2006 Florida Statutes

409.911 Disproportionate share program.--Subject to specific allocations established within the General Appropriations Act and any limitations established pursuant to chapter 216, the agency shall distribute, pursuant to this section, moneys to hospitals providing a disproportionate share of Medicaid or charity care services by making quarterly Medicaid payments as required. Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 409.915, counties are exempt from contributing toward the cost of this special reimbursement for hospitals serving a disproportionate share of low-income patients.

(1) DEFINITIONS.--As used in this section, s. 409.9112, and the Florida Hospital Uniform Reporting System manual:

(a) "Adjusted patient days" means the sum of acute care patient days and intensive care patient days as reported to the Agency for Health Care Administration, divided by the ratio of inpatient revenues generated from acute, intensive, ambulatory, and ancillary patient services to gross revenues.

(b) "Actual audited data" or "actual audited experience" means data reported to the Agency for Health Care Administration which has been audited in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards by the agency or representatives under contract with the agency.

(c) "Charity care" or "uncompensated charity care" means that portion of hospital charges reported to the Agency for Health Care Administration for which there is no compensation, other than restricted or unrestricted revenues provided to a hospital by local governments or tax districts regardless of the method of payment, for care provided to a patient whose family income for the 12 months preceding the determination is less than or equal to 200 percent of the federal poverty level, unless the amount of hospital charges due from the patient exceeds 25 percent of the annual family income. However, in no case shall the hospital charges for a patient whose family income exceeds four times the federal poverty level for a family of four be considered charity.

(d) "Charity care days" means the sum of the deductions from revenues for charity care minus 50 percent of restricted and unrestricted revenues provided to a hospital by local governments or tax districts, divided by gross revenues per adjusted patient day.

(e) "Hospital" means a health care institution licensed as a hospital pursuant to chapter 395, but does not include ambulatory surgical centers.

(f) "Medicaid days" means the number of actual days attributable to Medicaid patients as determined by the Agency for Health Care Administration.

(2) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall use the following actual audited data to determine the Medicaid days and charity care to be used in calculating the disproportionate share payment:

(a) The average of the 2000, 2001, and 2002 audited disproportionate share data to determine each hospital's Medicaid days and charity care for the 2006-2007 state fiscal year.

(b) If the Agency for Health Care Administration does not have the prescribed 3 years of audited disproportionate share data as noted in paragraph (a) for a hospital, the agency shall use the average of the years of the audited disproportionate share data as noted in paragraph (a) which is

available.

(c) In accordance with s. 1923(b) of the Social Security Act, a hospital with a Medicaid inpatient utilization rate greater than one standard deviation above the statewide mean or a hospital with a low-income utilization rate of 25 percent or greater shall qualify for reimbursement.

(3) Hospitals that qualify for a disproportionate share payment solely under paragraph (2)(c) shall have their payment calculated in accordance with the following formulas:

DSHP = (HMD/TMSD) x $1 million

Where:

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payment.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TSD = total state Medicaid days.

Any funds not allocated to hospitals qualifying under this section shall be redistributed to the non-state government owned or operated hospitals with greater than 3,100 Medicaid days.

(4) The following formulas shall be used to pay disproportionate share dollars to public hospitals:

(a) For state mental health hospitals:

DSHP = (HMD/TMDMH) x TAAMH

shall be the difference between the federal cap for Institutions for Mental Diseases and the amounts paid under the mental health disproportionate share program.

Where:

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payment.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TMDHH = total Medicaid days for state mental health hospitals.

TAAMH = total amount available for mental health hospitals.

(b) For non-state government owned or operated hospitals with 3,100 or more Medicaid days:

DSHP = [(.82 x HCCD/TCCD) + (.18 x HMD/TMD)]
x TAAPH

TAAPH = TAA - TAAMH

Where:

TAA = total available appropriation.

TAAPH = total amount available for public hospitals.

DSHP = disproportionate share hospital payments.

HMD = hospital Medicaid days.

TMD = total state Medicaid days for public hospitals.

HCCD = hospital charity care dollars.

TCCD = total state charity care dollars for public non-state hospitals.

The TAAPH shall be reduced by $6,365,257 before computing the DSHP for each public hospital. The $6,365,257 shall be distributed equally between the public hospitals that are also designated statutory teaching hospitals.

(c) For non-state government owned or operated hospitals with less than 3,100 Medicaid days, a total of $750,000 shall be distributed equally among these hospitals.

(5) In no case shall total payments to a hospital under this section, with the exception of public non-state facilities or state facilities, exceed the total amount of uncompensated charity care of the hospital, as determined by the agency according to the most recent calendar year audited data available at the beginning of each state fiscal year.

(6) The agency is authorized to receive funds from local governments and other local political subdivisions for the purpose of making payments, including federal matching funds, through the Medicaid disproportionate share program. Funds received from local governments for this purpose shall be separately accounted for and shall not be commingled with other state or local funds in any manner.

(7) Payments made by the agency to hospitals eligible to participate in this program shall be made in accordance with federal rules and regulations.

(a) If the Federal Government prohibits, restricts, or changes in any manner the methods by which funds are distributed for this program, the agency shall not distribute any additional funds and shall return all funds to the local government from which the funds were received, except as provided in paragraph (b).

(b) If the Federal Government imposes a restriction that still permits a partial or different distribution, the agency may continue to disburse funds to hospitals participating in the disproportionate share program in a federally approved manner, provided:

1. Each local government which contributes to the disproportionate share program agrees to the new manner of distribution as shown by a written document signed by the governing authority of each local government; and

2. The Executive Office of the Governor, the Office of Planning and Budgeting, the House of Representatives, and the Senate are provided at least 7 days' prior notice of the proposed change in the distribution, and do not disapprove such change.

(c) No distribution shall be made under the alternative method specified in paragraph (b) unless all parties agree or unless all funds of those parties that disagree which are not yet disbursed have been returned to those parties.

(8) Notwithstanding the provisions of chapter 216, the Executive Office of the Governor is hereby authorized to establish sufficient trust fund authority to implement the disproportionate share

program.

(9) The Agency for Health Care Administration shall create a Medicaid Low-Income Pool Council by July 1, 2006. The Low-Income Pool Council shall consist of 17 members, including 3 representatives of statutory teaching hospitals, 3 representatives of public hospitals, 3 representatives of nonprofit hospitals, 3 representatives of for-profit hospitals, 2 representatives of rural hospitals, 2 representatives of units of local government which contribute funding, and 1 representative of family practice teaching hospitals. The council shall:

(a) Make recommendations on the financing of the low-income pool and the disproportionate share hospital program and the distribution of their funds.

(b) Advise the Agency for Health Care Administration on the development of the low-income pool plan required by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services pursuant to the Medicaid reform waiver.

(c) Advise the Agency for Health Care Administration on the distribution of hospital funds used to adjust inpatient hospital rates, rebase rates, or otherwise exempt hospitals from reimbursement limits as financed by intergovernmental transfers.

(d) Submit its findings and recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature no later than February 1 of each year.

History.--s. 39, ch. 91-282; s. 78, ch. 92-289; s. 24, ch. 95-146; s. 185, ch. 99-8; s. 6, ch. 2001-104; s. 5, ch. 2001-222; s. 23, ch. 2002-400; s. 13, ch. 2003-405; s. 13, ch. 2004-270; s. 11, ch. 2005-60; s. 1, ch. 2005-358; s. 15, ch. 2006-28.

409.91211 Medicaid managed care pilot program.--

(1)(a) The agency is authorized to seek and implement experimental, pilot, or demonstration project waivers, pursuant to s. 1115 of the Social Security Act, to create a statewide initiative to provide for a more efficient and effective service delivery system that enhances quality of care and client outcomes in the Florida Medicaid program pursuant to this section. Phase one of the demonstration shall be implemented in two geographic areas. One demonstration site shall include only Broward County. A second demonstration site shall initially include Duval County and shall be expanded to include Baker, Clay, and Nassau Counties within 1 year after the Duval County program becomes operational. The agency shall implement expansion of the program to include the remaining counties of the state and remaining eligibility groups in accordance with the process specified in the federally approved special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4, as approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services on October 19, 2005, with a goal of full statewide implementation by June 30, 2011.

(b) This waiver authority is contingent upon federal approval to preserve the upper-payment-limit funding mechanism for hospitals, including a guarantee of a reasonable growth factor, a methodology to allow the use of a portion of these funds to serve as a risk pool for demonstration sites, provisions to preserve the state's ability to use intergovernmental transfers, and provisions to protect the disproportionate share program authorized pursuant to this chapter. Upon completion of the evaluation conducted under s. 3, ch. 2005-133, Laws of Florida, the agency may request statewide expansion of the demonstration projects. Statewide phase-in to additional counties shall be contingent upon review and approval by the Legislature. Under the upper-payment-limit program, or the low-income pool as implemented by the Agency for Health Care Administration pursuant to federal waiver, the state matching funds required for the program shall be provided by local governmental entities through intergovernmental transfers in accordance with published federal statutes and regulations. The Agency for Health Care Administration shall distribute upper-payment-limit, disproportionate share hospital, and low-income pool funds according to published federal statutes, regulations, and waivers and the low-income pool methodology approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(c) It is the intent of the Legislature that the low-income pool plan required by the terms and conditions of the Medicaid reform waiver and submitted to the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services propose the distribution of the above-mentioned program funds based on the following objectives:

1. Assure a broad and fair distribution of available funds based on the access provided by Medicaid participating hospitals, regardless of their ownership status, through their delivery of inpatient or outpatient care for Medicaid beneficiaries and uninsured and underinsured individuals;

2. Assure accessible emergency inpatient and outpatient care for Medicaid beneficiaries and uninsured and underinsured individuals;

3. Enhance primary, preventive, and other ambulatory care coverages for uninsured individuals;

4. Promote teaching and specialty hospital programs;

5. Promote the stability and viability of statutorily defined rural hospitals and hospitals that serve as sole community hospitals;

6. Recognize the extent of hospital uncompensated care costs;

7. Maintain and enhance essential community hospital care;

8. Maintain incentives for local governmental entities to contribute to the cost of uncompensated care;

9. Promote measures to avoid preventable hospitalizations;

10. Account for hospital efficiency; and

11. Contribute to a community's overall health system.

(2) The Legislature intends for the capitated managed care pilot program to:

(a) Provide recipients in Medicaid fee-for-service or the MediPass program a comprehensive and coordinated capitated managed care system for all health care services specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906.

(b) Stabilize Medicaid expenditures under the pilot program compared to Medicaid expenditures in the pilot area for the 3 years before implementation of the pilot program, while ensuring:

1. Consumer education and choice.

2. Access to medically necessary services.

3. Coordination of preventative, acute, and long-term care.

4. Reductions in unnecessary service utilization.

(c) Provide an opportunity to evaluate the feasibility of statewide implementation of capitated managed care networks as a replacement for the current Medicaid fee-for-service and MediPass systems.

(3) The agency shall have the following powers, duties, and responsibilities with respect to the pilot program:

(a) To implement a system to deliver all mandatory services specified in s. 409.905 and optional services specified in s. 409.906, as approved by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Legislature in the waiver pursuant to this section. Services to recipients under plan benefits shall include emergency services provided under s. 409.9128.

(b) To implement a pilot program, including Medicaid eligibility categories specified in ss. 409.903 and 409.904, as authorized in an approved federal waiver.

(c) To implement the managed care pilot program that maximizes all available state and federal funds, including those obtained through intergovernmental transfers, the low-income pool, supplemental Medicaid payments, and the disproportionate share program. Within the parameters allowed by federal statute and rule, the agency may seek options for making direct payments to hospitals and physicians employed by or under contract with the state's medical schools for the costs associated with graduate medical education under Medicaid reform.

(d) To implement actuarially sound, risk-adjusted capitation rates for Medicaid recipients in the pilot program which cover comprehensive care, enhanced services, and catastrophic care.

(e) To implement policies and guidelines for phasing in financial risk for approved provider service networks over a 3-year period. These policies and guidelines must include an option for a provider service network to be paid fee-for-service rates. For any provider service network established in a managed care pilot area, the option to be paid fee-for-service rates shall include a savings-settlement mechanism that is consistent with s. 409.912(44). This model shall be converted to a risk-adjusted capitated rate no later than the beginning of the fourth year of

operation, and may be converted earlier at the option of the provider service network. Federally qualified health centers may be offered an opportunity to accept or decline a contract to participate in any provider network for prepaid primary care services.

(f) To implement stop-loss requirements and the transfer of excess cost to catastrophic coverage that accommodates the risks associated with the development of the pilot program.

(g) To recommend a process to be used by the Social Services Estimating Conference to determine and validate the rate of growth of the per-member costs of providing Medicaid services under the managed care pilot program.

(h) To implement program standards and credentialing requirements for capitated managed care networks to participate in the pilot program, including those related to fiscal solvency, quality of care, and adequacy of access to health care providers. It is the intent of the Legislature that, to the extent possible, any pilot program authorized by the state under this section include any federally qualified health center, federally qualified rural health clinic, county health department, the Children's Medical Services Network within the Department of Health, or other federally, state, or locally funded entity that serves the geographic areas within the boundaries of the pilot program that requests to participate. This paragraph does not relieve an entity that qualifies as a capitated managed care network under this section from any other licensure or regulatory requirements contained in state or federal law which would otherwise apply to the entity. The standards and credentialing requirements shall be based upon, but are not limited to:

1. Compliance with the accreditation requirements as provided in s. 641.512.

2. Compliance with early and periodic screening, diagnosis, and treatment screening requirements under federal law.

3. The percentage of voluntary disenrollments.

4. Immunization rates.

5. Standards of the National Committee for Quality Assurance and other approved accrediting bodies.

6. Recommendations of other authoritative bodies.

7. Specific requirements of the Medicaid program, or standards designed to specifically meet the unique needs of Medicaid recipients.

8. Compliance with the health quality improvement system as established by the agency, which incorporates standards and guidelines developed by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services as part of the quality assurance reform initiative.

9. The network's infrastructure capacity to manage financial transactions, recordkeeping, data collection, and other administrative functions.

10. The network's ability to submit any financial, programmatic, or patient-encounter data or other information required by the agency to determine the actual services provided and the cost of administering the plan.

(i) To implement a mechanism for providing information to Medicaid recipients for the purpose of selecting a capitated managed care plan. For each plan available to a recipient, the agency, at a minimum, shall ensure that the recipient is provided with:

1. A list and description of the benefits provided.

2. Information about cost sharing.

3. Plan performance data, if available.

4. An explanation of benefit limitations.

5. Contact information, including identification of providers participating in the network, geographic locations, and transportation limitations.

6. Any other information the agency determines would facilitate a recipient's understanding of the plan or insurance that would best meet his or her needs.

(j) To implement a system to ensure that there is a record of recipient acknowledgment that choice counseling has been provided.

(k) To implement a choice counseling system to ensure that the choice counseling process and related material are designed to provide counseling through face-to-face interaction, by telephone, and in writing and through other forms of relevant media. Materials shall be written at the fourth-grade reading level and available in a language other than English when 5 percent of the county speaks a language other than English. Choice counseling shall also use language lines and other services for impaired recipients, such as TTD/TTY.

(l) To implement a system that prohibits capitated managed care plans, their representatives, and providers employed by or contracted with the capitated managed care plans from recruiting persons eligible for or enrolled in Medicaid, from providing inducements to Medicaid recipients to select a particular capitated managed care plan, and from prejudicing Medicaid recipients against other capitated managed care plans. The system shall require the entity performing choice counseling to determine if the recipient has made a choice of a plan or has opted out because of duress, threats, payment to the recipient, or incentives promised to the recipient by a third party. If the choice counseling entity determines that the decision to choose a plan was unlawfully influenced or a plan violated any of the provisions of s. 409.912(21), the choice counseling entity shall immediately report the violation to the agency's program integrity section for investigation. Verification of choice counseling by the recipient shall include a stipulation that the recipient acknowledges the provisions of this subsection.

(m) To implement a choice counseling system that promotes health literacy and provides information aimed to reduce minority health disparities through outreach activities for Medicaid recipients.

(n) To contract with entities to perform choice counseling. The agency may establish standards and performance contracts, including standards requiring the contractor to hire choice counselors who are representative of the state's diverse population and to train choice counselors in working with culturally diverse populations.

(o) To implement eligibility assignment processes to facilitate client choice while ensuring pilot programs of adequate enrollment levels. These processes shall ensure that pilot sites have sufficient levels of enrollment to conduct a valid test of the managed care pilot program within a 2-year timeframe.

(p) To implement standards for plan compliance, including, but not limited to, standards for quality assurance and performance improvement, standards for peer or professional reviews, grievance policies, and policies for maintaining program integrity. The agency shall develop a data-reporting system, seek input from managed care plans in order to establish requirements for patient-encounter reporting, and ensure that the data reported is accurate and complete.

1. In performing the duties required under this section, the agency shall work with managed care plans to establish a uniform system to measure and monitor outcomes for a recipient of Medicaid services.

2. The system shall use financial, clinical, and other criteria based on pharmacy, medical services, and other data that is related to the provision of Medicaid services, including, but not limited to:

a. The Health Plan Employer Data and Information Set (HEDIS) or measures that are similar to HEDIS.

b. Member satisfaction.

c. Provider satisfaction.

d. Report cards on plan performance and best practices.

e. Compliance with the requirements for prompt payment of claims under ss. 627.613, 641.3155, and 641.513.

f. Utilization and quality data for the purpose of ensuring access to medically necessary services, including underutilization or inappropriate denial of services.

3. The agency shall require the managed care plans that have contracted with the agency to establish a quality assurance system that incorporates the provisions of s. 409.912(27) and any standards, rules, and guidelines developed by the agency.

4. The agency shall establish an encounter database in order to compile data on health services rendered by health care practitioners who provide services to patients enrolled in managed care plans in the demonstration sites. The encounter database shall:

a. Collect the following for each type of patient encounter with a health care practitioner or facility, including:

(I) The demographic characteristics of the patient.

(II) The principal, secondary, and tertiary diagnosis.

(III) The procedure performed.

(IV) The date and location where the procedure was performed.

(V) The payment for the procedure, if any.

(VI) If applicable, the health care practitioner's universal identification number.

(VII) If the health care practitioner rendering the service is a dependent practitioner, the modifiers appropriate to indicate that the service was delivered by the dependent practitioner.

b. Collect appropriate information relating to prescription drugs for each type of patient encounter.

c. Collect appropriate information related to health care costs and utilization from managed care plans participating in the demonstration sites.

5. To the extent practicable, when collecting the data the agency shall use a standardized claim form or electronic transfer system that is used by health care practitioners, facilities, and payors.

6. Health care practitioners and facilities in the demonstration sites shall electronically submit, and managed care plans participating in the demonstration sites shall electronically receive, information concerning claims payments and any other information reasonably related to the encounter database using a standard format as required by the agency.

7. The agency shall establish reasonable deadlines for phasing in the electronic transmittal of full encounter data.

8. The system must ensure that the data reported is accurate and complete.

(q) To implement a grievance resolution process for Medicaid recipients enrolled in a capitated managed care network under the pilot program modeled after the subscriber assistance panel, as created in s. 408.7056. This process shall include a mechanism for an expedited review of no greater than 24 hours after notification of a grievance if the life of a Medicaid recipient is in imminent and emergent jeopardy.

(r) To implement a grievance resolution process for health care providers employed by or contracted with a capitated managed care network under the pilot program in order to settle disputes among the provider and the managed care network or the provider and the agency.

(s) To implement criteria in an approved federal waiver to designate health care providers as eligible to participate in the pilot program. These criteria must include at a minimum those criteria specified in s. 409.907.

(t) To use health care provider agreements for participation in the pilot program.

(u) To require that all health care providers under contract with the pilot program be duly licensed in the state, if such licensure is available, and meet other criteria as may be established by the agency. These criteria shall include at a minimum those criteria specified in s. 409.907.

(v) To ensure that managed care organizations work collaboratively with other state or local governmental programs or institutions for the coordination of health care to eligible individuals receiving services from such programs or institutions.

(w) To implement procedures to minimize the risk of Medicaid fraud and abuse in all plans operating in the Medicaid managed care pilot program authorized in this section.

1. The agency shall ensure that applicable provisions of this chapter and chapters 414, 626, 641, and 932 which relate to Medicaid fraud and abuse are applied and enforced at the demonstration project sites.

2. Providers must have the certification, license, and credentials that are required by law and waiver requirements.

3. The agency shall ensure that the plan is in compliance with s. 409.912(21) and (22).

4. The agency shall require that each plan establish functions and activities governing program integrity in order to reduce the incidence of fraud and abuse. Plans must report instances of fraud and abuse pursuant to chapter 641.

5. The plan shall have written administrative and management arrangements or procedures, including a mandatory compliance plan, which are designed to guard against fraud and abuse. The plan shall designate a compliance officer who has sufficient experience in health care.

6.a. The agency shall require all managed care plan contractors in the pilot program to report all instances of suspected fraud and abuse. A failure to report instances of suspected fraud and abuse is a violation of law and subject to the penalties provided by law.

b. An instance of fraud and abuse in the managed care plan, including, but not limited to, defrauding the state health care benefit program by misrepresentation of fact in reports, claims, certifications, enrollment claims, demographic statistics, or patient-encounter data; misrepresentation of the qualifications of persons rendering health care and ancillary services; bribery and false statements relating to the delivery of health care; unfair and deceptive marketing practices; and false claims actions in the provision of managed care, is a violation of law and subject to the penalties provided by law.

c. The agency shall require that all contractors make all files and relevant billing and claims data accessible to state regulators and investigators and that all such data is linked into a unified system to ensure consistent reviews and investigations.

(x) To develop and provide actuarial and benefit design analyses that indicate the effect on capitation rates and benefits offered in the pilot program over a prospective 5-year period based on the following assumptions:

1. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the estimated growth rate in general revenue.

2. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the average growth rate over the last 3 years in per-recipient Medicaid expenditures.

3. Growth in capitation rates which is limited to the growth rate of aggregate Medicaid expenditures between the 2003-2004 fiscal year and the 2004-2005 fiscal year.

(y) To develop a mechanism to require capitated managed care plans to reimburse qualified emergency service providers, including, but not limited to, ambulance services, in accordance with ss. 409.908 and 409.9128. The pilot program must include a provision for continuing fee-for-service payments for emergency services, including, but not limited to, individuals who access ambulance services or emergency departments and who are subsequently determined to be eligible for Medicaid services.

(z) To ensure that school districts participating in the certified school match program pursuant to ss. 409.908(21) and 1011.70 shall be reimbursed by Medicaid, subject to the limitations of s. 1011.70(1), for a Medicaid-eligible child participating in the services as authorized in s. 1011.70, as provided for in s. 409.9071, regardless of whether the child is enrolled in a capitated managed care network. Capitated managed care networks must make a good faith effort to execute agreements with school districts regarding the coordinated provision of services authorized under s. 1011.70. County health departments and federally qualified health centers delivering school-based services pursuant to ss. 381.0056 and 381.0057 must be reimbursed by Medicaid for the federal share for a Medicaid-eligible child who receives Medicaid-covered services in a school setting, regardless of whether the child is enrolled in a capitated managed care network. Capitated managed care networks must make a good faith effort to execute agreements with county health departments and federally qualified health centers regarding the coordinated provision of services to a Medicaid-eligible child. To ensure continuity of care for Medicaid patients, the agency, the Department of Health, and the Department of Education shall develop procedures for ensuring that a student's capitated managed care network provider receives information relating to services provided in accordance with ss. 381.0056, 381.0057, 409.9071, and 1011.70.

(aa) To implement a mechanism whereby Medicaid recipients who are already enrolled in a managed care plan or the MediPass program in the pilot areas shall be offered the opportunity to change to capitated managed care plans on a staggered basis, as defined by the agency. All Medicaid recipients shall have 30 days in which to make a choice of capitated managed care

plans. Those Medicaid recipients who do not make a choice shall be assigned to a capitated managed care plan in accordance with paragraph (4)(a) and shall be exempt from s. 409.9122. To facilitate continuity of care for a Medicaid recipient who is also a recipient of Supplemental Security Income (SSI), prior to assigning the SSI recipient to a capitated managed care plan, the agency shall determine whether the SSI recipient has an ongoing relationship with a provider or capitated managed care plan, and, if so, the agency shall assign the SSI recipient to that provider or capitated managed care plan where feasible. Those SSI recipients who do not have such a provider relationship shall be assigned to a capitated managed care plan provider in accordance with paragraph (4)(a) and shall be exempt from s. 409.9122.

(bb) To develop and recommend a service delivery alternative for children having chronic medical conditions which establishes a medical home project to provide primary care services to this population. The project shall provide community-based primary care services that are integrated with other subspecialties to meet the medical, developmental, and emotional needs for children and their families. This project shall include an evaluation component to determine impacts on hospitalizations, length of stays, emergency room visits, costs, and access to care, including specialty care and patient and family satisfaction.

(cc) To develop and recommend service delivery mechanisms within capitated managed care plans to provide Medicaid services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906 to persons with developmental disabilities sufficient to meet the medical, developmental, and emotional needs of these persons.

(dd) To develop and recommend service delivery mechanisms within capitated managed care plans to provide Medicaid services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906 to Medicaid-eligible children in foster care. These services must be coordinated with community-based care providers as specified in s. 409.1675, where available, and be sufficient to meet the medical, developmental, and emotional needs of these children.

(4)(a) A Medicaid recipient in the pilot area who is not currently enrolled in a capitated managed care plan upon implementation is not eligible for services as specified in ss. 409.905 and 409.906, for the amount of time that the recipient does not enroll in a capitated managed care network. If a Medicaid recipient has not enrolled in a capitated managed care plan within 30 days after eligibility, the agency shall assign the Medicaid recipient to a capitated managed care plan based on the assessed needs of the recipient as determined by the agency and the recipient shall be exempt from s. 409.9122. When making assignments, the agency shall take into account the following criteria:

1. A capitated managed care network has sufficient network capacity to meet the needs of members.

2. The capitated managed care network has previously enrolled the recipient as a member, or one of the capitated managed care network's primary care 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 capitated managed care network as indicated by Medicaid fee-for-service claims data, but has failed to make a choice.

4. The capitated managed care network's primary care providers are geographically accessible to the recipient's residence.

(b) When more than one capitated managed care network provider meets the criteria specified in paragraph (3)(h), the agency shall make recipient assignments consecutively by family unit.

(c) If a recipient is currently enrolled with a Medicaid managed care organization that also operates an approved reform plan within a demonstration area and the recipient fails to choose

a plan during the reform enrollment process or during redetermination of eligibility, the recipient shall be automatically assigned by the agency into the most appropriate reform plan operated by the recipient's current Medicaid managed care plan. If the recipient's current managed care plan does not operate a reform plan in the demonstration area which adequately meets the needs of the Medicaid recipient, the agency shall use the automatic assignment process as prescribed in the special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4. All enrollment and choice counseling materials provided by the agency must contain an explanation of the provisions of this paragraph for current managed care recipients.

(d) The agency may not engage in practices that are designed to favor one capitated managed care plan over another or that are designed to influence Medicaid recipients to enroll in a particular capitated managed care network in order to strengthen its particular fiscal viability.

(e) After a recipient has made a selection or has been enrolled in a capitated managed care network, the recipient shall have 90 days in which to voluntarily disenroll and select another capitated managed care network. After 90 days, no further changes may be made except for cause. Cause shall include, but not be limited to, poor quality of care, lack of access to necessary specialty services, an unreasonable delay or denial of service, inordinate or inappropriate changes of primary care providers, service access impairments due to significant changes in the geographic location of services, or fraudulent enrollment. The agency may require a recipient to use the capitated managed care network's grievance process as specified in paragraph ^{2}(3)(g) prior to the agency's determination of cause, except in cases in which immediate risk of permanent damage to the recipient's health is alleged. The grievance process, when used, must be completed in time to permit the recipient to disenroll no later than the first day of the second month after the month the disenrollment request was made. If the capitated managed care network, as a result of the grievance process, approves an enrollee's request to disenroll, the agency is not required to make a determination in the case. The agency must make a determination and take final action on a recipient's request so that disenrollment occurs no later than the first day of the second month after the month the request was made. If the agency fails to act within the specified timeframe, the recipient's request to disenroll is deemed to be approved as of the date agency action was required. Recipients who disagree with the agency's finding that cause does not exist for disenrollment shall be advised of their right to pursue a Medicaid fair hearing to dispute the agency's finding.

(f) The agency shall apply for federal waivers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to lock eligible Medicaid recipients into a capitated managed care network for 12 months after an open enrollment period. After 12 months of enrollment, a recipient may select another capitated managed care network. However, nothing shall prevent a Medicaid recipient from changing primary care providers within the capitated managed care network during the 12-month period.

(g) The agency shall apply for federal waivers from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services to allow recipients to purchase health care coverage through an employer-sponsored health insurance plan instead of through a Medicaid-certified plan. This provision shall be known as the opt-out option.

1. A recipient who chooses the Medicaid opt-out option shall have an opportunity for a specified period of time, as authorized under a waiver granted by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, to select and enroll in a Medicaid-certified plan. If the recipient remains in the employer-sponsored plan after the specified period, the recipient shall remain in the opt-out program for at least 1 year or until the recipient no longer has access to employer-sponsored coverage, until the employer's open enrollment period for a person who opts out in order to participate in employer-sponsored coverage, or until the person is no longer eligible for Medicaid, whichever time period is shorter.

2. Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, coverage, cost sharing, and any other component of employer-sponsored health insurance shall be governed by applicable state and federal laws.

(5) This section does not authorize the agency to implement any provision of s. 1115 of the Social Security Act experimental, pilot, or demonstration project waiver to reform the state Medicaid program in any part of the state other than the two geographic areas specified in this section unless approved by the Legislature.

(6) The agency shall develop and submit for approval applications for waivers of applicable federal laws and regulations as necessary to implement the managed care pilot project as defined in this section. The agency shall post all waiver applications under this section on its Internet website 30 days before submitting the applications to the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. All waiver applications shall be provided for review and comment to the appropriate committees of the Senate and House of Representatives for at least 10 working days prior to submission. All waivers submitted to and approved by the United States Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services under this section must be approved by the Legislature. Federally approved waivers must be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives for referral to the appropriate legislative committees. The appropriate committees shall recommend whether to approve the implementation of any waivers to the Legislature as a whole. The agency shall submit a plan containing a recommended timeline for implementation of any waivers and budgetary projections of the effect of the pilot program under this section on the total Medicaid budget for the 2006-2007 through 2009-2010 state fiscal years. This implementation plan shall be submitted to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at the same time any waivers are submitted for consideration by the Legislature. The agency may implement the waiver and special terms and conditions numbered 11-W-00206/4, as approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. If the agency seeks approval by the Federal Government of any modifications to these special terms and conditions, the agency must provide written notification of its intent to modify these terms and conditions to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least 15 days before submitting the modifications to the Federal Government for consideration. The notification must identify all modifications being pursued and the reason the modifications are needed. Upon receiving federal approval of any modifications to the special terms and conditions, the agency shall provide a report to the Legislature describing the federally approved modifications to the special terms and conditions within 7 days after approval by the Federal Government.

(7)(a) The Secretary of Health Care Administration shall convene a technical advisory panel to advise the agency in the areas of risk-adjusted-rate setting, benefit design, and choice counseling. The panel shall include representatives from the Florida Association of Health Plans, representatives from provider-sponsored networks, a Medicaid consumer representative, and a representative from the Office of Insurance Regulation.

(b) The technical advisory panel shall advise the agency concerning:

1. The risk-adjusted rate methodology to be used by the agency, including recommendations on mechanisms to recognize the risk of all Medicaid enrollees and for the transition to a risk-adjustment system, including recommendations for phasing in risk adjustment and the use of risk corridors.

2. Implementation of an encounter data system to be used for risk-adjusted rates.

3. Administrative and implementation issues regarding the use of risk-adjusted rates, including, but not limited to, cost, simplicity, client privacy, data accuracy, and data exchange.

4. Issues of benefit design, including the actuarial equivalence and sufficiency standards to be used.

5. The implementation plan for the proposed choice-counseling system, including the information and materials to be provided to recipients, the methodologies by which recipients will be counseled regarding choice, criteria to be used to assess plan quality, the methodology to be used to assign recipients into plans if they fail to choose a managed care plan, and the standards to be used for responsiveness to recipient inquiries.

(c) The technical advisory panel shall continue in existence and advise the agency on matters outlined in this subsection.

(8) The agency must ensure, in the first two state fiscal years in which a risk-adjusted methodology is a component of rate setting, that no managed care plan providing comprehensive benefits to TANF and SSI recipients has an aggregate risk score that varies by more than 10 percent from the aggregate weighted mean of all managed care plans providing comprehensive benefits to TANF and SSI recipients in a reform area. The agency's payment to a managed care plan shall be based on such revised aggregate risk score.

(9) After any calculations of aggregate risk scores or revised aggregate risk scores in subsection (8), the capitation rates for plans participating under this section shall be phased in as follows:

(a) In the first year, the capitation rates shall be weighted so that 75 percent of each capitation rate is based on the current methodology and 25 percent is based on a new risk-adjusted capitation rate methodology.

(b) In the second year, the capitation rates shall be weighted so that 50 percent of each capitation rate is based on the current methodology and 50 percent is based on a new risk-adjusted rate methodology.

(c) In the following fiscal year, the risk-adjusted capitation methodology may be fully implemented.

(10) Subsections (8) and (9) do not apply to managed care plans offering benefits exclusively to high-risk, specialty populations. The agency may set risk-adjusted rates immediately for such plans.

(11) Before the implementation of risk-adjusted rates, the rates shall be certified by an actuary and approved by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

(12) For purposes of this section, the term "capitated managed care plan" includes health insurers authorized under chapter 624, exclusive provider organizations authorized under chapter 627, health maintenance organizations authorized under chapter 641, the Children's Medical Services Network under chapter 391, and provider service networks that elect to be paid fee-for-service for up to 3 years as authorized under this section.

(13) Upon review and approval of the applications for waivers of applicable federal laws and regulations to implement the managed care pilot program by the Legislature, the agency may initiate adoption of rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 to implement and administer the managed care pilot program as provided in this section.

(14) It is the intent of the Legislature that if any conflict exists between the provisions contained in this section and other provisions of this chapter which relate to the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program, the provisions contained in this section shall control. The agency shall provide a written report to the Legislature by April 1, 2006, identifying any provisions of this chapter which conflict with the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program created in this section. After April 1, 2006, the agency

shall provide a written report to the Legislature immediately upon identifying any provisions of this chapter which conflict with the implementation of the Medicaid managed care pilot program created in this section.

History.--s. 2, ch. 2005-133; s. 3, ch. 2005-358.

[1]**Note.**--Section 3, ch. 2005-133, provides that "[t]he Office of Program Policy Analysis and Government Accountability, in consultation with the Auditor General, shall comprehensively evaluate the two managed care pilot programs created under section 409.91211, Florida Statutes. The evaluation shall begin with the implementation of the managed care model in the pilot areas and continue for 24 months after the two pilot programs have enrolled Medicaid recipients and started providing health care services. The evaluation must include assessments of cost savings; consumer education, choice, and access to services; coordination of care; and quality of care by each eligibility category and managed care plan in each pilot site. The evaluation must describe administrative or legal barriers to the implementation and operation of each pilot program and include recommendations regarding statewide expansion of the managed care pilot programs. The office shall submit an evaluation report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives no later than June 30, 2008."

[2]**Note.**--Paragraph (3)(g) relates to a process for validating the growth of per-member costs; paragraphs (3)(p), (q), and (r) reference grievance procedures.

2006-07
Low Income Pool (LIP) Council Members

1. **Paul Belcher**, Council Chairman, Senior Vice-President, Florida Hospital Association. A representative of rural hospitals.

2. **Tony Carvalho**, President, Florida Statutory Teaching Council, a representative of statutory teaching hospitals.

3. **Paul Rosenberg**, Senior Vice President and General Counsel, UF Shands, a representative of statutory teaching hospitals.

4. **Steve Short**, CFO, Tampa General Hospital, a representative of statutory teaching hospitals.

5. **Frank Sacco**, CEO**,** Memorial Healthcare Systems, a representative of public hospitals.

6. **Marvin O'Quinn**, President and CEO, Jackson Memorial Hospital, a representative of public hospitals.

7. **Hugh Greene**, President and CEO, Baptist Health of North East Florida, a representative of private non-profit hospitals.

8. **Steve Mason**, President and CEO, BayCare Health System, a representative of private non-profit hospitals.

9. **Lewis Seifert**, Senior Finance Officer, Adventist Health Care Systems, a representative of private non-profit hospitals.

10. **Mike Marks**, Division CFO, HCA West Florida Division, a representative of private investor-owned hospital.

11. **Dave Ross**, Vice President of Finance**,** Tenet Health Systems, a representative of private investor-owned hospitals.

12. **Michael Gingras**, Director of Operations Finance, Health Management Associates, a representative of private investor-owned hospitals.

13. **Mike Hutchins,** Hospital Administrator**,** Jay Hospital, a representative of rural hospitals.

14. **Dwight Chenette**, CFO, Palm Beach County Health Care District, a representative of local government.

15. **Pete Clark**, Deputy Director, Orange County Department of Health and Family Services, a representative of local government.

16. **Dee Schaeffer**, Halifax Medical Center, a representative of family practice teaching hospitals.