit a
416 member from participating in any decision that would inure to
417 the benefit of the member or the organization that employs the
418 member. The policies and procedures shall also require public
419 disclosure of the interest that prevents the member from
420 participating in a decision on a particular matter.

421 4. Specify procedures for adopting an annual budget.

422 5. Specify procedures for selecting a chief executive
423 officer for the corporation who shall be responsible for
424 securing staff and consultant services necessary for the
425 operation of the program as may be authorized by the

426 corporation's operating budget.

427 (e) The corporation must establish policies and procedures
428 for application, enrollment, plan administration, performance
429 monitoring, and consumer education, and other policies and
430 procedures necessary for the operation of the program,
431 including, but not limited to:

432 1. Criteria for participation in the program, and
433 procedures for determining the eligibility of employers,
434 vendors, individuals, and health insurance agents and employers
435 to participate in the program.

436 2. Exclusion of vendors pursuant to paragraph (4) (d).

437 3. Collection of contributions from participating
438 employers and individuals.

439 4. Payment of premiums and other appropriate disbursements
440 based on the selections of products and services by the
441 individual participants.

442 5. Disenrollment of participating individuals based on
443 failure to pay the individual's share of any contribution
444 required to maintain enrollment in selected products.

445 (f) The corporation shall procure a vendor to facilitate a
446 platform that streamlines the purchase of individual coverage
447 for employees enrolled in individual health coverage
448 reimbursement arrangements.

449 1. Within 90 days after the formation of the corporation,
450 the department shall, as directed by the board, issue an

451 invitation to negotiate to procure the vendor. Responsive
452 bidders shall demonstrate the ability to establish a platform
453 fully operational for open enrollment by January 1, 2027, and
454 provide for initial, open, and special enrollment periods.

455 2. The department shall evaluate and score the procurement
456 bids, enter into negotiations at the direction of the board, and
457 make recommendations to the board related to the contract award.
458 The corporation shall select the vendor and execute the contract
459 within 180 days after the issuance of the invitation to
460 negotiate.

461 (g) The corporation must develop and implement a plan for
462 promoting public awareness of and participation in the program,
463 and must establish a toll-free hotline to respond to requests
464 for assistance from employers and plan enrollees.

465 (h) The corporation may evaluate and implement additional
466 options for employer participation which conform with common
467 insurance practices.

468 ~~(11) CORPORATION. There is created the Florida Health~~
469 ~~Choices, Inc., which shall be registered, incorporated,~~
470 ~~organized, and operated in compliance with part III of chapter~~
471 ~~112 and chapters 119, 286, and 617. The purpose of the~~
472 ~~corporation is to administer the program created in this section~~
473 ~~and to conduct such other business as may further the~~
474 ~~administration of the program.~~

475 ~~(a) The corporation shall be governed by a 15-member board~~

~~of directors consisting of:~~

~~1. Three ex officio, nonvoting members to include:~~

~~a. The Secretary of Health Care Administration or a designee with expertise in health care services.~~

~~b. The Secretary of Management Services or a designee with expertise in state employee benefits.~~

~~c. The commissioner of the Office of Insurance Regulation or a designee with expertise in insurance regulation.~~

~~2. Four members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Governor.~~

~~3. Four members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the President of the Senate.~~

~~4. Four members appointed by and serving at the pleasure of the Speaker of the House of Representatives.~~

~~5. Board members may not include insurers, health insurance agents or brokers, health care providers, health maintenance organizations, prepaid service providers, or any other entity, affiliate or subsidiary of eligible vendors.~~

~~(b) Members shall be appointed for terms of up to 3 years. Any member is eligible for reappointment. A vacancy on the board shall be filled for the unexpired portion of the term in the same manner as the original appointment.~~

~~(c) The board shall select a chief executive officer for the corporation who shall be responsible for the selection of such other staff as may be authorized by the corporation's~~

operating budget as adopted by the board.

~~(d) Board members are entitled to receive, from funds of the corporation, reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses as provided by s. 112.061. No other compensation is authorized.~~

~~(e) There is no liability on the part of, and no cause of action shall arise against, any member of the board or its employees or agents for any action taken by them in the performance of their powers and duties under this section.~~

~~(f) The board shall develop and adopt bylaws and other corporate procedures as necessary for the operation of the corporation and carrying out the purposes of this section. The bylaws shall:~~

~~1. Specify procedures for selection of officers and qualifications for reappointment, provided that no board member shall serve more than 9 consecutive years.~~

~~2. Require an annual membership meeting that provides an opportunity for input and interaction with individual participants in the program.~~

~~3. Specify policies and procedures regarding conflicts of interest, including the provisions of part III of chapter 112, which prohibit a member from participating in any decision that would inure to the benefit of the member or the organization that employs the member. The policies and procedures shall also require public disclosure of the interest that prevents the member from participating in a decision on a particular matter.~~

~~(g) The corporation may exercise all powers granted to it under chapter 617 necessary to carry out the purposes of this section, including, but not limited to, the power to receive and accept grants, loans, or advances of funds from any public or private agency and to receive and accept from any source contributions of money, property, labor, or any other thing of value to be held, used, and applied for the purposes of this section.~~

~~(h) The corporation shall:~~

~~1. Determine eligibility of employers, vendors, individuals, and agents in accordance with subsection (4).~~

~~2. Establish procedures necessary for the operation of the program, including, but not limited to, procedures for application, enrollment, risk assessment, risk adjustment, plan administration, performance monitoring, and consumer education.~~

~~3. Arrange for collection of contributions from participating employers and individuals.~~

~~4. Arrange for payment of premiums and other appropriate disbursements based on the selections of products and services by the individual participants.~~

~~5. Establish criteria for disenrollment of participating individuals based on failure to pay the individual's share of any contribution required to maintain enrollment in selected products.~~

~~6. Establish criteria for exclusion of vendors pursuant to~~

551 ~~paragraph (4)(d).~~

552 ~~7. Develop and implement a plan for promoting public~~
553 ~~awareness of and participation in the program.~~

554 ~~8. Secure staff and consultant services necessary to the~~
555 ~~operation of the program.~~

556 ~~9. Establish policies and procedures regarding~~
557 ~~participation in the program for individuals, vendors, health~~
558 ~~insurance agents, and employers.~~

559 ~~10. Provide for the operation of a toll-free hotline to~~
560 ~~respond to requests for assistance.~~

561 ~~11. Provide for initial, open, and special enrollment~~
562 ~~periods.~~

563 ~~12. Evaluate options for employer participation which may~~
564 ~~conform with common insurance practices.~~

565 ~~(11)(12)~~ REPORT.—Beginning in the 2026-2027 ~~2009-2010~~
566 fiscal year, submit by February 1 an annual report to the
567 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
568 House of Representatives documenting the corporation's
569 activities in compliance with the duties delineated in this
570 section.

571 ~~(12)(13)~~ PROGRAM INTEGRITY.—To ensure program integrity
572 and to safeguard the financial transactions made under the
573 auspices of the program, the corporation is authorized to
574 establish qualifying criteria and certification procedures for
575 vendors, require performance bonds or other guarantees of

576 ability to complete contractual obligations, monitor the
577 performance of vendors, and enforce the agreements of the
578 program through financial penalty or disqualification from the
579 program.

580 (13)~~(14)~~ EXEMPTION FROM PUBLIC RECORDS REQUIREMENTS.—

581 (a) Definitions.—For purposes of this subsection, the
582 term:

583 1. "Buyer's representative" means a participating
584 insurance agent as described in paragraph (4) (g).

585 2. "Enrollee" means an employer who is eligible to enroll
586 in the program pursuant to paragraph (4) (a).

587 3. "Participant" means an individual who is eligible to
588 participate in the program pursuant to paragraph (4) (b).

589 4. "Proprietary confidential business information" means
590 information, regardless of form or characteristics, that is
591 owned or controlled by a vendor requesting confidentiality under
592 this section; that is intended to be and is treated by the
593 vendor as private in that the disclosure of the information
594 would cause harm to the business operations of the vendor; that
595 has not been disclosed unless disclosed pursuant to a statutory
596 provision, an order of a court or administrative body, or a
597 private agreement providing that the information may be released
598 to the public; and that is information concerning:

599 a. Business plans.

600 b. Internal auditing controls and reports of internal

auditors.

c. Reports of external auditors for privately held companies.

d. Client and customer lists.

e. Potentially patentable material.

f. A trade secret as defined in s. 688.002.

5. "Vendor" means a participating insurer or other provider of services as described in paragraph (4) (d).

(b) Public record exemptions.—

1. Personal identifying information of an enrollee or participant who has applied for or participates in the Florida Employee Health Choices Program is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

2. Client and customer lists of a buyer's representative held by the corporation are confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

3. Proprietary confidential business information held by the corporation is confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution.

(c) Retroactive application.—The public record exemptions provided for in paragraph (b) apply to information held by the corporation before, on, or after the effective date of this exemption.

(d) Authorized release.—

1. Upon request, information made confidential and exempt

pursuant to this subsection shall be disclosed to:

a. Another governmental entity in the performance of its official duties and responsibilities.

b. Any person who has the written consent of the program applicant.

c. The Florida Kidcare program for the purpose of administering the program authorized in ss. 409.810-409.821.

2. Paragraph (b) does not prohibit a participant's legal guardian from obtaining confirmation of coverage, dates of coverage, the name of the participant's health plan, and the amount of premium being paid.

(e) Penalty.—A person who knowingly and willfully violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 2. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 409.821, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.821 Florida Kidcare program public records exemption.—

(2)(a) Upon request, such information shall be disclosed to:

1. Another governmental entity in the performance of its official duties and responsibilities;

2. The Department of Revenue for purposes of administering the state Title IV-D program;

3. The Florida Employee Health Choices, Inc., for the purpose of administering the program authorized pursuant to s.

408.910; or

4. Any person who has the written consent of the program applicant.

Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 409.9122, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9122 Medicaid managed care enrollment; HIV/AIDS patients; procedures; data collection; accounting; information system; medical loss ratio.—

(3) The agency shall develop a process to enable any recipient with access to employer-sponsored health care coverage to opt out of all eligible plans in the Medicaid program and to use Medicaid financial assistance to pay for the recipient's share of cost in any such employer-sponsored coverage.

Contingent on federal approval, the agency shall also enable recipients with access to other insurance or related products that provide access to health care services created pursuant to state law, including any plan or product available pursuant to the Florida Employee Health Choices Program or any health exchange, to opt out. The amount of financial assistance provided for each recipient may not exceed the amount of the Medicaid premium that would have been paid to a plan for that recipient.

Section 4. Subsection (4) of section 409.977, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.977 Enrollment.—

(4) The agency shall develop a process to enable a recipient with access to employer-sponsored health care coverage to opt out of all managed care plans and to use Medicaid financial assistance to pay for the recipient's share of the cost in such employer-sponsored coverage. The agency shall also enable recipients with access to other insurance or related products providing access to health care services created pursuant to state law, including any product available under the Florida Employee Health Choices Program, or any health exchange, to opt out. The amount of financial assistance provided for each recipient may not exceed the amount of the Medicaid premium that would have been paid to a managed care plan for that recipient. The agency shall require Medicaid recipients with access to employer-sponsored health care coverage to enroll in that coverage and use Medicaid financial assistance to pay for the recipient's share of the cost for such coverage. The amount of financial assistance provided for each recipient may not exceed the amount of the Medicaid premium that would have been paid to a managed care plan for that recipient.

Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.