

## **SB 4A — Memorial relating to the Florida Medicaid Program**

by Rules Committee; and Senator Negron

This memorial urges the Congress of the United States to amend Title XIX of the Social Security Act to restructure the Medicaid program and re-establish the federal-state partnership such that Florida is able to provide better quality of care, improved access to care, and cost efficiency within its Medicaid program. Further the memorial declares the intent of the Florida Legislature to amend Florida Statutes relating to the Florida Medicaid program during the 2011 session. Lastly, the memorial resolves that the Florida Legislature intends to enact reforms that establish a fairer and predictable civil justice system in order to reduce disincentives that discourage providers from serving Medicaid participants.

Specifically, the Memorial:

- Specifies the following key principles for restructuring the Medicaid program:
  - Model the federal-state Medicaid partnership on the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act of 1996 such that the distribution of federal funds is based on population and tied to specific goals and objectives, and allows states to design a program that meets the needs of its residents;
  - Authorize Medicaid participants to utilize public funds to purchase private health insurance for the provision of their health care needs;
  - Decentralize decision making such that providers and plans have increased incentives to deliver better value and to design more innovative service packages, delivery systems, and payment methods; and
  - Focus on prevention and cost effective use of services, foster personal responsibility and reward healthy behaviors, and enhance outcome measurement and quality improvement.
- Declares the intent of the Florida Legislature to restructure the Medicaid program during the 2011 regular session to strengthen accountability for improved patient outcomes, preserve meaningful choices for participants, and to improve access to coordinated care by expanding key components of the Medicaid managed care pilot on a statewide basis for both acute and long-term care as follows:
  - Expand managed care for all Medicaid participants, except those specifically exempted, utilizing a phased approach such that sufficient time is allotted to develop appropriate care plans for all eligibles such as long-term care participants and persons with developmental disabilities; and
  - Increase fiscal predictability leveraging capitated, risk adjusted payment methodologies and leveraging the State's purchasing power through the use of regional competitive procurements.
- Resolves that the Florida Legislature intends to enact reforms that establish a fairer and predictable civil justice system.

The memorial has no direct fiscal impact to the state.

Upon signature of the Legislature's presiding officers, a copy of the memorial will be dispatched to the President of the United States Senate, to the President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, and to each member of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.

*Vote: No History Available*