



State of Wisconsin  
2011 - 2012 LEGISLATURE



LRBs0181/1  
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**ASSEMBLY SUBSTITUTE AMENDMENT 1,  
TO 2011 ASSEMBLY BILL 210**

October 11, 2011 – Offered by COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE.

1       **AN ACT to repeal** 609.755, 632.83, 632.835 and 632.885; **to renumber** 625.02 (1);  
2           **to renumber and amend** 625.03 (1m) (e); **to amend** 40.51 (8), 40.51 (8), 40.51  
3           (8m), 40.51 (8m), 49.67 (3) (am) 2. b., 66.0137 (4), 66.0137 (4), 111.91 (2) (n),  
4           111.91 (2) (nm), 111.91 (2) (s), 111.998 (2) (n), 111.998 (2) (s), 120.13 (2) (g),  
5           120.13 (2) (g), 185.983 (1) (intro.), 185.983 (1) (intro.), 600.01 (2) (b), 601.31 (1)  
6           (Lp), 601.31 (1) (Lr), 601.42 (4), 609.655 (4) (b), 625.13 (1), 625.14, 632.76 (2) (ac)  
7           1., 632.76 (2) (ac) 2., 632.76 (2) (ac) 3. (intro.) and 632.895 (15) (c) (intro.); and  
8           **to create** 601.465 (1m) (d), 625.02 (1h), 625.02 (1p), 625.02 (2f), 625.02 (2s),  
9           625.03 (1m) (e) 2., 625.03 (1m) (e) 3., 625.13 (3), 632.76 (2) (ac) 4. and chapter  
10          636 of the statutes; **relating to:** implementing health insurance reform,  
11          extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures, specifying that any

1 health benefit exchange must be established by legislation, and granting  
2 rule-making authority.

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### ***Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau***

This substitute amendment differs from 2011 Assembly Bill 210 (the bill) in the following respects:

1. In the bill, the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance (OCI) may promulgate any rule related to the provisions created in the bill as an emergency rule and is not required to provide evidence that promulgating the rule as an emergency rule is necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, safety, or welfare and is not required to provide a finding of emergency. The substitute amendment removes this exception so that OCI, in promulgating an emergency rule, would be required to provide evidence that the emergency rule is necessary for the preservation of public peace, health, safety, or welfare and required to provide a finding of emergency.

2. Under the bill, grandfathered plans are required to comply with the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA) relating to requirements for coverage of preventive health services. The substitute amendment removes this requirement for grandfathered plans.

3. PPACA defines a small employer as one that employs not more than 100 employees, but allows states to elect to define a small employer, for plan years beginning before January 1, 2016, as an employer with not more than 50 employees. The bill defines a small employer for purposes of the PPACA requirements as an employer with not more than 100 employees but specifically reserves the right to elect to substitute 50 for 100 for the definition of small employer. The substitute amendment provides that this election must be done through legislation.

4. The bill provides that if PPACA is found unconstitutional in its entirety and all appeals are exhausted or the time for appeal expires, insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from a number of provisions in the bill. The substitute amendment adds that, if PPACA is found unconstitutional in its entirety, the powers of OCI with respect to promulgating rules for, and enforcing, the PPACA requirements, as well as any rules or requirements already established related to those requirements, do not apply. The substitute amendment also provides that if any of PPACA's provisions are repealed, insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from those provisions, or if PPACA is found unconstitutional in part, insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from any rebate and report and coverage requirements that are found unconstitutional, and the powers of OCI with respect to promulgating rules for, and enforcing, provisions from which insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt, as well as any rules or requirements already established related to those provisions, do not apply.

5. The substitute amendment specifies that any health benefit exchange established in this state under PPACA must be done so by legislation. The bill does not address the establishment of a health benefit exchange.

For further information, see the analysis for the bill.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 40.51 (8) of the statutes is amended to read:

2           40.51 (8) Every health care coverage plan offered by the state under sub. (6)  
3 shall comply with ss. 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2), 631.95, 632.72 (2), 632.746 (1) to (8)  
4 and (10), 632.747, 632.748, 632.798, ~~632.83, 632.835~~, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855,  
5 632.87 (3) to (6), 632.885, 632.89, 632.895 (5m) and (8) to (17), and 632.896 and, so  
6 far as applicable, ch. 636.

7           **SECTION 2.** 40.51 (8) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act .... (this  
8 act), is amended to read:

9           40.51 (8) Every health care coverage plan offered by the state under sub. (6)  
10 shall comply with ss. 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2), 631.95, 632.72 (2), 632.746 (1) to (8)  
11 and (10), 632.747, 632.748, 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.87 (3) to (6),  
12 ~~632.885~~, 632.89, 632.895 (5m) and (8) to (17), and 632.896 and, so far as applicable,  
13 ch. 636.

14           **SECTION 3.** 40.51 (8m) of the statutes is amended to read:

15           40.51 (8m) Every health care coverage plan offered by the group insurance  
16 board under sub. (7) shall comply with ss. 631.95, 632.746 (1) to (8) and (10), 632.747,  
17 632.748, 632.798, ~~632.83, 632.835~~, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.885, 632.89, and  
18 632.895 (11) to (17) and, so far as applicable, ch. 636.

19           **SECTION 4.** 40.51 (8m) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act .... (this  
20 act), is amended to read:

1           40.51 **(8m)** Every health care coverage plan offered by the group insurance  
2 board under sub. (7) shall comply with ss. 631.95, 632.746 (1) to (8) and (10), 632.747,  
3 632.748, 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, ~~632.885~~, 632.89, and 632.895 (11) to (17)  
4 and, so far as applicable, ch. 636.

5           **SECTION 5.** 49.67 (3) (am) 2. b. of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin  
6 Act 32, is amended to read:

7           49.67 **(3)** (am) 2. b. If the applicant is under 26 years of age, notice that he or  
8 she may be eligible for coverage as a dependent under his or her parent's health care  
9 plan in accordance with s. ~~632.885~~ 636.25 (1) (h) or (3) (b), and that his or her parent's  
10 plan must include coverage for services that are not covered under the plan under  
11 this section.

12           **SECTION 6.** 66.0137 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

13           66.0137 **(4)** SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLANS. If a city, including a 1st class city, or  
14 a village provides health care benefits under its home rule power, or if a town  
15 provides health care benefits, to its officers and employees on a self-insured basis,  
16 the self-insured plan shall comply with ss. 49.493 (3) (d), 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2),  
17 632.746 (10) (a) 2. and (b) 2., 632.747 (3), 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.87  
18 (4), (5), and (6), 632.885, 632.89, 632.895 (9) to (17), 632.896, and 767.513 (4) and, so  
19 far as applicable, ch. 636.

20           **SECTION 7.** 66.0137 (4) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act ....  
21 (this act), is amended to read:

22           66.0137 **(4)** SELF-INSURED HEALTH PLANS. If a city, including a 1st class city, or  
23 a village provides health care benefits under its home rule power, or if a town  
24 provides health care benefits, to its officers and employees on a self-insured basis,  
25 the self-insured plan shall comply with ss. 49.493 (3) (d), 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2),

1 632.746 (10) (a) 2. and (b) 2., 632.747 (3), 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.87  
2 (4), (5), and (6), ~~632.885~~, 632.89, 632.895 (9) to (17), 632.896, and 767.513 (4) and, so  
3 far as applicable, ch. 636.

4 **SECTION 8.** 111.91 (2) (n) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 111.91 (2) (n) The provision to employees of the health insurance coverage  
6 required under s. 632.895 (11) to (14), (16), ~~and (16m)~~, and (17) and, so far as  
7 applicable, s. 636.25.

8 **SECTION 9.** 111.91 (2) (nm) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 111.91 (2) (nm) The requirements related to ~~providing coverage for a dependent~~  
10 ~~under s. 632.885 and to continuing coverage for a dependent student on a medical~~  
11 ~~leave of absence under s. 632.895 (15).~~

12 **SECTION 10.** 111.91 (2) (s) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 111.91 (2) (s) The requirements related to ~~internal grievance procedures under~~  
14 ~~s. 632.83 and independent review~~ and external appeals of certain health benefit plan  
15 determinations established under s. ~~632.835~~ 636.12.

16 **SECTION 11.** 111.998 (2) (n) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 111.998 (2) (n) The provision to employees of the health insurance coverage  
18 required under s. 632.895 (11) to (14) and, so far as applicable, s. 636.25.

19 **SECTION 12.** 111.998 (2) (s) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 111.998 (2) (s) The requirements related to ~~internal grievance procedures~~  
21 ~~under s. 632.83 and independent review~~ and external appeals of certain health  
22 benefit plan determinations established under s. ~~632.835~~ 636.12.

23 **SECTION 13.** 120.13 (2) (g) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 120.13 (2) (g) Every self-insured plan under par. (b) shall comply with ss.  
25 49.493 (3) (d), 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2), 632.746 (10) (a) 2. and (b) 2., 632.747 (3),

1 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.87 (4), (5), and (6), 632.885, 632.89, 632.895  
2 (9) to (17), 632.896, and 767.513 (4) and, so far as applicable, ch. 636.

3 **SECTION 14.** 120.13 (2) (g) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act ....  
4 (this act), is amended to read:

5 120.13 (2) (g) Every self-insured plan under par. (b) shall comply with ss.  
6 49.493 (3) (d), 631.89, 631.90, 631.93 (2), 632.746 (10) (a) 2. and (b) 2., 632.747 (3),  
7 632.798, 632.85, 632.853, 632.855, 632.87 (4), (5), and (6), ~~632.885~~, 632.89, 632.895  
8 (9) to (17), 632.896, and 767.513 (4) and, so far as applicable, ch. 636.

9 **SECTION 15.** 185.983 (1) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 185.983 (1) (intro.) Every voluntary nonprofit health care plan operated by a  
11 cooperative association organized under s. 185.981 shall be exempt from chs. 600 to  
12 646, with the exception of ss. 601.04, 601.13, 601.31, 601.41, 601.42, 601.43, 601.44,  
13 601.45, 611.26, 611.67, 619.04, 623.11, 623.12, 628.34 (10), 631.17, 631.89, 631.93,  
14 631.95, 632.72 (2), 632.745 to 632.749, 632.775, 632.79, 632.795, 632.798, 632.85,  
15 632.853, 632.855, 632.87 (2), (2m), (3), (4), (5), and (6), 632.885, 632.89, 632.895 (5)  
16 and (8) to (17), 632.896, and 632.897 (10) and chs. 609, 620, 625, 630, 635, 636, 645,  
17 and 646, but the sponsoring association shall:

18 **SECTION 16.** 185.983 (1) (intro.) of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin  
19 Act .... (this act), is amended to read:

20 185.983 (1) (intro.) Every voluntary nonprofit health care plan operated by a  
21 cooperative association organized under s. 185.981 shall be exempt from chs. 600 to  
22 646, with the exception of ss. 601.04, 601.13, 601.31, 601.41, 601.42, 601.43, 601.44,  
23 601.45, 611.26, 611.67, 619.04, 623.11, 623.12, 628.34 (10), 631.17, 631.89, 631.93,  
24 631.95, 632.72 (2), 632.745 to 632.749, 632.775, 632.79, 632.795, 632.798, 632.85,  
25 632.853, 632.855, 632.87 (2), (2m), (3), (4), (5), and (6), ~~632.885~~, 632.89, 632.895 (5)

1 and (8) to (17), 632.896, and 632.897 (10) and chs. 609, 620, 625, 630, 635, 636, 645,  
2 and 646, but the sponsoring association shall:

3 **SECTION 17.** 600.01 (2) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

4 600.01 (2) (b) Group or blanket insurance described in sub. (1) (b) 3. and 4. is  
5 not exempt from ss. 632.745 to 632.749, ~~632.83 or 632.835~~ or 636.12 or ch. 633 or 635.

6 **SECTION 18.** 601.31 (1) (Lp) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 601.31 (1) (Lp) For certifying as an independent review organization under s.  
8 ~~632.835~~ 636.15 (1) (a), \$400.

9 **SECTION 19.** 601.31 (1) (Lr) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 601.31 (1) (Lr) For each biennial recertification as an independent review  
11 organization under s. ~~632.835~~ 636.15 (1) (a), \$100.

12 **SECTION 20.** 601.42 (4) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 601.42 (4) REPLIES. Any officer, manager or general agent of any insurer  
14 authorized to do or doing an insurance business in this state, any person controlling  
15 or having a contract under which the person has a right to control such an insurer,  
16 whether exclusively or otherwise, any person with executive authority over or in  
17 charge of any segment of such an insurer's affairs, any individual practice  
18 association or officer, director or manager of an individual practice association, any  
19 insurance agent or other person licensed under chs. 600 to 646, any provider of  
20 services under a continuing care contract, as defined in s. 647.01 (2), any  
21 independent review organization certified or recertified under s. ~~632.835 (4)~~ 636.15  
22 (1) (a) or any health care provider, as defined in s. 655.001 (8), shall reply promptly  
23 in writing or in other designated form, to any written inquiry from the commissioner  
24 requesting a reply.

25 **SECTION 21.** 601.465 (1m) (d) of the statutes is created to read:

1           601.465 **(1m)** (d) Information contained in individual or small group health  
2 insurance rate and supplementary rate information filed under ch. 625 that the  
3 office determines is proprietary.

4           **SECTION 22.** 609.655 (4) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5           609.655 **(4)** (b) Upon completion of the review under par. (a), the medical  
6 director of the defined network plan shall determine whether the policy or certificate  
7 will provide coverage of any further treatment for the dependent student's nervous  
8 or mental disorder or alcoholism or other drug abuse problems that is provided by  
9 a provider located in reasonably close proximity to the school in which the student  
10 is enrolled. If the dependent student disputes the medical director's determination,  
11 the dependent student may submit a written grievance under the defined network  
12 plan's internal grievance procedure established under s. ~~632.83~~ 636.12.

13           **SECTION 23.** 609.755 of the statutes is repealed.

14           **SECTION 24.** 625.02 (1) of the statutes is renumbered 625.02 (1m).

15           **SECTION 25.** 625.02 (1h) of the statutes is created to read:

16           625.02 **(1h)** "Individual health insurance coverage" has the meaning given in  
17 s. 636.01 (4).

18           **SECTION 26.** 625.02 (1p) of the statutes is created to read:

19           625.02 **(1p)** "Public Health Service Act" has the meaning given in s. 636.01 (9).

20           **SECTION 27.** 625.02 (2f) of the statutes is created to read:

21           625.02 **(2f)** "Secretary" means the secretary of the federal department of health  
22 and human services.

23           **SECTION 28.** 625.02 (2s) of the statutes is created to read:

24           625.02 **(2s)** "Small employer health insurance" means health insurance  
25 coverage as defined in s. 636.01 (3) that is offered in the small group market as



1 defined in section 2791 (e) (5) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-91 (e)  
2 (5)). For purposes of this subsection, a small employer is an employer that employed  
3 an average of at least one but not more than 50 employees on business days during  
4 the preceding calendar year and that employs at least one employee on the first day  
5 of the plan year.

6 **SECTION 29.** 625.03 (1m) (e) of the statutes is renumbered 625.03 (1m) (e)  
7 (intro.) and amended to read:

8 625.03 **(1m)** (e) (intro.) Group and blanket accident and sickness insurance  
9 ~~other than credit, except for the following:~~

10 1. Credit accident and sickness insurance.

11 **SECTION 30.** 625.03 (1m) (e) 2. of the statutes is created to read:

12 625.03 **(1m)** (e) 2. Subject to s. 636.35, on and after September 1, 2011, small  
13 employer health insurance, unless the commissioner provides otherwise by rule,  
14 including emergency rule as provided in s. 636.10 (2).

15 **SECTION 31.** 625.03 (1m) (e) 3. of the statutes is created to read:

16 625.03 **(1m)** (e) 3. Subject to s. 636.35, on and after September 1, 2011, group  
17 and blanket accident and sickness insurance offered in the individual market, as  
18 defined in s. 636.01 (5), unless the commissioner provides otherwise by rule,  
19 including emergency rule as provided in s. 636.10 (2).

20 **SECTION 32.** 625.13 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 625.13 **(1)** FILING PROCEDURE. Except as provided in ~~sub.~~ subs. (2) and (3), every  
22 authorized insurer and every rate service organization licensed under s. 625.31  
23 which has been designated by any insurer for the filing of rates under s. 625.15 (2)  
24 shall file with the commissioner all rates and supplementary rate information and

1 all changes and amendments thereof made by it for use in this state within 30 days  
2 after they become effective.

3 **SECTION 33.** 625.13 (3) of the statutes is created to read:

4 625.13 (3) INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL EMPLOYER HEALTH INSURANCE. Subject to s.  
5 636.35, on and after September 1, 2011, unless the commissioner provides otherwise  
6 by rule, including emergency rule as provided in s. 636.10 (2), for individual health  
7 insurance coverage, group and blanket accident and sickness insurance offered in  
8 the individual market, or small employer health insurance an insurer, or a rate  
9 service organization licensed under s. 625.31 that has been designated by the insurer  
10 for the filing of rates under s. 625.15 (2), shall file with the commissioner all rates  
11 and supplementary rate information, and all changes and amendments to the  
12 information, before they become effective.

13 **SECTION 34.** 625.14 of the statutes is amended to read:

14 **625.14 Filings open to inspection.** ~~Each~~ Subject to s. 601.465 (1m) (d), each  
15 filing and any supporting information filed under this chapter shall, as soon as filed,  
16 be open to public inspection at any reasonable time. Copies may be obtained by any  
17 person on request and upon payment of a reasonable charge therefor.

18 **SECTION 35.** 632.76 (2) (ac) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

19 632.76 (2) (ac) 1. Notwithstanding par. (a) and except as provided in subd. 4.,  
20 no claim or loss incurred or disability commencing after 12 months from the date of  
21 issue of an individual disability insurance policy, as defined in s. 632.895 (1) (a), may  
22 be reduced or denied on the ground that a disease or physical condition existed prior  
23 to the effective date of coverage, unless the condition was excluded from coverage by  
24 name or specific description by a provision effective on the date of the loss.

25 **SECTION 36.** 632.76 (2) (ac) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

1           632.76 (2) (ac) 2. Except as provided in ~~subd. 3. and 4.~~, an individual  
2           disability insurance policy, as defined in s. 632.895 (1) (a), other than a short-term  
3           policy subject to s. 632.7495 (4) and (5), may not define a preexisting condition more  
4           restrictively than a condition, whether physical or mental, regardless of the cause  
5           of the condition, for which medical advice, diagnosis, care, or treatment was  
6           recommended or received within 12 months before the effective date of coverage.

7           **SECTION 37.** 632.76 (2) (ac) 3. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

8           632.76 (2) (ac) 3. (intro.) Except as provided in subd. 4. and except as the  
9           commissioner provides by rule under s. 632.7495 (5), all of the following apply to an  
10          individual disability insurance policy that is a short-term policy subject to s.  
11          632.7495 (4) and (5):

12          **SECTION 38.** 632.76 (2) (ac) 4. of the statutes is created to read:

13          632.76 (2) (ac) 4. Subdivisions 1., 2., and 3. do not apply to an individual  
14          disability insurance policy, as defined in s. 632.895 (1) (a), issued on or after  
15          September 23, 2010, and before January 1, 2014, that covers an individual who is  
16          under 19 years of age, with respect to coverage of that individual. Section 636.25 (1)  
17          (f) applies to such a policy with respect to coverage of that individual.

18          **SECTION 39.** 632.83 of the statutes is repealed.

19          **SECTION 40.** 632.835 of the statutes is repealed.

20          **SECTION 41.** 632.885 of the statutes, as affected by 2011 Wisconsin Act 32, is  
21          repealed.

22          **SECTION 42.** 632.895 (15) (c) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

23          632.895 (15) (c) (intro.) A Except as otherwise required under s. 636.25 (1) (c),  
24          (2) (a), or (3) (a), a policy or plan is required to continue coverage under par. (a) only  
25          until any of the following occurs:



1           **(7)** “Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act” means the federal Patient  
2           Protection and Affordable Care Act, P.L. 111-148, as amended by the federal Health  
3           Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, P.L. 111-152.

4           **(8)** “Preexisting condition exclusion denial determination” means a  
5           determination by or on behalf of an insurer that issues a health benefit plan denying  
6           or terminating treatment or payment for treatment on the basis of a preexisting  
7           condition exclusion, as defined in s. 632.745 (23).

8           **(9)** “Public Health Service Act” means the federal Public Health Service Act of  
9           1944, as amended, including by the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (42  
10          USC 300gg et seq.).

11          **(10)** “Secretary” means the secretary of the federal department of health and  
12          human services.

13          **(11)** “Self-insured governmental health plan” means a self-insured health  
14          plan of the state or a county, city, village, town, or school district.

15          **(12)** “Small employer health insurance” means health insurance coverage  
16          offered in the small group market as defined in section 2791 (e) (5) of the Public  
17          Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-91 (e) (5)) and section 1304 (a) (3) of the Patient  
18          Protection and Affordable Care Act, as applied by the secretary’s regulation for the  
19          purposes of section 2718 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-18). For  
20          purposes of this definition, in section 1304 (a) (3) of the Patient Protection and  
21          Affordable Care Act, “small employer” has the meaning given in section 1304 (b) (2)  
22          of that act.

23          **636.10 General provisions. (1) AUTHORITY IS ADDITIONAL.**          The  
24          commissioner’s authority under this chapter is in addition to any authority  
25          otherwise provided under chs. 600 to 635 and chs. 644 to 646. The commissioner may

1 by rule establish standards for compliance with this chapter. The commissioner may  
2 establish reporting requirements for the purpose of monitoring or enforcing  
3 compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.

4 (2) EMERGENCY RULE-MAKING. Using the procedure under s. 227.24, the  
5 commissioner may promulgate any rule under this chapter or under s. 625.03 (1m)  
6 (e) 2. or 3. or 625.13 (3) as an emergency rule. Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (c), any  
7 emergency rule promulgated under this subsection may remain in effect for up to one  
8 year and, in addition, may be extended under s. 227.24 (2).

9 (3) EMPLOYER SIZE ELECTION. Notwithstanding s. 636.01 (12), this state reserves  
10 the right to elect through legislation, as permitted under section 1304 (b) (3) of the  
11 Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, to substitute “51 employees” for “101  
12 employees” and “50 employees” for “100 employees,” after the effective date of this  
13 subsection .... [LRB inserts date], for any purpose permitted under the Public Health  
14 Service Act.

15 **636.12 Internal and external appeals.** (1) ESTABLISHING STANDARDS.  
16 Notwithstanding any inconsistent provision of chs. 600 to 635 or chs. 644 to 646, the  
17 commissioner shall by rule do all of the following:

18 (a) Establish standards for internal appeals that, at a minimum, include  
19 consumer protections consistent with section 2719 (a) of the Public Health Service  
20 Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (a)), and require an insurer to comply with the standards. The  
21 commissioner shall apply the standards established under this paragraph to all of  
22 the following:

23 1. Group and individual health insurance coverage subject to section 2719 (a)  
24 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (a)).

1           2. Grandfathered health plans that otherwise would be subject to section 2719  
2 (a) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (a)).

3           3. A policy, certificate, or contract that provides only limited-scope dental or  
4 vision benefits.

5           4. Coverage specified in s. 632.745 (11) (b) 10.

6           (b) Establish standards for external appeals, including standards for appealing  
7 a preexisting condition exclusion denial determination or the rescission of a policy  
8 or certificate, and require an insurer to comply with the standards. The  
9 commissioner shall adopt standards under this paragraph that comply either with  
10 section 2719 (b) (1) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (b) (1)) or with  
11 the standards established by the secretary under section 2719 (b) (2) of the Public  
12 Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (b) (2)). The commissioner shall apply the  
13 external appeal standards established under this paragraph to all of the following:

14           1. Group and individual health insurance coverage subject to section 2719 (b)  
15 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (b)).

16           2. Grandfathered health plans.

17           3. Coverage specified in s. 632.745 (11) (b) 10.

18           4. Coverage specified in s. 632.745 (11) (b) 11., including Medicare supplement  
19 or replacement policies, but excluding Medicare advantage plans.

20           (c) Establish standards for independent review organizations.

21           **(2) COMPLIANCE REQUIRED.** An insurer and an independent review organization  
22 shall comply with the rules promulgated under this chapter.

23           **636.15 Independent review organizations. (1) CERTIFICATION.** (a) An  
24 independent review organization may not perform a review for purposes of the  
25 external appeals process established in accordance with standards promulgated

1 under s. 636.12 (1) (b) unless the organization is certified by the commissioner.  
2 Unless the commissioner provides otherwise by rule, only an independent review  
3 organization that is accredited by a nationally recognized private accreditation  
4 organization may be certified under this paragraph. An independent review  
5 organization must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the commissioner that it is  
6 unbiased and does not have a conflict of interest, as defined by the commissioner by  
7 rule. An organization certified under this paragraph must be recertified on a  
8 biennial basis.

9 (b) An organization applying for certification or recertification as an  
10 independent review organization shall pay the applicable fee under s. 601.31 (1) (Lp)  
11 or (Lr). Every organization certified or recertified as an independent review  
12 organization shall file a report with the commissioner in accordance with rules  
13 promulgated under s. 636.12 (1) (c).

14 (c) An independent review organization that was certified or recertified by the  
15 commissioner under s. 632.835, 2009 stats., and whose certification is in effect on the  
16 effective date of this paragraph .... [LRB inserts date], shall be considered to have  
17 been certified under par. (a), and its certification shall remain in effect until the  
18 certification expires or it is revoked or suspended under sub. (5) or s. 227.51 (3).

19 **(2) QUALITY ASSURANCE MECHANISM.** An independent review organization shall  
20 have in operation a quality assurance mechanism to ensure the timeliness and  
21 quality of the independent reviews, the qualifications and independence of the  
22 clinical peer reviewers, and the confidentiality of the medical records and review  
23 materials.

24 **(3) REASONABLE FEES.** An independent review organization shall establish  
25 reasonable fees that it will charge for independent reviews and shall submit its fee



1 schedule to the commissioner for a determination of reasonableness and for prior  
2 approval. An independent review organization may not change any fees approved  
3 by the commissioner more than once per year and shall submit any proposed fee  
4 changes to the commissioner for prior approval.

5 (4) EXAMINATIONS AND AUDITS. The commissioner may examine, audit, or accept  
6 an audit of, the books and records of an independent review organization as provided  
7 for examination of licensees and permittees under s. 601.43 (1), (3), (4), and (5), to  
8 be conducted as provided in s. 601.44, and with costs to be paid as provided in s.  
9 601.45.

10 (5) REVOCATION, SUSPENSION, REFUSAL TO RECERTIFY. The commissioner may  
11 revoke, suspend, or limit in whole or in part the certification of an independent  
12 review organization, or may refuse to recertify an independent review organization,  
13 if the commissioner finds that the independent review organization is unqualified  
14 or has violated a statute, or a rule promulgated, under chs. 600 to 646 or a valid order  
15 of the commissioner under s. 601.41 (4), or if the independent review organization's  
16 methods or practices in the conduct of its business endanger, or its financial  
17 resources are inadequate to safeguard, the legitimate interests of consumers and the  
18 public. The commissioner may summarily suspend an independent review  
19 organization's certification under s. 227.51 (3).

20 (6) DECISION IS BINDING. Unless otherwise required by the standards under  
21 section 2719 (b) of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-19 (b)), a decision  
22 of an independent review organization is binding on the insured and the insurer.

23 (7) IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. (a) An independent review organization that is  
24 certified under this section is immune from any civil or criminal liability that may  
25 result because of an independent review determination made under the rules

1 promulgated under this chapter. An employee, agent, or contractor of a certified  
2 independent review organization is immune from any civil or criminal liability for  
3 any act or omission done in good faith within the scope of his or her powers and duties  
4 under the rules promulgated under this chapter.

5 (b) An insurer is not liable to any person for damages attributable to the  
6 insurer's actions taken in compliance with any decision regarding a determination  
7 rendered by a certified independent review organization.

8 **(8) INSURED'S RIGHT TO COMMENCE CIVIL PROCEEDING.** Nothing in this section  
9 affects an insured's right to commence a civil proceeding relating to a matter that  
10 may be appealed under the standards established under s. 636.12 (1).

11 **636.18 Rebate and report requirement.** Subject to s. 636.35, an insurer  
12 offering small employer health insurance or individual health insurance coverage  
13 shall comply with section 2718 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-18)  
14 and shall file the report required under section 2718 (a) of that act (42 USC 300gg-18  
15 (a)) with the commissioner no later than the date required for filing with the  
16 secretary.

17 **636.25 Implementing health insurance coverage provisions.** Subject to  
18 s. 636.35, notwithstanding any inconsistent provision in chs. 600 to 635 or chs. 644  
19 to 646, and unless the commissioner provides otherwise by rule under s. 636.10, all  
20 of the following apply:

21 **(1) INSURERS.** An insurer shall comply with all of the following provisions of the  
22 Public Health Service Act:

23 (a) *Standards relating to benefits for mothers and newborns.* Section 2725 (42  
24 USC 300gg-25).

1           (b) *Required coverage for reconstructive surgery following mastectomies.*

2           Section 2727 (42 USC 300gg-27).

3           (c) *Coverage of dependent students on medically necessary leave of absence.*

4           Section 2728 (42 USC 300gg-28).

5           (d) *No lifetime limit or annual limits.* Section 2711 (42 USC 300gg-11).

6           (e) *Prohibition on rescissions.* Section 2712 (42 USC 300gg-12).

7           (f) *Prohibition on preexisting condition exclusions for under age 19.* Section  
8           2704 (42 USC 300gg-04), but only for enrollees who are under 19 years of age.

9           (g) *Coverage of preventive health services.* Section 2713 (42 USC 300gg-13).

10          (h) *Extension of dependent coverage.* Section 2714 (42 USC 300gg-14).

11          (i) *Provision of additional information.* Section 2715A (42 USC 300gg-15a).

12          (j) *Patient protections; choice of health care professional.* Section 2719A (a) (42  
13          USC 300gg-19a (a)).

14          (k) *Patient protections; coverage of emergency services.* Section 2719A (b) (42  
15          USC 300gg-19a (b)). In addition, an insurer also shall comply with s. 632.85 and an  
16          insurer that provides coverage under a defined network plan also shall comply with  
17          s. 609.22 (6).

18          **(2) GRANDFATHERED HEALTH PLANS.** A grandfathered health plan shall comply  
19          with all of the following provisions of the Public Health Service Act:

20          (a) *Coverage of dependent students on medically necessary leave of absence.*  
21          Section 2728 (42 USC 300gg-28).

22          (b) *Patient protections; coverage of emergency services.* Section 2719A (b) (42  
23          USC 300gg-19a (b)).

1           **(3) SELF-INSURED GOVERNMENTAL HEALTH PLANS.** A self-insured governmental  
2 health plan shall comply with all of the following provisions of the Public Health  
3 Service Act:

4           (a) *Coverage of dependent students on medically necessary leave of absence.*  
5 Section 2728 (42 USC 300gg-28).

6           (b) *Extension of dependent coverage.* Section 2714 (42 USC 300gg-14).

7           (c) *Patient protections; coverage of emergency services.* Section 2719A (b) (42  
8 USC 300gg-19a (b)). In addition, a self-insured governmental health plan also shall  
9 comply with s. 632.85.

10          **(4) ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR INSURERS.** With respect to health insurance  
11 coverage that is issued or renewed on or after March 23, 2012, all of the following  
12 apply:

13          (a) *Insurers.* An insurer shall comply with all of the following provisions of the  
14 Public Health Service Act:

15           1. 'Uniform explanation of coverage documents and standardization of  
16 definitions.' Section 2715 (42 USC 300gg-15).

17           2. 'Ensuring the quality of care.' Section 2717 (42 USC 300gg-17).

18          (b) *Grandfathered health plans.* A grandfathered health plan shall comply  
19 with section 2717 of the Public Health Service Act (42 USC 300gg-17), relating to  
20 ensuring the quality of care.

21          **(5) APPLICATION OF SECTION TO GRANDFATHERED HEALTH PLANS.** In addition to  
22 subs. (2) and (4) (b), this section applies to a grandfathered health plan, but only with  
23 respect to those provisions of the Public Health Service Act referred to in this section  
24 that apply to a grandfathered health plan under section 1251 of the Patient  
25 Protection and Affordable Care Act.

**636.35 Applicability if federal law found unconstitutional or repealed.**

(1) UNCONSTITUTIONAL. (a) If the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is found by a final decision of a federal court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional in its entirety and unenforceable in this state, and if all appeals are exhausted or the time for appeal expires, on and after the first day of the 3rd month beginning after the date on which all appeals are exhausted or the time for appeal expires s. 636.10 does not apply, any rules promulgated or requirements established under s. 636.10 are void and may not be enforced, and insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from all of the following provisions:

1. Section 625.13 (3).

2. Section 636.18.

3. Section 636.25, except for the extension of dependent coverage requirements described in s. 636.25 (1) (h) and (3) (b).

4. Chapter 625 with respect to small employer health insurance and group and blanket accident and sickness insurance offered in the individual market.

(b) If the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is found by a final decision of a federal court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional in part and unenforceable in part in this state, and if all appeals are exhausted or the time for appeal expires, on and after the first day of the 3rd month beginning after the date on which all appeals are exhausted or the time for appeal expires all of the following apply:

1. Insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from any provisions of the Public Health Service Act referred to in ss. 636.18 and 636.25 that correspond to the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act that

1 are found to be unconstitutional, except for the extension of dependent coverage  
2 requirements described in s. 636.25 (1) (h) and (3) (b).

3 2. Section 636.10 does not apply with respect to the provisions described in  
4 subd. 1. from which insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are  
5 exempt, and any rules promulgated or requirements established under s. 636.10  
6 with respect to those provisions are void and unenforceable.

7 **(2) REPEALED.** If any provision of the Public Health Service Act referred to in  
8 this chapter is repealed, on and after the date on which the repeal is effective all of  
9 the following apply:

10 (a) Insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt from the  
11 provision of the Public Health Service Act referred to in this chapter that is repealed,  
12 except for the extension of dependent coverage requirements described in s. 636.25  
13 (1) (h) and (3) (b).

14 (b) Section 636.10 does not apply with respect to any provision described in par.  
15 (a) from which insurers and self-insured governmental health plans are exempt, and  
16 any rules promulgated or requirements established under s. 636.10 with respect to  
17 the provision are void and unenforceable.

18 **(3) INAPPLICABILITY.** This section does not apply after January 1, 2020.

19 **SECTION 44. Nonstatutory provisions.**

20 (1) **ESTABLISHMENT OF HEALTH BENEFIT EXCHANGE.** Any health benefit exchange  
21 established in this state under section 1311 (b) of the Patient Protection and  
22 Affordable Care Act, as defined in section 636.01 (7) of the statutes, as created by this  
23 act, must be established by legislation.

24 **SECTION 45. Initial applicability.**

1 (1) MISCELLANEOUS COVERAGE REQUIREMENTS. The treatment of sections 40.51  
2 (8) (by SECTION 2) and (8m) (by SECTION 4), 49.67 (3) (am) 2. b., 66.0137 (4) (by SECTION  
3 7), 111.91 (2) (n) and (nm), 111.998 (2) (n), 120.13 (2) (g) (by SECTION 14), 185.983 (1)  
4 (intro.) (by SECTION 16), 609.755, 632.76 (2) (ac) 1., 2., 3. (intro.), and 4., 632.885,  
5 632.895 (15) (c) (intro.), and 636.25 (1), (2), (3), and (5) of the statutes first applies  
6 to all of the following:

7 (a) Except as provided in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d), disability insurance  
8 policies that are newly issued, and self-insured governmental or school district  
9 health plans that are newly established on the effective date of this paragraph.

10 (b) Except as provided in paragraph (d), disability insurance policies, and  
11 self-insured governmental or school district health plans, that are grandfathered  
12 health plans, as defined in section 636.01 (2) of the statutes, as created by this act,  
13 that are renewed, extended, or modified on the effective date of this paragraph.

14 (c) Except as provided in paragraph (d), disability insurance policies, and  
15 self-insured governmental or school district health plans, covering employees who  
16 are affected by a collective bargaining agreement containing provisions inconsistent  
17 with this act that are newly issued or newly established on the earlier of the  
18 following:

19 1. The day on which the collective bargaining agreement expires.

20 2. The day on which the collective bargaining agreement is extended, modified,  
21 or renewed.

22 (d) Disability insurance policies, and self-insured governmental or school  
23 district health plans, that are grandfathered health plans, as defined in section  
24 636.01 (2) of the statutes, as created by this act, that cover employees who are  
25 affected by a collective bargaining agreement containing provisions inconsistent

1 with this act, and that are renewed, extended, or modified on the earlier of the  
2 following:

3 1. The day on which the collective bargaining agreement expires.

4 2. The day on which the collective bargaining agreement is extended, modified,  
5 or renewed.

6 (2) INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL APPEALS. The treatment of sections 40.51 (8) (by  
7 SECTION 1) (with respect to internal and external review procedures), 40.51 (8m) (by  
8 SECTION 3) (with respect to internal and external review procedures), 66.0137 (4) (by  
9 SECTION 6) (with respect to internal and external review procedures), 111.91 (2) (s),  
10 111.998 (2) (s), 120.13 (2) (g) (by SECTION 13) (with respect to internal and external  
11 review procedures), 185.983 (1) (intro.) (by SECTION 15) (with respect to internal and  
12 external review procedures), 600.01 (2) (b), 609.655 (4) (b), 632.83, 632.835, 636.12,  
13 and 636.15 of the statutes first applies to appeals filed on the effective date of this  
14 subsection.

15 **SECTION 46. Effective dates.** This act takes effect on the day after publication,  
16 except as follows:

17 (1) HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE PROVISIONS. The treatment of sections 40.51 (8)  
18 (by SECTION 2) and (8m) (by SECTION 4), 49.67 (3) (am) 2. b., 66.0137 (4) (by SECTION  
19 7), 111.91 (2) (n) and (nm), 111.998 (2) (n), 120.13 (2) (g) (by SECTION 14), 185.983 (1)  
20 (intro.) (by SECTION 16), 609.755, 632.76 (2) (ac) 1., 2., 3. (intro.), and 4., 632.885,  
21 632.895 (15) (c) (intro.), 636.25, and 636.35 of the statutes and SECTION 45 (1) of this  
22 act take effect on the first day of the 6th month beginning after publication.

23 (2) INDIVIDUAL AND SMALL GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE RATING. The treatment of  
24 sections 601.465 (1m) (d), 625.02 (1), (1h), (1p), (2f), and (2s), 625.13 (1) and (3), and  
25 625.14 of the statutes, the renumbering and amendment of section 625.03 (1m) (e)



1 of the statutes, and the creation of section 625.03 (1m) (e) 2. and 3. of the statutes take  
2 effect on September 1, 2011, or on the day after publication, whichever is later.

3 (END)