A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health care; amending s. 400.23, F.S.; delaying a nursing home staffing increase; amending s. 409.814, F.S.; granting more children access to the Florida KidCare program; amending s. 409.903, F.S.; deleting a provision eliminating eligibility for Medicaid services for certain women; amending s. 409.904, F.S.; providing for the Agency for Health Care Administration to pay for medical assistance for certain Medicaid-eligible persons; deleting a limitation on eligibility for coverage under the medically needy program; amending s. 409.906, F.S.; deleting a repeal of a provision that provides adult denture services; repealing s. 409.9065, F.S., relating to pharmaceutical expense assistance; amending s. 409.908, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the long-term care reimbursement and cost reporting system; revising provisions relating to the Medicaid maximum allowable fee for certain pharmacies; amending s. 409.912, F.S.; revising components of the Medicaid prescribed-drug spending-control program; authorizing the agency to implement a program of all-inclusive care for certain children; requiring a plan for comprehensive vision care services; amending s. 409.9122, F.S.; deleting assignment requirement for recipients in areas with capitated behavioral health services; amending s. 409.9124, F.S.; requiring the agency to develop managed care rates for children of specified ages and to amend the methodology for reimbursing managed care plans to comply therewith;

limiting the amount of reimbursement; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 400.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

400.23 Rules; evaluation and deficiencies; licensure status.--

(3)(a) The agency shall adopt rules providing ~~for the~~ minimum staffing requirements for nursing homes. These requirements shall include, for each nursing home facility, a minimum certified nursing assistant staffing of 2.3 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2002, increasing to 2.6 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning January 1, 2003, and increasing to 2.9 hours of direct care per resident per day beginning July 1, 2006 ~~2005~~. Beginning January 1, 2002, no facility shall staff below one certified nursing assistant per 20 residents, and a minimum licensed nursing staffing of 1.0 hour of direct resident care per resident per day but never below one licensed nurse per 40 residents. Nursing assistants employed under s. 400.211(2) may be included in computing the staffing ratio for certified nursing assistants only if they provide nursing assistance services to residents on a full-time basis. Each nursing home must document compliance with staffing standards as required under this paragraph and post daily the names of staff on duty for the benefit of facility residents and the public. The agency

shall recognize the use of licensed nurses for compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants, provided that the facility otherwise meets the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses and that the licensed nurses so recognized are performing the duties of a certified nursing assistant. Unless otherwise approved by the agency, licensed nurses counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for certified nursing assistants must exclusively perform the duties of a certified nursing assistant for the entire shift and shall not also be counted toward the minimum staffing requirements for licensed nurses. If the agency approved a facility's request to use a licensed nurse to perform both licensed nursing and certified nursing assistant duties, the facility must allocate the amount of staff time specifically spent on certified nursing assistant duties for the purpose of documenting compliance with minimum staffing requirements for certified and licensed nursing staff. In no event may the hours of a licensed nurse with dual job responsibilities be counted twice.

Section 2. Subsections (2) and (5) of section 409.814, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.814 Eligibility.--A child who has not reached 19 years of age whose family income is equal to or below 200 percent of the federal poverty level is eligible for the Florida KidCare program as provided in this section. For enrollment in the Children's Medical Services Network, a complete application includes the medical or behavioral health screening. If, subsequently, an individual is determined to be ineligible for coverage, he or she must immediately be disenrolled from the

respective Florida KidCare program component.

(2) A child who is not eligible for Medicaid, but who is eligible for the Florida KidCare program, may obtain health benefits coverage under any of the other components listed in s. 409.813 if such coverage is approved and available in the county in which the child resides. However, a child who is eligible for Medikids, including those eligible under subsection (5), may participate in the Florida Healthy Kids program only if the child has a sibling participating in the Florida Healthy Kids program and the child's county of residence permits such enrollment.

(5) A child whose family income is above 200 percent of the federal poverty level or a child who is excluded under the provisions of subsection (4) may apply for coverage and shall be allowed to participate in the Florida KidCare program, excluding the Medicaid program, but is subject to the following provisions:

(a) The family is not eligible for premium assistance payments and must pay the full cost of the premium, including any administrative costs.

(b) The agency is authorized to place limits on enrollment in Medikids by these children in order to avoid adverse selection. The number of children participating in Medikids whose family income exceeds 200 percent of the federal poverty level must not exceed 10 percent of total enrollees in the Medikids program.

(c) The board of directors of the Florida Healthy Kids Corporation is authorized to place limits on enrollment of these

children in order to avoid adverse selection. In addition, the board is authorized to offer a reduced benefit package to these children in order to limit program costs for such families. The number of children participating in the Florida Healthy Kids program whose family income exceeds 200 percent of the federal poverty level must not exceed 10 percent of total enrollees in the Florida Healthy Kids program.

(d) Children described in this subsection are not counted in the annual enrollment ceiling for the Florida KidCare program.

Section 3. Subsection (5) of section 409.903, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.903 Mandatory payments for eligible persons.--The agency shall make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who the department, or the Social Security Administration by contract with the Department of Children and Family Services, determines to be eligible, subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(5) A pregnant woman for the duration of her pregnancy and for the postpartum period as defined in federal law and rule, or a child under age 1, if either is living in a family that has an income which is at or below 150 percent of the most current federal poverty level, or, effective January 1, 1992, that has an income which is at or below 185 percent of the most current

federal poverty level. Such a person is not subject to an assets test. Further, a pregnant woman who applies for eligibility for the Medicaid program through a qualified Medicaid provider must be offered the opportunity, subject to federal rules, to be made presumptively eligible for the Medicaid program. ~~Effective July 1, 2005, eligibility for Medicaid services is eliminated for women who have incomes above 150 percent of the most current federal poverty level.~~

Section 4. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 409.904, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.904 Optional payments for eligible persons.--The agency may make payments for medical assistance and related services on behalf of the following persons who are determined to be eligible subject to the income, assets, and categorical eligibility tests set forth in federal and state law. Payment on behalf of these Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations established by the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216.

(1)(a) From July 1, 2005, through December 31, 2005, inclusive, a person who is age 65 or older or is determined to be disabled, whose income is at or below 88 percent of federal poverty level, and whose assets do not exceed established limitations.

(b) Effective January 1, 2006, and subject to federal waiver approval, a person who is age 65 or older or is determined to be disabled, whose income is at or below 88 percent of the federal poverty level, whose assets do not exceed established limitations, and who is not eligible for Medicare,

or, if eligible for Medicare, is also eligible for and receiving Medicaid-covered institutional care or hospice or home-based and community-based services. The agency shall seek federal authorization through a waiver to provide this coverage.

(2) A family, a pregnant woman, a child under age 21, a person age 65 or over, or a blind or disabled person, who would be eligible under any group listed in s. 409.903(1), (2), or (3), except that the income or assets of such family or person exceed established limitations. For a family or person in one of these coverage groups, medical expenses are deductible from income in accordance with federal requirements in order to make a determination of eligibility. A family or person eligible under the coverage known as the "medically needy," is eligible to receive the same services as other Medicaid recipients, with the exception of services in skilled nursing facilities and intermediate care facilities for the developmentally disabled. ~~Effective July 1, 2005, the medically needy are eligible for prescribed drug services only.~~

Section 5. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 409.906, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.906 Optional Medicaid services.--Subject to specific appropriations, the agency may make payments for services which are optional to the state under Title XIX of the Social Security Act and are furnished by Medicaid providers to recipients who are determined to be eligible on the dates on which the services were provided. Any optional service that is provided shall be provided only when medically necessary and in accordance with state and federal law. Optional services rendered by providers

in mobile units to Medicaid recipients may be restricted or prohibited by the agency. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. If necessary to safeguard the state's systems of providing services to elderly and disabled persons and subject to the notice and review provisions of s. 216.177, the Governor may direct the Agency for Health Care Administration to amend the Medicaid state plan to delete the optional Medicaid service known as "Intermediate Care Facilities for the Developmentally Disabled." Optional services may include:

(1) ADULT DENTAL SERVICES.--

(b) ~~Beginning January 1, 2005,~~ The agency may pay for dentures, the procedures required to seat dentures, and the repair and reline of dentures, provided by or under the direction of a licensed dentist, for a recipient who is 21 years of age or older. ~~This paragraph is repealed effective July 1, 2005.~~

Section 6. Effective January 1, 2006, section 409.9065, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 7. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and subsection (14) of section 409.908, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

409.908 Reimbursement of Medicaid providers.--Subject to specific appropriations, the agency shall reimburse Medicaid providers, in accordance with state and federal law, according

to methodologies set forth in the rules of the agency and in policy manuals and handbooks incorporated by reference therein. These methodologies may include fee schedules, reimbursement methods based on cost reporting, negotiated fees, competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, and other mechanisms the agency considers efficient and effective for purchasing services or goods on behalf of recipients. If a provider is reimbursed based on cost reporting and submits a cost report late and that cost report would have been used to set a lower reimbursement rate for a rate semester, then the provider's rate for that semester shall be retroactively calculated using the new cost report, and full payment at the recalculated rate shall be effected retroactively. Medicare-granted extensions for filing cost reports, if applicable, shall also apply to Medicaid cost reports. Payment for Medicaid compensable services made on behalf of Medicaid eligible persons is subject to the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act or chapter 216. Further, nothing in this section shall be construed to prevent or limit the agency from adjusting fees, reimbursement rates, lengths of stay, number of visits, or number of services, or making any other adjustments necessary to comply with the availability of moneys and any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, provided the adjustment is consistent with legislative intent.

(2)

(b) Subject to any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, the agency shall establish

and implement a Florida Title XIX Long-Term Care Reimbursement Plan (Medicaid) for nursing home care in order to provide care and services in conformance with the applicable state and federal laws, rules, regulations, and quality and safety standards and to ensure that individuals eligible for medical assistance have reasonable geographic access to such care.

1. Changes of ownership or of licensed operator do not qualify for increases in reimbursement rates associated with the change of ownership or of licensed operator. The agency shall amend the Title XIX Long Term Care Reimbursement Plan to provide that the initial nursing home reimbursement rates, for the operating, patient care, and MAR components, associated with related and unrelated party changes of ownership or licensed operator filed on or after September 1, 2001, are equivalent to the previous owner's reimbursement rate.

2. The agency shall amend the long-term care reimbursement plan and cost reporting system to create direct care and indirect care subcomponents of the patient care component of the per diem rate. These two subcomponents together shall equal the patient care component of the per diem rate. Separate cost-based ceilings shall be calculated for each patient care subcomponent. The direct care and indirect care subcomponents ~~subcomponent~~ of the per diem rate ~~shall be limited by the cost-based class ceiling, and the indirect care subcomponent~~ shall be limited by the lower of a ~~the~~ cost-based class ceiling, a ~~by the~~ target rate class ceiling, or an ~~by the~~ individual provider target for each subcomponent. ~~The agency shall adjust the patient care component effective January 1, 2002.~~ The cost to adjust the

direct care subcomponent shall be the net of the total funds previously allocated for the case mix add-on. ~~The agency shall make the required changes to the nursing home cost reporting forms to implement this requirement effective January 1, 2002.~~

3. The direct care subcomponent shall include salaries and benefits of direct care staff providing nursing services including registered nurses, licensed practical nurses, and certified nursing assistants who deliver care directly to residents in the nursing home facility. This excludes nursing administration, MDS, and care plan coordinators, staff development, and staffing coordinator.

4. All other patient care costs shall be included in the indirect care cost subcomponent of the patient care per diem rate. There shall be no costs directly or indirectly allocated to the direct care subcomponent from a home office or management company.

5. On July 1 of each year, the agency shall report to the Legislature direct and indirect care costs, including average direct and indirect care costs per resident per facility and direct care and indirect care salaries and benefits per category of staff member per facility.

6. In order to offset the cost of general and professional liability insurance, the agency shall amend the plan to allow for interim rate adjustments to reflect increases in the cost of general or professional liability insurance for nursing homes. This provision shall be implemented to the extent existing appropriations are available.

It is the intent of the Legislature that the reimbursement plan achieve the goal of providing access to health care for nursing home residents who require large amounts of care while encouraging diversion services as an alternative to nursing home care for residents who can be served within the community. The agency shall base the establishment of any maximum rate of payment, whether overall or component, on the available moneys as provided for in the General Appropriations Act. The agency may base the maximum rate of payment on the results of scientifically valid analysis and conclusions derived from objective statistical data pertinent to the particular maximum rate of payment.

(14) A provider of prescribed drugs shall be reimbursed the least of the amount billed by the provider, the provider's usual and customary charge, or the Medicaid maximum allowable fee established by the agency, plus a dispensing fee.

(a) For pharmacies with less than $75,000 in average aggregate monthly payments, the Medicaid maximum allowable fee for ingredient cost will be based on the lower of: average wholesale price (AWP) minus 15.4 percent, wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 5.75 percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider.

(b) For pharmacies with $75,000 or more in average aggregate monthly payments, the Medicaid maximum allowable fee for ingredient cost will be based on the lower of: average wholesale price (AWP) minus 17 percent, wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 3.5 percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the

state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider.

(c) Medicaid providers are required to dispense generic drugs if available at lower cost and the agency has not determined that the branded product is more cost-effective, unless the prescriber has requested and received approval to require the branded product. The agency is directed to implement a variable dispensing fee for payments for prescribed medicines while ensuring continued access for Medicaid recipients. The variable dispensing fee may be based upon, but not limited to, either or both the volume of prescriptions dispensed by a specific pharmacy provider, the volume of prescriptions dispensed to an individual recipient, and dispensing of preferred-drug-list products. The agency may increase the pharmacy dispensing fee authorized by statute and in the annual General Appropriations Act by $0.50 for the dispensing of a Medicaid preferred-drug-list product and reduce the pharmacy dispensing fee by $0.50 for the dispensing of a Medicaid product that is not included on the preferred drug list. The agency may establish a supplemental pharmaceutical dispensing fee to be paid to providers returning unused unit-dose packaged medications to stock and crediting the Medicaid program for the ingredient cost of those medications if the ingredient costs to be credited exceed the value of the supplemental dispensing fee. The agency is authorized to limit reimbursement for prescribed medicine in order to comply with any limitations or directions provided for in the General Appropriations Act, which may

include implementing a prospective or concurrent utilization review program.

Section 8. Paragraph (a) of subsection (39) of section 409.912, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsections (50) and (51) are added to said section, to read:

409.912 Cost-effective purchasing of health care.--The agency shall purchase goods and services for Medicaid recipients in the most cost-effective manner consistent with the delivery of quality medical care. To ensure that medical services are effectively utilized, the agency may, in any case, require a confirmation or second physician's opinion of the correct diagnosis for purposes of authorizing future services under the Medicaid program. This section does not restrict access to emergency services or poststabilization care services as defined in 42 C.F.R. part 438.114. Such confirmation or second opinion shall be rendered in a manner approved by the agency. The agency shall maximize the use of prepaid per capita and prepaid aggregate fixed-sum basis services when appropriate and other alternative service delivery and reimbursement methodologies, including competitive bidding pursuant to s. 287.057, designed to facilitate the cost-effective purchase of a case-managed continuum of care. The agency shall also require providers to minimize the exposure of recipients to the need for acute inpatient, custodial, and other institutional care and the inappropriate or unnecessary use of high-cost services. The agency may mandate prior authorization, drug therapy management, or disease management participation for certain populations of Medicaid beneficiaries, certain drug classes, or particular

drugs to prevent fraud, abuse, overuse, and possible dangerous drug interactions. The Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee shall make recommendations to the agency on drugs for which prior authorization is required. The agency shall inform the Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee of its decisions regarding drugs subject to prior authorization. The agency is authorized to limit the entities it contracts with or enrolls as Medicaid providers by developing a provider network through provider credentialing. The agency may limit its network based on the assessment of beneficiary access to care, provider availability, provider quality standards, time and distance standards for access to care, the cultural competence of the provider network, demographic characteristics of Medicaid beneficiaries, practice and provider-to-beneficiary standards, appointment wait times, beneficiary use of services, provider turnover, provider profiling, provider licensure history, previous program integrity investigations and findings, peer review, provider Medicaid policy and billing compliance records, clinical and medical record audits, and other factors. Providers shall not be entitled to enrollment in the Medicaid provider network. The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers necessary to implement this policy.

(39)(a) The agency shall implement a Medicaid prescribed-drug spending-control program that includes the following components:

1. Medicaid prescribed-drug coverage for brand-name drugs for adult Medicaid recipients is limited to the dispensing of three ~~four~~ brand-name drugs and three generic drugs per month

per recipient. Children are exempt from this restriction. ~~Antiretroviral agents are excluded from this limitation. No requirements for prior authorization or other restrictions on medications used to treat mental illnesses such as schizophrenia, severe depression, or bipolar disorder may be imposed on Medicaid recipients. Medications that will be available without restriction for persons with mental illnesses include atypical antipsychotic medications, conventional antipsychotic medications, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, and other medications used for the treatment of serious mental illnesses.~~ The agency shall also limit the amount of a prescribed drug dispensed to no more than a 34-day supply. ~~The agency shall continue to provide unlimited generic drugs, contraceptive drugs and items, and diabetic supplies.~~ Although a drug may be included on the preferred drug formulary, it would not be exempt from the three-brand ~~four brand~~ limit or the generic drug limit. ~~The agency may authorize exceptions to the brand-name-drug restriction based upon the treatment needs of the patients, only when such exceptions are based on prior consultation provided by the agency or an agency contractor, but the agency must establish procedures to ensure that:~~

~~a. There will be a response to a request for prior consultation by telephone or other telecommunication device within 24 hours after receipt of a request for prior consultation;~~

~~b. A 72-hour supply of the drug prescribed will be provided in an emergency or when the agency does not provide a response within 24 hours as required by sub subparagraph a.; and~~

~~c. Except for the exception for nursing home residents and other institutionalized adults and except for drugs on the restricted formulary for which prior authorization may be sought by an institutional or community pharmacy, prior authorization for an exception to the brand-name-drug restriction is sought by the prescriber and not by the pharmacy. When prior authorization is granted for a patient in an institutional setting beyond the brand-name-drug restriction, such approval is authorized for 12 months and monthly prior authorization is not required for that patient.~~

2. Reimbursement to pharmacies for Medicaid prescribed drugs shall be set at the lesser of:

a. The average wholesale price (AWP) minus 15.4 percent, the wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 5.75 percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider for pharmacies with less than $75,000 in average aggregate monthly payments.

b. The average wholesale price (AWP) minus 17 percent, wholesaler acquisition cost (WAC) plus 3.5 percent, the federal upper limit (FUL), the state maximum allowable cost (SMAC), or the usual and customary (UAC) charge billed by the provider for pharmacies with $75,000 or more in average aggregate monthly payments.

3. The agency shall develop and implement a process for managing the drug therapies of Medicaid recipients who are using significant numbers of prescribed drugs each month. The management process may include, but is not limited to,

comprehensive, physician-directed medical-record reviews, claims analyses, and case evaluations to determine the medical necessity and appropriateness of a patient's treatment plan and drug therapies. The agency may contract with a private organization to provide drug-program-management services. The Medicaid drug benefit management program shall include initiatives to manage drug therapies for HIV/AIDS patients, patients using 20 or more unique prescriptions in a 180-day period, and the top 1,000 patients in annual spending. The agency shall enroll any Medicaid recipient in the drug benefit management program if he or she meets the specifications of this provision and is not enrolled in a Medicaid health maintenance organization.

4. The agency may limit the size of its pharmacy network based on need, competitive bidding, price negotiations, credentialing, or similar criteria. The agency shall give special consideration to rural areas in determining the size and location of pharmacies included in the Medicaid pharmacy network. A pharmacy credentialing process may include criteria such as a pharmacy's full-service status, location, size, patient educational programs, patient consultation, disease-management services, and other characteristics. The agency may impose a moratorium on Medicaid pharmacy enrollment when it is determined that it has a sufficient number of Medicaid-participating providers.

5. The agency shall develop and implement a program that requires Medicaid practitioners who prescribe drugs to use a counterfeit-proof prescription pad for Medicaid prescriptions.

The agency shall require the use of standardized counterfeit-proof prescription pads by Medicaid-participating prescribers or prescribers who write prescriptions for Medicaid recipients. The agency may implement the program in targeted geographic areas or statewide.

6. The agency may enter into arrangements that require manufacturers of generic drugs prescribed to Medicaid recipients to provide rebates of at least 15.1 percent of the average manufacturer price for the manufacturer's generic products. These arrangements shall require that if a generic-drug manufacturer pays federal rebates for Medicaid-reimbursed drugs at a level below 15.1 percent, the manufacturer must provide a supplemental rebate to the state in an amount necessary to achieve a 15.1-percent rebate level.

7. The agency may establish a preferred drug formulary in accordance with 42 U.S.C. s. 1396r-8, and, pursuant to the establishment of such formulary, it is authorized to negotiate supplemental rebates from manufacturers that are in addition to those required by Title XIX of the Social Security Act and at no less than 14 percent of the average manufacturer price as defined in 42 U.S.C. s. 1936 on the last day of a quarter unless the federal or supplemental rebate, or both, equals or exceeds 29 percent. There is no upper limit on the supplemental rebates the agency may negotiate. The agency may determine that specific products, brand-name or generic, are competitive at lower rebate percentages. Agreement to pay the minimum supplemental rebate percentage will guarantee a manufacturer that the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee will consider a

product for inclusion on the preferred drug formulary. However, a pharmaceutical manufacturer is not guaranteed placement on the formulary by simply paying the minimum supplemental rebate. Agency decisions will be made on the clinical efficacy of a drug and recommendations of the Medicaid Pharmaceutical and Therapeutics Committee, as well as the price of competing products minus federal and state rebates. The agency is authorized to contract with an outside agency or contractor to conduct negotiations for supplemental rebates. For the purposes of this section, the term "supplemental rebates" means cash rebates. Effective July 1, 2004, value-added programs as a substitution for supplemental rebates are prohibited. The agency is authorized to seek any federal waivers to implement this initiative.

8. The agency shall establish an advisory committee for the purposes of studying the feasibility of using a restricted drug formulary for nursing home residents and other institutionalized adults. The committee shall be comprised of seven members appointed by the Secretary of Health Care Administration. The committee members shall include two physicians licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459; three pharmacists licensed under chapter 465 and appointed from a list of recommendations provided by the Florida Long-Term Care Pharmacy Alliance; and two pharmacists licensed under chapter 465.

9. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall expand home delivery of pharmacy products. To assist Medicaid patients in securing their prescriptions and reduce program costs, the

agency shall expand its current mail-order-pharmacy diabetes-supply program to include all generic and brand-name drugs used by Medicaid patients with diabetes. Medicaid recipients in the current program may obtain nondiabetes drugs on a voluntary basis. This initiative is limited to the geographic area covered by the current contract. The agency may seek and implement any federal waivers necessary to implement this subparagraph.

10. The agency shall limit to one dose per month any drug prescribed to treat erectile dysfunction.

11.a. The agency shall implement a Medicaid behavioral drug management system. The agency may contract with a vendor that has experience in operating behavioral drug management systems to implement this program. The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers to implement this program.

b. The agency, in conjunction with the Department of Children and Family Services, may implement the Medicaid behavioral drug management system that is designed to improve the quality of care and behavioral health prescribing practices based on best practice guidelines, improve patient adherence to medication plans, reduce clinical risk, and lower prescribed drug costs and the rate of inappropriate spending on Medicaid behavioral drugs. The program shall include the following elements:

(I) Provide for the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for behavioral health-related drugs such as antipsychotics, antidepressants, and medications for treating bipolar disorders and other behavioral conditions; translate them into practice; review behavioral health prescribers and

compare their prescribing patterns to a number of indicators that are based on national standards; and determine deviations from best practice guidelines.

(II) Implement processes for providing feedback to and educating prescribers using best practice educational materials and peer-to-peer consultation.

(III) Assess Medicaid beneficiaries who are outliers in their use of behavioral health drugs with regard to the numbers and types of drugs taken, drug dosages, combination drug therapies, and other indicators of improper use of behavioral health drugs.

(IV) Alert prescribers to patients who fail to refill prescriptions in a timely fashion, are prescribed multiple same-class behavioral health drugs, and may have other potential medication problems.

(V) Track spending trends for behavioral health drugs and deviation from best practice guidelines.

(VI) Use educational and technological approaches to promote best practices, educate consumers, and train prescribers in the use of practice guidelines.

(VII) Disseminate electronic and published materials.

(VIII) Hold statewide and regional conferences.

(IX) Implement a disease management program with a model quality-based medication component for severely mentally ill individuals and emotionally disturbed children who are high users of care.

c. If the agency is unable to negotiate a contract with one or more manufacturers to finance and guarantee savings

associated with a behavioral drug management program by September 1, 2004, the four-brand drug limit and preferred drug list prior-authorization requirements shall apply to mental health-related drugs, notwithstanding any provision in subparagraph 1. The agency is authorized to seek federal waivers to implement this policy.

12. The agency is authorized to contract for drug rebate administration, including, but not limited to, calculating rebate amounts, invoicing manufacturers, negotiating disputes with manufacturers, and maintaining a database of rebate collections.

13. The agency may specify the preferred daily dosing form or strength for the purpose of promoting best practices with regard to the prescribing of certain drugs as specified in the General Appropriations Act and ensuring cost-effective prescribing practices.

14. The agency may require prior authorization for the off-label use of Medicaid-covered prescribed drugs as specified in the General Appropriations Act. The agency may, but is not required to, preauthorize the use of a product for an indication not in the approved labeling. Prior authorization may require the prescribing professional to provide information about the rationale and supporting medical evidence for the off-label use of a drug.

15. The agency shall implement a return and reuse program for drugs dispensed by pharmacies to institutional recipients, which includes payment of a $5 restocking fee for the implementation and operation of the program. The return and

reuse program shall be implemented electronically and in a manner that promotes efficiency. The program must permit a pharmacy to exclude drugs from the program if it is not practical or cost-effective for the drug to be included and must provide for the return to inventory of drugs that cannot be credited or returned in a cost-effective manner.

(50) The agency may implement a program of all-inclusive care for children to reduce the need for hospitalization of children, as appropriate. The purpose of the program is to provide in-home hospice-like support services to children diagnosed with a life-threatening illness who are enrolled in the Children's Medical Services Network. The agency, in consultation with the Department of Health, may implement the program of all-inclusive care for children after obtaining approval from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(51) By July 1, 2005, the agency shall develop a plan for implementing the delivery of comprehensive vision care services to Medicaid recipients through a capitated prepaid arrangement. The plan shall include contracting with a private entity or entities to provide for the comprehensive vision care services through a capitated prepaid arrangement. However, the entity must:

(a) Be licensed under chapter 627.

(b) Have sufficient financial resources.

(c) Have a contracted provider network that has statewide coverage.

(d) Have experience in providing medical and surgical vision care services.

(e) Have experience with the implementation of large statewide contracts. As used in this section, the term "vision care services" means covered vision services, including routine, medical, and surgical vision care services that are available to Medicaid recipients. If necessary, the agency shall seek federal approval to contract with a single entity meeting these requirements to provide vision care services to all Medicaid recipients. The entity must offer sufficient choice of providers within its network to ensure access to care for the recipient and the opportunity to select a provider with whom the recipient is satisfied.

Section 9. Paragraph (k) of subsection (2) of section 409.9122, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

409.9122 Mandatory Medicaid managed care enrollment; programs and procedures.--

(2)

(k) When a Medicaid recipient does not choose a managed care plan or MediPass provider, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a managed care plan, except in those counties in which there are fewer than two managed care plans accepting Medicaid enrollees, in which case assignment shall be to a managed care plan or a MediPass provider. Medicaid recipients in counties with fewer than two managed care plans accepting Medicaid enrollees who are subject to mandatory assignment but who fail to make a choice shall be assigned to managed care plans until an enrollment of 40 percent in MediPass and 60 percent in managed care plans is achieved. Once that enrollment is achieved, the assignments shall be divided in

order to maintain an enrollment in MediPass and managed care plans which is in a 40 percent and 60 percent proportion, respectively. ~~In geographic areas where the agency is contracting for the provision of comprehensive behavioral health services through a capitated prepaid arrangement, recipients who fail to make a choice shall be assigned equally to MediPass or a managed care plan.~~ For purposes of this paragraph, when referring to assignment, the term "managed care plans" includes exclusive provider organizations, provider service networks, Children's Medical Services Network, minority physician networks, and pediatric emergency department diversion programs authorized by this chapter or the General Appropriations Act. When making assignments, the agency shall take into account the following criteria:

1. A managed care plan has sufficient network capacity to meet the need of members.

2. The managed care plan or MediPass has previously enrolled the recipient as a member, or one of the managed care plan's primary care providers or MediPass providers has previously provided health care to the recipient.

3. The agency has knowledge that the member has previously expressed a preference for a particular managed care plan or MediPass provider as indicated by Medicaid fee-for-service claims data, but has failed to make a choice.

4. The managed care plan's or MediPass primary care providers are geographically accessible to the recipient's residence.

5. The agency has authority to make mandatory assignments based on quality of service and performance of managed care plans.

Section 10. Subsections (6) and (7) are added to section 409.9124, Florida Statutes, to read:

409.9124 Managed care reimbursement.--

(6) The agency shall develop rates for children age 0-3 months and separate rates for children age 4-12 months. The agency shall amend the payment methodology for participating Medicaid-managed health care plans to comply with this subsection.

(7) The agency shall not pay rates at per-member per-month averages higher than that allowed for in the General Appropriations Act.

Section 11. Except as otherwise provided herein, this act shall take effect July 1, 2005.